



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1987

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NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (FRIDAY) REAFFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY FOR DEALING WITH ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA WHEN HE VISITED ARMY UNITS ON THE BORDER TO SEE HOW THEY PERFORM ANTI-II DUTIES.

"THERE WILL BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS: THE GOVERNMENT WILL STICK FIRMLY TO ITS POLICY OF SENDING BACK ALL ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF CHANGING THIS POLICY," SIR DAVID STRESSED. "THOSE WHO WISH TO COME AND LIVE IN HONG KONG MUST COME LEGALLY."

SIR DAVID WAS VISITING AN ARMY PLATOON BASE IN PAK FU SHAN.

"I AM VERY IMPRESSED BY THE ENORMOUS EFFORTS MADE BY THE BRITISH FORCES IN ENFORCING OUR ANTI-II POLICY ALONG THE BORDER," HE SAID. "THIS WORK IS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE IF WE ARE TO KEEP THE ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION PROBLEM UNDER CONTROL IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID FLEW TO PAK FU SHAN BY HELICOPTER FROM SHEK KONG, WHERE HE VISITED THE 28 SQUADRON OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCE AND THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE 48 GURKHA INFANTRY BRIGADE.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY COMMANDER OF THE 48 GIB, BRIGADIER RAY PETT, WHO BRIEFED HIM ON THE LATEST ANTI-II SITUATION.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ARRESTED PER DAY THIS YEAR WAS 67 , 42.5 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. A TOTAL OF 7,807 WERE ARRESTED ON THE LAND BORDER SO FAR THIS YEAR.

DURING HIS VISIT TO THE PLATOON BASE, SIR DAVID WAS SHOWN THE SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY USED TO DETECT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS ON THE BORDER, INCLUDING A THERMAL IMAGER, AN IMAGER INTENSIFIER AND THE FENCE PROTECTION SYSTEM, AN ALARM SYSTEM WHICH CAN IDENTIFY THE EXACT SPOT WHERE AN ATTEMPT IS BEING MADE TO CUT THE FENCE OR CLIMB OVER IT.

HE WAS ALSO BRIEFED ON HOW ARMY PATROL TEAMS AND QUICK REACTION FORCES WORK TOGETHER WITH ARMY DOGS AND NITESUN-EQUIPPED HELICOPTERS IN ROUNDING UP ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

BEFORE FLYING BACK TO HMS TAMAR BY HELICOPTER, SIR DAVID TOURED THE BORDER ROAD BETWEEN PAK FU SHAN AND SHA TAU KOK. HE STOPPED AT SEVERAL STRATEGIC POINTS AND OBSERVATION POSTS EN ROUTE WHERE HE SPOKE TO SOLDIERS ON DUTY AND TRIED OUT THEIR EQUIPMENT.

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GOVERNMENT POSITION ON GREEN PAPER 'ALREADY CLEAR'
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"THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON THE GREEN PAPER AND ALL THE OPTIONS IN IT HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE VERY CLEAR," THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE SAID THIS IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS BEFORE ATTENDING A LUNCHEON WITH OMELCO MEMBERS.

WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON MR LI HOU'S REMARKS ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S POLITICAL SYSTEM, SIR DAVID SAID: "I DON'T COMMENT ON OTHER PEOPLE'S COMMENTS."

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LAND COMMISSION AGREES ON LAND COST
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THE SINO-BRITISH LAND COMMISSION HELD ITS THIRTEENTH MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE TWO SIDES AGREED THAT THE AVERAGE COST OF LAND PRODUCTION FOR THE 1987-88 FINANCIAL YEAR IS HK\$1,625 PER SQUARE METRE.

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BENELUX COUNTRIES RECOGNISE BN(O)
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THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE BENELUX (I. E. BELGIUM, THE NETHERLANDS AND LUXEMBOURG) HAVE OFFICIALLY RECOGNISED THE BN(O) PASSPORT.

THEY HAVE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT IT SHALL RECEIVE A TREATMENT EQUAL TO THE BDTC PASSPORT. THIS WILL MEAN THAT FOR A VISIT NOT EXCEEDING THE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS, NO VISA WILL BE REQUIRED.

IN RESPONSE TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY BENELUX COUNTRIES REGARDING THE RECOGNITION OF THE BN(O) STATUS AND THE PASSPORT THAT GOES WITH IT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE NEWS IS WELCOMED, PARTICULARLY THE FACT THAT BN(O) PASSPORT HOLDERS WILL, AS IN THE CASE OF BDTC PASSPORT HOLDERS, BE PERMITTED TO VISIT BENELUX COUNTRIES FOR UP TO THREE MONTHS WITHOUT A VISA.

THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY HAS BEEN INFORMED BY THE COMMISSION OF NIGERIA AND CONSULATE OF FINLAND THAT THEIR GOVERNMENTS HAVE DECIDED TO RECOGNISE THE BN(O) PASSPORT.

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PETITION TO WIND UP INSURANCE COMPANY

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THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, IN HIS CAPACITY AS INSURANCE AUTHORITY, HAS TODAY PRESENTED A PETITION TO THE HIGH COURT FOR THE WINDING-UP OF STANDFAST INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

THE COMPANY IS INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG AND CARRIES ON GENERAL INSURANCE BUSINESS INCLUDING FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE. IT ALSO CARRIES ON INSURANCE AGENCY BUSINESS ON BEHALF OF OTHER INSURERS.

THE DATE FOR THE HEARING OF THE PETITION HAS BEEN FIXED ON JULY 27, 1987.

THE COURT HAS APPOINTED THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER TO BE THE PROVISIONAL LIQUIDATOR OF THE COMPANY.

THE REGISTRAR GENERAL SAID THAT THIS ACTION WAS NECESSARY TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE COMPANY'S POLICY HOLDERS, POTENTIAL POLICY HOLDERS AND OTHER CREDITORS.

THE GROUNDS FOR THE WINDING-UP, AS STATED IN THE WINDING-UP PETITION, WERE BASICALLY THAT THE COMPANY HAD FAILED TO MEET THE SOLVENCY REQUIREMENT OF THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AND HAD NOT KEPT PROPER BOOKS OF ACCOUNT. HE ADVISED CLAIMANTS UNDER POLICIES ISSUED BY THE COMPANY AS AGENT FOR OTHER INSURANCE COMPANIES TO TAKE UP THEIR CLAIMS WITH THOSE INSURANCE COMPANIES DIRECT.

IN ANOTHER STATEMENT, MR GLEESON, IN HIS CAPACITY AS OFFICIAL RECEIVER, INDICATED THAT WHEN THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE HAS LOOKED FURTHER INTO THE AFFAIRS OF THE COMPANY, HE WILL DECIDE WHAT FURTHER ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF POLICY HOLDERS, CLAIMANTS AND CREDITORS.

POLICY HOLDERS AND OTHER CREDITORS OF THE COMPANY WHO HAVE ANY QUERIES REGARDING THEIR POLICY OR POSITION IN THIS WINDING-UP SHOULD CONTACT MR JOSEPH MOK OF THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE ON 5-8622486 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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SECOND CANINE RABIES CASE CONFIRMED

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THE SECOND INDIGENOUS CANINE RABIES CASE THIS YEAR WAS CONFIRMED LATE THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON TO HAVE OCCURRED IN KAM SHEUNG ROAD NEAR SHEK TAU WAI, PAT HEUNG IN YUEN LONG.

THE CASE WAS UNCOVERED FOLLOWING THE DELIVERY OF THE CARCASS OF A BROWN FEMALE CHOW TO THE SHEK WU HUI GOVERNMENT KENNEL BY THE POLICE TWO DAYS AGO AFTER BEING CLUBBED TO DEATH BY VILLAGERS FOR HAVING BITTEN TWO PEOPLE.

EXAMINATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED LATE THIS AFTERNOON THAT THE DOG WAS A RABID ANIMAL.

RABIES CONTROL TEAMS OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WERE IMMEDIATELY MOBILISED TO THE SCENE TO SEARCH FOR, AND ROUND UP UNLICENSED DOGS.

MEANWHILE, THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT IS TRYING TO LOCATE THE VICTIMS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FULL DETAILS OF THE CASE AND THE DESIGNATION OF A NEW RABIES INFECTED AREA WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS BRIEFING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT 12 NOON AT AFD HEADQUARTERS CONFERENCE ROOM, 14TH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

PRESIDING AT THE BRIEFING WILL BE THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (AGRICULTURE), DR THOMAS YIP, AND THE SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER, DR NORMAN CHENG.

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MEN BORN IN 1967/68 TO GET NEW I.D. CARDS

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MEN BORN IN 1967 AND 1968 WILL HAVE TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM JULY 1 TO AUGUST 28 UNDER THE NEW IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID, "MEN BORN WITHIN THIS PERIOD ARE THE FIRST MALE AGE GROUP TO BE AFFECTED BY THE NEW IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME".

/"THE RE-ISSUE

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"THE RE-ISSUE SCHEME WILL BE PHASED OVER A 4 1/2 YEAR PERIOD AND GROUPS OF PEOPLE WILL BE CALLED FORWARD TO EXCHANGE THEIR EXISTING IDENTITY CARDS ACCORDING TO THEIR YEAR OF BIRTH AND SEX," HE ADDED.

HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT THE NEW IDENTITY CARDS TO BE ISSUED FROM JULY 1, 1987 WOULD REFLECT THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF THE HOLDER, THAT IS, WHETHER OR NOT HE HAS THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG.

"THE RIGHT OF ABODE ENDORSEMENT IS OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) (BN(O)) PASSPORTS AND HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF IDENTITY (HKCI) TO BE ISSUED FROM JULY 1, 1987," HE SAID.

"IT IS THEREFORE NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE A PERMANENT IDENTITY CARD (PIC) TO ENABLE A RIGHT OF ABODE ENDORSEMENT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE BN(O) PASSPORTS AND HKCI TO BE ISSUED FROM JULY 1, 1987", HE ADDED.

DETAILS OF THE DATA CONTAINED IN THE NEW FORM OF IDENTITY CARD AND ITS FEATURES WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER STAGE.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED, "PERSONS WHO ARE DEFINED AS 'HONG KONG PERMANENT RESIDENTS' WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A PIC."

UNDER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, THE FOLLOWING PERSONS ARE DEFINED AS "HONG KONG PERMANENT RESIDENTS":

- (A) PERSONS WHO ARE OF CHINESE RACE AND HAVE AT ANY TIME BEEN ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG FOR A CONTINUOUS PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN SEVEN YEARS;
- (B) PERSONS WHO ARE BRITISH DEPENDENT TERRITORIES CITIZENS BY VIRTUE OF A CONNECTION WITH HONG KONG, E.G. BY BIRTH, NATURALIZATION OR REGISTRATION IN HONG KONG UNDER THE BRITISH NATIONALITY ACTS; AND
- (C) PERSONS WHO ARE COMMONWEALTH CITIZENS AND WHO IMMEDIATELY BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1983 HAD THE RIGHT TO LAND IN HONG KONG BY VIRTUE OF SECTION 8(1)(A) OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE AS THEN IN FORCE.

PERSONS WHO DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG WILL BE ISSUED WITH AN IDENTITY CARD (IC) WHICH WILL NOT INCLUDE A STATEMENT THAT THE HOLDER HAS THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG.

ANYONE WHO IS CALLED FORWARD TO EXCHANGE FOR THE NEW CARD SHOULD GO TO ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES.

FROM JULY 1, 1987, THE NEW I.D. CARD ISSUE OFFICES ARE OPEN DAILY FROM 8.00 AM TO 9.30 PM, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

/THEIR ADDRESSES

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THEIR ADDRESSES ARE:

- HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL. NO. 5-747070
- EAST KOWLOON : AMOY GARDEN PLAZA, 2ND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU
KOK ROAD.
TEL. NO. 3-7553679
- WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 2ND FLOOR,
393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI.
TEL. NO. 3-7232442
- TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-4981259
- SHATIN : SHATIN CENTRE, PODIUM FLOOR, 2-16 WANG
POK STREET.
TEL. NO. 0-6059108
- YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, 2ND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK
ROAD.
TEL. NO. 0-793291
- TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
CHI LOK FA YUEN.
TEL. NO. 0-4580862
- SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR, 82-84 SAN
FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI.
TEL. NO. 0-927155

FOR GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE APPLICATION OF NEW I.D. CARDS,
THE PUBLIC IS WELCOMED TO USE A PHONE-IN-SERVICE. THE TELEPHONE
NUMBERS ARE 5-8909393 (ENGLISH) AND 5-8956066 (CHINESE).

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, THE PUBLIC CAN ALSO CONTACT THE
INFORMATION OFFICE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, ON 3-7333111.

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APRIL ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL FIGURES OUT

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THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) IN THE 200 LARGEST FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN APRIL 1987, WAS THE SAME AS THAT IN MARCH THIS YEAR, BUT INCREASED COMPARED WITH APRIL LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING APRIL 1987 WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND WERE RECORDED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND, TO A LESSER EXTENT, IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES. HOWEVER, THE ORDERS POSITION IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES DROPPED.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987, DECREASES IN THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND WERE REPORTED IN THE TEXTILES, PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, WHILE SLIGHT INCREASES WERE REPORTED IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN APRIL 1987 DROPPED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987 AND APRIL 1986. COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987, THE FOOD AND DRINKS AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES RECORDED SOME INCREASES IN EMPLOYMENT, WHILE THE WEARING APPAREL AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES SHOWED SOME DECREASES. COMPARED WITH APRIL 1986, EMPLOYMENT IN THE WEARING APPAREL, PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES DROPPED, WHILE THAT IN ALL OTHER INDUSTRIES SURVEYED INCREASED.

BOTH PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED IN APRIL 1987 WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987 AND APRIL 1986. COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED IN MOST INDUSTRIES SURVEYED BUT DECREASED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY. COMPARED WITH APRIL 1986, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN ALL INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, PARTICULARLY IN THE TEXTILES, FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL IN APRIL 1987 REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987, BUT PER CAPITA EARNINGS DECREASED SLIGHTLY. ON THE OTHER HAND, EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ALL INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1986.

IN THE SERVICES SECTORS, OVERALL EMPLOYMENT IN APRIL 1987 WAS ABOUT THE SAME AS IN MARCH 1987, BUT PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED. AMONG THE VARIOUS SERVICES SECTORS, PARTICULARLY LARGE INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN HOTELS AS SOME OF THEM ISSUED BONUSES. COMPARED WITH APRIL 1986, OVERALL EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICES SECTORS INCREASED, AS DID PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS. AMONG THE SERVICES SECTORS, BANKS RECORDED THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN PAYROLL AND IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1986.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 AND 2 BELOW.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT THE MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE. NEVERTHELESS, THESE RESULTS ARE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR APRIL 1987 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19/F., WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AT 5-8234820.

TABLE 1 : ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	FOR APRIL 1987 (MONTH)	INCREASES OVER	
		MAR.87 (%)	APR.86 (%)
ALL INDUSTRIES	4.51	*	2
WEARING APPAREL	4.95	1	6
TEXTILES	2.83	-4	5
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3.89	-4	-8
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.54	-4	22
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.04	1	-2
OTHERS	4.40	*	3

/TABLE 2 :

TABLE 2 : EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF APRIL 1987		PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	INCREASE OVER		IN APR.87	INCREASE OVER	
	MAR.87	APR.86		MAR.87	APR.86
	(%)	(%)	(HK\$)	(%)	(%)
MANUFACTURING	-1	-1	3,690	3	14
FOOD AND DRINKS	1	4	4,115	5	5
WEARING APPAREL	-2	-7	3,136	1	13
TEXTILES	-1	4	3,908	4	20
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	1	-8	3,471	8	15
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	*	1	3,453	-5	19
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	*	-1	3,499	6	17
OTHERS	-1	2	4,817	1	7
CONSTRUCTION#	*	7	5,156	-1	12
SERVICES	*	2	6,253	3	9
BANKS	*	5	5,808	3	11
HOTELS	*	-2	4,275	14	6
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	*	6,377	6	8
OTHERS	1	5	7,144	-4	8

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

NOTE : UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS" WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE FIRMS SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

SECOND PHASE STUDY ON BEACH WATER POLLUTION BEGINS

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THE SECOND PHASE OF AN INTENSIVE STUDY ON THE LINK BETWEEN SWIMMING IN HONG KONG'S POPULAR BEACHES AND DISEASE OR SICKNESS WILL START THIS WEEKEND UNTIL OCTOBER.

THE STUDY IS CONDUCTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) AND THE COMMUNITY MEDICINE DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE THREE-PHASE PROJECT WAS CONDUCTED IN SUMMER LAST YEAR. THE ULTIMATE AIM OF THE WHOLE PROJECT IS TO PROVIDE SOUNDER DESIGN CRITERIA AND JUSTIFICATION FOR IMPLEMENTING MAJOR POLLUTION CONTROL PROJECTS FOR PROTECTING BATHING BEACHES.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENT PHASE ARE TO HELP SET HEALTH-RELATED WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR THE BATHING BEACHES OF HONG KONG IN THE LIGHT OF LOCAL CONDITIONS; TO SEE WHETHER SWIMMING IN "BARELY ACCEPTABLE" BEACHES POSES HIGHER HEALTH RISKS THAN SWIMMING IN "RELATIVELY UNPOLLUTED" BEACHES; AND TO ELUCIDATE THE VARIOUS FACTORS (E.G. TIDE AND BATHER NUMBERS) WHICH CAUSE THE DAILY AND HOURLY VARIATIONS IN THE LEVELS OF MICROBIAL INDICATORS AT BATHING BEACHES.

THE STUDIES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN AT NINE VERY POPULAR BEACHES, NAMELY: REPULSE BAY, DEEP WATER BAY, STANLEY MAIN, SHEK O, OLD CAFETERIA, NEW CAFETERIA, BUTTERFLY, LIDO AND CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH.

ALL FIELD STUDIES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN AT WEEKENDS. THE STUDIES WILL COMMENCE AT SHEK O BEACH AND STANLEY MAIN BEACH THIS WEEKEND.

A TOTAL OF 25 STUDENTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG HAVE BEEN RECRUITED TO CONDUCT INTERVIEWS AT THE BATHING BEACHES. THEY WILL ALSO CONTACT THE RESPONDENTS BY TELEPHONE WITHIN 24 HOURS, AND ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTERWARDS. THE BEACH GOERS WILL BE ASKED WHETHER THEY HAVE DEVELOPED ANY SYMPTOMS OF ILLNESSES AFTER VISITING THE BEACHES.

AROUND 70,000 SWIMMERS AND NON-SWIMMERS AT THE NINE BEACHES WILL BE INTERVIEWED IN THE STUDY THIS SUMMER. THE BACKGROUND ILLNESS RATES OF THE LOCAL POPULATION WILL ALSO BE MEASURED BY RANDOM TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS.

IN PARALLEL WITH BEACH INTERVIEWS, SCIENTISTS IN THE EPD WILL INTENSIVELY MONITOR THE WATER QUALITY AT THOSE BEACHES AT WHICH STUDIES ARE TO BE CARRIED OUT DURING THE WEEKENDS. WATER SAMPLING WILL BE TAKEN AT TWO-HOUR INTERVALS AND SIX MICROBIAL INDICATORS OF BEACH WATER POLLUTION WILL BE TESTED.

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AROUND 1,000 BEACH WATER SAMPLES WILL BE COLLECTED AND 6,000 MICROBIAL TESTINGS CARRIED OUT. THE PURPOSE IS TO ESTABLISH THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN LEVELS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AND DISEASE IN SWIMMERS.

A PRELIMINARY REPORT WILL BE PREPARED BY LATE 1987 AND MORE DETAILED STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE HUGE AMOUNT OF DATA OBTAINED WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNTIL MID-1988 FOR A FULL REPORT TO BE PRODUCED BY THEN.

THE EPD SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO THE BEACH GOERS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE INTERVIEWERS CONNECTED WITH THIS STUDY, WHO WILL BEAR SPECIAL IDENTIFICATION. BANNERS WILL ALSO BE POSTED AT THOSE BEACHES WHERE INTERVIEWS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT.

IF THE PUBLIC HAVE ANY ENQUIRIES, THEY SHOULD CONTACT THE COMMUNITY MEDICINE DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG (ON 5-8199280) OR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (ON 3-7216526).

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PROVISIONAL REGISTER OF LEGCO ELECTORS FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

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THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORS FOR 1987 WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION FROM TODAY (FRIDAY) UP TO JULY 1 AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND AT THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION EXPLAINED THAT THE PUBLICATION OF THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER SERVED TWO PURPOSES. "IT PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE APPLIED TO REGISTER TO CHECK WHETHER THEIR PARTICULARS HAVE BEEN ACCURATELY RECORDED.

"IT ALSO ALLOWS THE PUBLIC TO OBJECT, ON VAILD GROUNDS, TO THE INCLUSION IN THE REGISTER OF THE NAME OF ANY ORGANISATION OR INDIVIDUAL. AN OBJECTION SHOULD BE PUT ON A SPECIFIED FORM AND LODGED WITH THE REGISTRATION OFFICER BY JULY 6," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID THAT LATE APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION FROM ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS OR PERSONS MIGHT ALSO BE MADE DURING THE PERIOD ENDING JULY 1.

ALL SPECIFIED FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FROM DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION.

/THE SPOKESMAN

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THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE NAMES OF 611 NEW ELECTORS WERE ADDED TO THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER DURING THIS YEAR'S INITIAL REGISTRATION PERIOD FROM APRIL 15 TO MAY 6.

MEANWHILE, THE NAMES OF 549 ELECTORS WERE OMITTED FROM THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER, A MAJOR PORTION BEING PERSONS WHO HAD CEASED TO BE VOTING MEMBERS OF SPECIFIED REPRESENTATIVE ORGANISATIONS OR ORDINARILY RESIDENT IN HONG KONG.

COMPARED WITH THE 1986 REGISTRATION FIGURE, THE NUMBER OF ELECTORS LISTED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTORAL ROLL INCREASED BY 62 TO 42,926.

A COMPARISON OF THE 1987 PROVISIONAL REGISTER AND 1986 FINAL REGISTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

	PROVISIONAL REGISTER 1987	FINAL REGISTER 1986
	-----	-----
NO. OF ELECTORS IN ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCIES	437	436
NO. OF CORPORATE ELECTORS IN FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES	5192	5137
NO. OF INDIVIDUAL ELECTORS IN FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES	37297	37291
TOTAL NO. OF ELECTORS	42926	42864

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BOOMING BUSINESS FOR GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED DESIGN COMPANY

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THE HONG KONG DESIGN INNOVATION COMPANY (HKDIC), A GOVERNMENT-ASSISTED FIRM PROVIDING HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY WITH A PRODUCT INNOVATION, DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICE, HAS DONE EXTREMELY WELL SINCE ITS OPENING IN MARCH LAST YEAR.

MR DOUGLAS TOMKIN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF HKDIC, ATTRIBUTED A LOT OF HAPPY THINGS HAPPENING TO THE OFFICE TO GOOD BUSINESS, THE HARD WORK OF THE EIGHT-PERSON COMPANY AND THE BACKUP FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

/THE DIRECTORS

THE DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD, EIGHT IN TOTAL, REPRESENT A MIX OF INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, INSTITUTIONAL, ENTREPRENEURIAL, ACADEMIC AND GOVERNMENT EXPERTISE. REPRESENTING THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS TO INJECT A TOTAL OF \$9.2 MILLION INTO THE COMPANY DURING THE FIRST FOUR YEARS OF ITS OPERATION IS MR K. Y. YEUNG, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY.

IN ADDITION, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC'S SWIRE SCHOOL OF DESIGN HAS SECONDED A LECTURER TO HKDIC FOR FULL-TIME DESIGNING WORK. HKDIC ALSO RECEIVES ASSISTANCE FROM THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL AND THE DESIGN COUNCIL OF HONG KONG IN PARTICULAR, WHICH BOTH HAVE REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

ACCORDING TO MR TOMKIN, HKDIC SO FAR HAS COMPLETED 60-ODD PROJECTS IN PRODUCT DESIGN, SUCH AS TOYS, ELECTRONIC GOODS AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS.

"THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAS SET A TARGET OF \$316,000 FOR THE COMPANY FOR THE FIRST YEAR, BUT THE COMPANY HAS CONTRACTED FOR WORK WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF MORE THAN \$2 MILLION, WITH SOME CONTRACTS STRETCHING INTO THE SECOND YEAR," SAID MR TOMKIN.

THE LARGEST CONTRACT SO FAR AWARDED TO THE COMPANY IS IN CONNECTION WITH ERGONOMICS FOR THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE. HKDIC WAS ASKED BY A BRITISH COMPANY TO DESIGN FOR MANUFACTURE HERE COMPUTER CONSOLES AND WORK STATIONS FOR THE THREE NEW POLICE CENTRES HANDLING EMERGENCY CALLS.

ON CONTACT WITH LOCAL MANUFACTURERS HKDIC FINDS THAT THE TOY MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN PARTICULAR, IS OPEN TO NEW IDEAS AND CONCEPTS IN PRODUCT DESIGN. BOTH COMPLETED AND PROJECTS ON HAND OF HKDIC BELONG TO THAT CATEGORY ALTHOUGH OTHER CONTRACTS INCLUDE AN ELECTRONIC POCKET COMMUNICATOR WITH SCREEN FOR A PROFESSIONAL GROUP, BATTERY-SEALED ELECTRONIC BATHROOM SCALE, GUITAR-PLAYING AID, ELECTRONIC SAVING BANK, CLIP-ON CALCULATOR, CLOTHES BRUSH, CLOCKS, SPANNER AND EVEN MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

ACCORDING TO MR TOMKIN, THE AWARENESS OF THE NEED FOR BETTER DESIGN AMONG MANUFACTURERS STARTED ABOUT SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS AGO. HOWEVER, AN EDUCATIONAL APPROACH IS STILL REQUIRED TO PERSUADE LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO SHED THE TRADITIONAL PRACTICE OF COPYING DESIGNS.

SOME MANUFACTURERS STILL DO NOT REGARD DESIGN AS AN INVESTMENT BUT REGARD IT AS AN EXPENSE, HE SAID.

"WE TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO INTRODUCE TO THEM THE IMPORTANCE OF PRODUCT DESIGN FOR EVERY PRODUCT CATEGORY. WE SHOW THEM HOW TO REDUCE THE RISKS INVOLVED IN MANUFACTURING BY BETTER DESIGN," SAID MR TOMKIN.

MR TOMKIN EXPLAINED THAT THE TEAM OF FIVE DESIGNERS IN HKDIC DEvised PROJECTS WHICH THE COMPANY CALLED "SECTOR A" TO HELP LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF BETTER DESIGN.

/" BASICALLY SECTOR

"BASICALLY SECTOR A IS OUR OWN IDEAS AND CONCEPTS, TO SHOW A PARTICULAR SECTOR THE DESIGN POTENTIAL MANUFACTURERS HAVE NOT DISCOVERED AND HELP TO SHOW WHAT COULD BE DONE," SAID MR TOMKIN.

HOWEVER, MR TOMKIN ADMITTED THAT THERE WAS SOME POTENTIAL MARKET FOR SECTOR A. TWO INNOVATIVE CASSETTE RECORDER/PLAYER DESIGNS WITH SPEAKERS IN THIS CATEGORY HAVE ALREADY ATTRACTED SOME INTEREST.

HE SAID: "THE COMPANY NEEDS LARGE AND LONG-TERM PROJECTS TO GET SELF-SUFFICIENT. WE HOPE IT IS POSSIBLE FOR THE COMPANY TO GET INVOLVED IN EVERY STAGE OF THE PRODUCT DESIGN LEADING TO ITS MANUFACTURE AND FOR IT TO SHARE LATER IN THE PROFIT OF THE MARKETING OF THE FINISHED DESIGN."

NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL AND BEING A NON-PROFIT DISTRIBUTING ORGANISATION, THE HONG KONG DESIGN INNOVATION COMPANY WILL GET A TOTAL SUBVENTION OF \$8 MILLION DURING THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF THE COMPANY'S OPERATION. AN OPTIONAL INTEREST-FREE LOAN OF \$1.2 MILLION WILL BE GRANTED IN THE FOURTH YEAR.

THE COMPANY PROVIDES CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURERS IN DIFFERENT SECTORS AND ALSO ASSESSES LOCALLY MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS IN TERMS OF THEIR POTENTIAL FOR DESIGN INNOVATION AND MAKES PROPOSALS TO MANUFACTURERS THEREAFTER. THE COMPANY IS ALSO BUILDING UP A DATA LIBRARY TO EVALUATE THE DESIGN AND CREATIVE POTENTIAL OF ALL PRODUCTS.

THE COMPANY EXPECTS TO BALANCE ITS BUDGET WITHIN THREE YEARS AFTER IT OPENED 14 MONTHS AGO, AND IT INTENDS TO STIMULATE LOCAL INTEREST IN INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AND ENCOURAGE PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION.

"WE HAVE TURNED DOWN CLIENTS WHO CAME TO US WITH INITIALLY UNVIABLE DESIGNS," SAID MR TOMKIN, "BUT THEY KEEP COMING BACK TO US WITH ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS AS THEY FEEL COMFORTABLE WITH OUR JUDGEMENT AND INSIGHT."

MR TOMKIN MAINTAINED THAT HKDIC CHARGED MARKET RATES FOR ITS DESIGN AND CONSULTANCY WORK. "WE SEEK AT LEAST TO COVER THE COST AND, AT THE SAME TIME, DO NOT UNDERCUT FREELANCE DESIGNERS," SAID MR TOMKIN.

HKDIC DESIGNERS, DURING THEIR FIRST YEAR WITH THE COMPANY, HAVE VISITED VARIOUS OVERSEAS TRADE SHOWS TO EXCHANGE IDEAS AND GET A FEEL OF THE NEEDS OF OVERSEAS MARKETS IN PRODUCT DESIGN IN VARIOUS SECTORS.

BILL TO IMPROVE MATERNITY LEAVE PROPOSED

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PREGNANT WORKERS WILL BE GIVEN GREATER PROTECTION FROM DISMISSAL DUE SOLELY TO PREGNANCY IF THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987, PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S (FRIDAY) GAZETTE, IS PASSED INTO LAW.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT SOME 30,000 FEMALE WORKERS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE NEW LAW ANNUALLY.

UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION, A FEMALE EMPLOYEE IS PROTECTED FROM BEING DISMISSED AFTER SHE HAS GIVEN NOTICE TO HER EMPLOYER, WITHIN 12 WEEKS PRIOR TO HER EXPECTED DATE OF CONFINEMENT, THAT SHE INTENDS TO TAKE MATERNITY LEAVE.

HOWEVER, ALLEGATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE FROM TIME TO TIME THAT PREGNANT EMPLOYEES ARE DISMISSED BEFORE THEY FALL WITHIN THE 12-WEEK PROTECTION PERIOD.

THE NEW BILL, THEREFORE, PROPOSES TO ENABLE A FEMALE WORKER TO SERVE NOTICE OF HER INTENTION TO TAKE MATERNITY LEAVE ONCE HER PREGNANCY HAS BEEN CERTIFIED BY A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

THIS WILL ALSO ENABLE THE EMPLOYER TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO COVER FOR HER ABSENCE.

THE BILL ALSO MAKES IT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FEMALE WORKER TO INFORM HER EMPLOYER AS SOON AS IS PRACTICABLE IF HER PREGNANCY HAS CEASED OTHERWISE THAN BY REASON OF DELIVERY OF A CHILD.

ANOTHER PROPOSAL IS THAT A FEMALE WORKER SHALL NOT BE ENTITLED TO GIVE NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT DURING HER MATERNITY LEAVE, JUST AS AN EMPLOYER IS PROHIBITED UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION FROM TERMINATING THE EMPLOYMENT OF A FEMALE EMPLOYEE DURING THIS PERIOD.

THE PROPOSALS WERE ENDORSED BY THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD IN MARCH THIS YEAR.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS ON JULY 1.

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PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION

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THE NEW COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION HELD ITS FIRST MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY) AFTER IT WAS RECONSTITUTED RECENTLY.

MRS RITA FAN WAS RE-APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE. FIVE NEW MEMBERS WERE APPOINTED TO THE COMMITTEE TO REPLACE THREE OUTGOING MEMBERS AND TO BRING IN NEW EXPERTISE FOR THE EFFECTIVE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION.

THE NEW MEMBERS ARE MR TAI CHIN-WAH, LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR; MR IP KING-MAN OF THE HONG KONG JAYCEE; MR POON KAI-TIK, A DIRECTOR OF AN ADVERTISING COMPANY; MR JUSTIN C. WONG, SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER; AND MR PETER YEUNG KWOK-HUNG, A LIBRARIAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF THE COMMITTEE AS LAID DOWN IN ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE IS TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL SYSTEM. TO THIS END THE COMMITTEE SET UP AT ITS MEETING TODAY FOUR SUB-COMMITTEES ON OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE; PUBLICITY; COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION; AND CIVIC EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE.

THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO STRENGTHEN LIAISON WITH DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS INVOLVED IN CIVIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES, TO CONTINUE TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECTS AND TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO ACTIVITIES AIMED AT THE PROMOTION OF GOOD CITIZENSHIP.

MRS FAN SAID THE RECENTLY-PUBLISHED CIVIC EDUCATION RESOURCE INDEX WAS BEING WIDELY USED BY MANY ORGANISATIONS.

"THE INDEX WILL BE UPDATED PERIODICALLY AND PLANS ARE IN HAND TO DEVELOP A FULL-SCALE RESOURCE CENTRE TO PROVIDE REFERENCE MATERIALS FOR THE ORGANISATIONS OF CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECTS.

"FOR THE YEAR 1987/88, A TOTAL OF \$500,000 HAS BEEN EARMARKED FOR SUBSIDISING CIVIC EDUCATION PROJECTS UNDER THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SCHEME," MRS FAN SAID.

THE NEW COMMITTEE COMPRISES 13 NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS AND NINE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS. THEY ARE:

/CHAIRMAN

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CHAIRMAN : MRS RITA FAN HSU LAI-TAI

NON-GOVERNMENT : MR CHAN WING-TAI
MEMBERS : DR C.Y. HUANG
MADAM KO SIU-WAH
MR MAK HOI-WAH
MRS PAULINE NG CHOW MAY-LIN
MISS NORA YAU
MR LUKE YIP JING-PING
MR IP KING-MAN
MR POON KAI-TIK
MR TAI CHIN-WAH
MR JUSTIN C. WONG
MR PETER YEUNG KWOK-HUNG

OFFICIALS : MR PETER TAM
MR JOE YIU
MR F.C. SO
MRS ANITA LEE
MR GEORGE YUEN
MRS AVA CHIU
MRS LINA LO
MR H.A. RAZACK
MR ALFRED W.M. CHUI

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SUSPENSION OF IDENTITY CARD SERVICES

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECOND NEW IDENTITY CARDS RE-ISSUE SCHEME ON JULY 1, THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICES WILL SUSPEND SOME OF THE SERVICES FROM MONDAY (JUNE 22) TO JUNE 30, BOTH DATES INCLUSIVE.

ALL REGISTRATION OF PERSONS OFFICES WILL HOWEVER REMAIN OPEN DURING THIS PERIOD TO RECEIVE REPORTS OF LOSS AND TO ISSUE IDENTITY CARDS DUE FOR COLLECTION. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE LOST THEIR IDENTITY CARDS MAY STILL APPROACH THESE OFFICES.

FULL SERVICES WILL RESUME ON JULY 1.

FOR ENQUIRIES, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY CONTACT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:-

/HONG KONG

HONG KONG -----	TEL. NO. -----
HONG KONG BRANCH SHOPS G6-G11, GROUND FLOOR PROVIDENT CENTRE 21-53 WHARF ROAD NORTH POINT	5-642374
ABERDEEN OFFICE ABERDEEN CENTRE, BLOCK K-N SHOP 4B, GROUND FLOOR 12-16 NAM NING STREET ABERDEEN	5-548100
QUEENSWAY BRANCH NEW RODNEY BLOCK 2ND FLOOR 99 QUEENSWAY	5-286753
KOWLOON -----	
KOWLOON BRANCH EMPIRE CENTRE 2ND FLOOR 68 MODY ROAD TSIM SHA TSUI	3-680479
KOWLOON CITY OFFICE HANG CHIEN COURT GROUND FLOOR WYLER GARDEN 7-9 WAI KING STREET	3-656532
KWUN TONG OFFICE AMOY PLAZA ROOM 54-60, 2ND FLOOR 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD	5-7559545
NEW TERRITORIES -----	
TSUEN WAN BRANCH LEVEL 4, TSUEN WAN FERRY PIER TSUEN WAN WATERFRONT TSUEN WAN	0-4984242
TAI PO OFFICE TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES 3RD FLOOR TING KOK ROAD	0-6577111 EXT. 292
YUEN LONG OFFICE 3RD FLOOR YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES 2 KIU LOK SQUARE	0-754114

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HARMONIOUS LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS STRESSED

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THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MR DARWIN CHEN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) GOOD LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS COULD ENHANCE HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND SOCIAL STABILITY.

CITING 1986 AS AN EXAMPLE, MR CHEN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HONG KONG'S LABOUR FORCE WAS SLIGHTLY INCREASED, ITS GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCTS WERE UP BY 8.7 PER CENT AND THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY 19 PER CENT OVER 1985.

"THESE SHOW THAT THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY HAD, TO A CERTAIN DEGREE, IMPROVED BOTH ITS WORKING EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY IN THE PAST YEAR," HE SAID.

"FURTHERMORE, THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT TWO PER CENT IN THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDING APRIL THIS YEAR, AS AGAINST 2.2 PER CENT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1986, ALSO REFLECTED THAT THE LABOUR FORCE WAS EFFECTIVELY FULLY EMPLOYED.

"TO ACHIEVE SUCH MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, ONE OF THE IMPORTANT FACTORS IS A HARMONIOUS INDUSTRIAL RELATIONSHIP."

MR CHEN WAS SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE FIRST CERTIFICATE COURSE ON LABOUR RELATIONS AND LABOUR LEGISLATION JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

HE NOTED THAT THE DEPARTMENT ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SUCH COURSES SINCE THEY WOULD ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO GET A MORE COMPREHENSIVE UNDERSTANDING OF THE LABOUR LEGISLATION AND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES, AND TO IMPROVE LABOUR RELATIONS IN THEIR ORGANISATIONS AFTERWARDS.

IN FACT, HE SAID, THE DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE HAD BEEN ACTIVELY PROMOTING HARMONIOUS LABOUR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONSHIP THROUGH EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY.

APART FROM HOLDING CERTIFICATE COURSES ON LABOUR RELATIONS, IT ALSO CONDUCTS A PROGRAMME OF VISITS TO EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND TRADE UNIONS, ORGANISES INDUSTRY-BASED SEMINARS AND EXHIBITIONS, AND PRODUCES A NEWSLETTER FOR DISTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

"IN VIEW OF THE FAVOURABLE RESPONSE, WE ARE PLANNING TO INCREASE THE EXISTING RANGE OF ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS OUR CO-OPERATION WITH THE EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS, TRADE UNIONS AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS THIS YEAR," MR CHEN ADDED.

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PEN PAL POSTCARD CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP
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TO PROMOTE INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP AND UNDERSTANDING AMONG STUDENTS OF GERMANY AND HONG KONG, A PEN PAL POSTCARD CAMPAIGN WILL BE ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CONSULATE GENERAL OF HONG KONG AND THE GOETHE INSTITUT.

THE COMPETITION WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE WORLD THROUGH VISUAL PERSONALISED MESSAGES ON BLANK POSTCARDS SUPPLIED BY THE ORGANISERS.

A PARTICIPANT CAN SUBMIT AS MANY ENTRIES AS HE LIKES.

"THE MORE POSTCARDS SUBMITTED BY THE STUDENTS, THE MORE CHANCE THERE WILL BE TO ESTABLISH COMMUNICATION WITH SOMEONE OVERSEAS," SAID A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE FINISHED POSTCARD NEEDS NOT BE A WORK OF ART, SAID THE SPOKESMAN ADDING THAT IT WAS PURELY A PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM THE SENDER TO THE RECIPIENT.

IT MAY TAKE THE FORM OF A DRAWING OR PAINTING, OR EVEN WITH A POEM OR A SHORT MESSAGE OF FRIENDSHIP EITHER IN ENGLISH OR CHINESE WITH AN ENGLISH TRANSLATION.

BLANK POSTCARDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION BY SCHOOLS FROM THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL HEAD OFFICE AT 31ST FLOOR, GREAT EAGLE CENTRE, 23 HARBOUR ROAD, WANCHAI; ITS KWUN TONG OFFICE AT GROUND FLOOR, CHUNG MAN CENTRE, 414 KWUN TONG ROAD, KWUN TONG; AND TSUEN WAN OFFICE AT 1ST FLOOR, FOU WAH CENTRE, 210 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN DURING THE OFFICE HOURS.

ALL ENTRIES SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE OFFICES BEFORE JULY 15.

THERE WILL BE 100 SOUVENIR PRIZES FOR SCHOOLS WHICH SUBMIT THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF ENTRIES IN PROPORTION TO THE SIZE OF PUPIL ENROLMENT. EACH SOUVENIR PRIZE WILL CONSIST OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION AND A CHINESE BOOK ON GERMAN LITERATURE.

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RESEARCH ON LANGUAGE TEACHING
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THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS CARRYING OUT A RESEARCH ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXTENSIVE READING IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND COMPUTER-ASSISTED LANGUAGE LEARNING, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y. T. LI, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY), AT THE GRADUATION CEREMONY OF LANGUAGE COURSES FOR TEACHERS RUN BY THE INSTITUTE.

THE INSTITUTE WAS ALSO STUDYING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF CANTONESE PRONUNCIATION AND THE APPLICATION OF QUESTIONING IN THE TEACHING OF READING. THESE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES WOULD YIELD INFORMATION TO HELP TEACHERS AND EDUCATIONAL PLANNERS, SAID MR LI.

HE ALSO REVEALED THAT PLANNING WAS UNDER WAY FOR THE THIRD INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE FROM DECEMBER 15 TO 17, 1987 ON THE THEME OF "LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION IN A BI-LINGUAL OR MULTI-LINGUAL SETTING".

HE NOTED THAT SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1982, THE INSTITUTE HAD PROVIDED TRAINING TO MORE THAN 2,700 TEACHERS OF CHINESE AND ENGLISH.

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FREE POSTGRAMMES TO VOICE VIEWS ON GREEN PAPER
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SOUTHERN DISTRICT RESIDENTS ARE ABLE TO VOICE THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER ON THE 1987 REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS IN REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT WITH POSTAGE-FREE POSTGRAMMES.

THE POSTGRAMMES, PRODUCED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD UNDER ITS "MY SUGGESTIONS TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD" POSTGRAMME SCHEME, PROVIDE A HANDY CHANNEL FOR RESIDENTS TO SUBMIT THEIR VIEWS, A DB SPOKESMAN SAID.

"RESIDENTS JUST HAVE TO PUT DOWN THEIR COMMENTS AND MAIL THE SELF-ADDRESSED POSTGRAMME TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE, WHICH WILL THEN FORWARD THEM TO THE SURVEY OFFICE," HE SAID.

"LETTERS TOGETHER WITH COPIES OF THE POSTGRAMMES HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE DISTRICT'S SIX AREA COMMITTEES AND VARIOUS LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS TO INVITE RESIDENTS TO MAKE USE OF THE HANDY POSTGRAMMES AND FORWARD THEIR VIEWS ON THE GREEN PAPER," HE ADDED.

/THE POSTGRAMMES

THE POSTGRAMMES ARE ALSO OBTAINABLE AT MORE THAN 70 DISTRIBUTION OUTLETS THROUGHOUT SOUTHERN DISTRICT. THESE OUTLETS INCLUDE THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES, POST OFFICES, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, COMMUNITY HALLS, MAJOR BANKS, PETROL STATIONS AND VARIOUS KAIFONG AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATIONS PREMISES.

"COMPLETED POSTGRAMMES, WITH THE NAME, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBERS OF THE WRITER CLEARLY INDICATED, SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1987," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE POSTGRAMMES CAN BE MADE TO THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE ON 5-540271.

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SPORTS PROGRAMME FOR WORKING PEOPLE

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PEOPLE WORKING IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT ARE BEING INVITED TO JOIN THE INTER-HONG SPORTS PROGRAMME DUE TO START THIS SUNDAY (JUNE 21).

THEY MAY REPRESENT THEIR COMPANIES TO TAKE PART IN A NUMBER OF EXCITING COMPETITIONS IN POTTED GAMES, BASKETBALL, MINI-SOCCER, BADMINTON AND SWIMMING, HELD BETWEEN JUNE 21 AND JULY 24.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, URBAN COUNCIL AND THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RECREATION AND SPORT ASSOCIATION AND SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE PROGRAMME IS NOW IN ITS FIFTH YEAR.

"THE PROGRAMME IS AIMED AT PROMOTING A HEALTHIER MODE OF LIVING AMONG WORKING PEOPLE BY ENCOURAGING THEM TO TAKE UP RECREATION AND SPORTS," A DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AS A CURTAIN-RAISER, A TELEMATCH WILL BE HELD AT 9.30 AM ON SUNDAY AT BLAKE GARDEN IN SHEUNG WAN. TWELVE TEAMS REPRESENTING BANKS, DEPARTMENT STORES, RESTAURANTS AND OTHER COMPANIES WILL PARTICIPATE.

BEFORE THE COMPETITION STARTS, A BRIEF OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD. ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ELIZABETH TSE; DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MISS ESTHER CHAN; RECREATION AND SPORT OFFICER, MRS FUNG LAI YUET-NGOR; AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION AND SPORT ASSOCIATION, MR LAM YIN-MING WILL OFFICIATE.

/FURTHER INFORMATION

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FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SPORTS PROGRAMME CAN BE MADE ON
5-8170196 OR 5-416405.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE
INTER-HONG SPORTS PROGRAMME AT BLAKE GARDEN, PO HING FONG IN SHEUNG
WAN AT 9.30 AM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 21).

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NORMAL POSTAL SERVICES TO THE UK RESUMED
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THE RECENT INDUSTRIAL ACTION TAKEN BY THE BRITISH CUSTOMS
AUTHORITIES HAS ENDED, A POST OFFICE SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY
(FRIDAY).

SPEEDPOST PACKAGES AND AIR AND SURFACE PARCELS CONTAINING
ITEMS OF MERCHANDISE ARE NO LONGER SUBJECT TO DELAY, HE SAID.

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NEW MEMBER APPOINTED TO SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD
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A MEMBER OF THE POKFULAM AREA COMMITTEE, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG,
HAS BEEN APPOINTED A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD FROM JUNE
19 TO MARCH 31 NEXT YEAR.

MR HUI TAKES UP A VACANT SEAT IN THE BOARD LEFT BY MR PAUL
YOUNG TZE-KONG WHO RESIGNED UPON BEING APPOINTED TO THE URBAN COUNCIL.

MR HUI, 28, WHO IS A SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER, HAS BEEN ACTIVELY
INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR THE DISTRICT.

HE HAS SERVED AS A CO-OPTED MEMBER OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S
WORKS PROJECTS COMMITTEE AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH
PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE IN 1986 AND 1987 AND IS A MEMBER OF
THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION SINCE 1986.

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AXLE WEIGHT MARKINGS ON GOODS VEHICLES A MUST
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OWNERS OF GOODS VEHICLES AND TRAILERS ARE REMINDED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM AUGUST 25, THEIR VEHICLES SHOULD DISPLAY THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED AXLE WEIGHTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ROAD TRAFFIC (CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES) REGULATIONS.

"THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED AXLE WEIGHT MARKINGS ON GOODS VEHICLES AND TRAILERS WILL HELP DRIVERS DETERMINE THE LOADING CAPACITY OF EACH AXLE AND HENCE ENSURE THAT LOADS ARE PROPERLY PLACED," A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

FOR GOODS VEHICLES, THE AXLE WEIGHT MARKINGS SHOULD BE DISPLAYED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE VEHICLE TOGETHER WITH THE OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS AND THE PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT.

AS FOR TRAILERS, THE COMMON PRACTICE IS TO DISPLAY THE MARKINGS ON THE NEAR SIDE OF THE CHASSIS OF THE VEHICLE.

"THE MARKINGS SHOULD BE IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE CHARACTERS AND PAINTED IN WHITE AGAINST A BLACK BACKGROUND. THE CHARACTERS AND FIGURES SHOULD BE AT LEAST 25 MILLIMETRES IN HEIGHT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT LIKE THE PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT, THE MAXIMUM PERMITTED AXLE WEIGHTS SHOULD BE EXPRESSED IN TONNES AND SHOULD SHOW TWO DECIMAL PLACES.

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NEW ROADS FOR TAI PO, JUNK BAY PROPOSED
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NEW ROADS ARE TO BE BUILT AT TAI PO AND JUNK BAY TO PROVIDE VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN ACCESS TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS.

THE WORK AT TAI PO WILL INVOLVE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,200-METRE-LONG CARRIAGEWAY, ABOUT 7.9 METRES WIDE, WITH ASSOCIATED FOOTPATHS AND AMENITY STRIP, IN AREA 30 OPPOSITE THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

ALSO PROPOSED ARE A SMALL CARPARK WITH 19 SPACES, LAY-BYS FOR COACHES, A MAXICAB STOP AND A THREE-METRE-WIDE FOOTPATH GIVING ACCESS TO A RECREATION AREA AND LOOKOUT POINTS.

/AT JUNK

AT JUNK BAY, A 150-METRE-LONG, TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY IS TO BE BUILT TO LINK THE PROPOSED ENTRANCES TO THE HOUSING ESTATE IN AREA 4 AND THE SERVICE RESERVOIR IN AREA 3 WITH AN UNNAMED NEW ROAD, ROAD D5.

OTHER WORK WILL COMPRISE CONSTRUCTION OF A BUS TERMINUS IN AREA 3, A FOOTBRIDGE IN AREA 4 AND ACROSS ROAD D5, AND ANCILLARY WORKS, INCLUDING FOOTPATHS AND AMENITY AREAS. STREET FURNITURE AND TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN AIDS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

NOTICES OF THE PROPOSED PROJECTS, WHICH WILL FORM PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWNS, WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

WRITTEN OBJECTIONS TO BOTH PROPOSALS SHOULD REACH THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT BY NOT LATER THAN AUGUST 18.

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CLOSURE OF SHEK WAI KOK ROAD UNDERPASS

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SHEK WAI KOK ROAD UNDERPASS IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 30 MINUTES PAST MIDNIGHT TO 6 AM ON SUNDAY (JUNE 21) FOR INSTALLATION OF LIGHTING AND MAINTENANCE.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC ON NORTHBOUND TEXACO ROAD HEADING FOR SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE WILL BE DIVERTED VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE, CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD, CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD EAST, CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD WEST, CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD.

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URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTION ON FORT STREET

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FORT STREET BETWEEN NORTH VIEW STREET AND CHEUNG HONG STREET IN NORTH POINT WILL BE MADE A 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (JUNE 22).

THE MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT FOUR MONTHS FOR ROAD WORKS.

WITHIN THE URBAN CLEARWAY, NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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