



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1989

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ECONOMIC SITUATION IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1989 AND
UPDATED FORECASTS OF GDP AND PRICES FOR 1989

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OWING TO A DECELERATION IN THE GROWTH RATES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS AND A SLACKENING OF DOMESTIC DEMAND, THE GROWTH MOMENTUM OF THE ECONOMY SLOWED DOWN IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1989.

HOWEVER, THE LABOUR MARKET REMAINED GENERALLY TIGHT, WHILE THE RATE OF INFLATION ROSE FURTHER.

THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE EVENTS IN CHINA CAN BE EXPECTED TO REINFORCE THE TREND OF A SLOW-DOWN IN HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE SHORT TERM.

FEEDBACK FROM BUSINESS SOURCES SUGGESTS THAT TRADE WITH CHINA AND OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE BORDER WERE NOT DISRUPTED TO ANY SIGNIFICANT EXTENT DURING MAY AND JUNE.

HOWEVER, CERTAIN SPECIFIC SECTORS SUCH AS PROPERTY AND TOURISM HAVE BEEN HIT. ADVERSE IMPACT HAS ALSO BEEN FELT IN VARYING DEGREES ON THE LEVEL OF CONSUMPTION AND INVESTMENT.

WHILE THE FULL EFFECT ON THE ECONOMY AT LARGE WILL PROBABLY TAKE MORE TIME TO FILTER THROUGH, THERE HAS NONETHELESS BEEN SOME IMPROVEMENT LATELY.

AN ANALYSIS OF DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR IS GIVEN IN THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT 1989 PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST, MR K.Y. TANG SAID THAT ON THE BASIS OF THIS REPORT AND OTHER RECENT INFORMATION, A REVIEW HAD BEEN MADE OF THE FORECASTS OF THE GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP) AND OF PRICE TRENDS FOR 1989.

"THIS REVIEW IS THE SECOND IN A SERIES UNDER WHICH THE SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC FORECASTS ARE TO BE UPDATED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS," HE SAID.

THE FIRST REVIEW WAS CARRIED OUT IN THE LATTER PART OF MAY. THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY REFERRED TO THIS NEW APPROACH IN HIS CONCLUDING SPEECH IN THE BUDGET DEBATE.

RELEASE OF THE UPDATED FORECASTS IS INTENDED TO COINCIDE WITH THE PUBLICATION OF THE QUARTERLY ECONOMIC REPORTS.

THE MAIN UPDATED FORECASTS ARE: AROUND FIVE PER CENT FOR THE GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF THE GDP, AND 9.5 PER CENT FOR THE RATES OF INCREASE IN BOTH THE GDP DEFLATOR AND THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A).

IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1989, THE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SLOWED DOWN MARKEDLY, TO ABOUT FOUR PER CENT IN REAL TERMS OVER A YEAR EARLIER. THIS COMPARES WITH AN INCREASE OF NINE PER CENT IN 1988 OVER 1987.

/DOMESTIC EXPORTS

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE VARIOUS MAJOR MARKETS SHOWED A MIXED PERFORMANCE.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA AND JAPAN CONTINUED TO GROW RAPIDLY IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, BY ABOUT 27 PER CENT AND 26 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN REAL TERMS OVER A YEAR EARLIER, WHILE THOSE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM ROSE BY ONLY ABOUT THREE PER CENT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES FELL BY ABOUT THREE PER CENT, AND THOSE TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY BY ABOUT FIVE PER CENT.

THUS, ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES REMAINED THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS, ITS SHARE FELL FROM 37 PER CENT IN 1987 TO 33 PER CENT IN 1988 AND TO 31 PER CENT IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1989.

RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY ABOUT 29 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1989 OVER THE FIRST HALF OF 1988. ALTHOUGH THIS GROWTH RATE WAS STILL SUBSTANTIAL, THERE WAS A MARKED DECELERATION FROM THE 46 PER CENT INCREASE RECORDED FOR 1988 AS A WHOLE.

THE CONTINUED GROWTH IN RE-EXPORTS WAS ATTRIBUTABLE NOT ONLY TO THE INCREASE IN ENTREPOT TRADE WITH CHINA AND WITH THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION GENERALLY, BUT ALSO TO THE EXPANSION IN OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES IN CHINA.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, IMPORTS GREW BY ABOUT 20 PER CENT, AND RETAINED IMPORTS BY ABOUT 13 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$13,470 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO FIVE PER CENT OF THE TOTAL IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1989.

THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$8,752 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO FOUR PER CENT OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988.

WITHIN THE LOCAL ECONOMY, THE GROWTH IN CONSUMPTION DEMAND SLACKENED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR.

AS AN INDICATION, THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS WAS SLOWER IN THE SECOND QUARTER THAN IN THE FIRST QUARTER, WHILE THE VOLUME OF RETAINED IMPORTS OF CONSUMER GOODS FELL IN THE SECOND QUARTER OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

RATHER SMALL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES IN RECENT MONTHS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTHS LAST YEAR.

INVESTMENT DEMAND ALSO EASED IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR, WITH RETAINED IMPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS, PARTICULARLY MACHINERY FOR MANUFACTURING USE, SHOWING SLOWER INCREASES.

ON INFLATION, THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) ROSE FROM 9.8 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER TO 10.4 PER CENT IN THE SECOND QUARTER. THIS COMPARES WITH AN AVERAGE INCREASE OF 7.5 PER CENT FOR 1988 AS A WHOLE.

THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF INCREASE FOR THE CPI(B) AND THE HANG SENG CPI IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WERE 9.9 PER CENT AND 11.0 PER CENT.

IT APPEARS THAT THE RECENT INFLATIONARY PRESSURES WERE LARGELY DOMESTICALLY GENERATED.

OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE CPI(A), THE FASTEST INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED IN FOODSTUFFS (INCLUDING MEALS TAKEN AWAY FROM HOME), TRANSPORT, AND SERVICES.

THE LABOUR MARKET REMAINED GENERALLY TIGHT DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1989.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WERE 1.4 PER CENT AND 0.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE SECOND QUARTER, WHILE IN THE FIRST QUARTER THEY WERE 1.3 PER CENT AND 0.8 PER CENT.

LABOUR INCOMES INCREASED FURTHER BOTH IN MONEY TERMS AND IN REAL TERMS. DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING MARCH 1989, LABOUR RESOURCES CONTINUED TO SHIFT FROM MANUFACTURING TO THE SERVICE SECTORS.

IN THE PROPERTY MARKET, THE DEMAND FOR MOST TYPES OF PROPERTY WAS STRONG AT THE EARLY PART OF THIS YEAR.

SIGNS OF CONSOLIDATION EMERGED FOLLOWING SUCCESSIVE INCREASES IN MORTGAGE RATE AND A FURTHER INCREASE IN PROPERTY PRICES DURING THE FIRST QUARTER.

SINCE EARLY JUNE, TRADING ACTIVITY HAD QUIETED DOWN ABRUPTLY. PROPERTY PRICES WERE REPORTED TO HAVE FALLEN BY AN AVERAGE OF 15-20 PER CENT BY THE END OF THE MONTH.

POTENTIAL BUYERS AND SELLERS OF PROPERTY WERE GENERALLY ADOPTING A WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE. IN THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR, THE MARKET FOR LARGE FLATS HAD EXPERIENCED A GREATER DEGREE OF DOWNWARD ADJUSTMENT THAN THAT FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED FLATS.

THE DEMAND FOR SHOPPING AND OFFICE SPACE ALSO WEAKENED TOWARDS THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR.

THE DEMAND FOR INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY HAD ALREADY BEEN SHOWING SIGNS OF CONSOLIDATION SINCE THE EARLY PART OF THIS YEAR. EVEN THOUGH THE DEMAND FOR STORAGE PREMISES WAS SUSTAINED.

THERE WERE, HOWEVER, SIGNS OF REVIVAL IN THE PROPERTY MARKET OVER THE PAST FEW WEEKS.

IN THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE FOLLOWING DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE FIRST HALF OF 1989 ARE NOTEWORTHY.

FIRST, THE MARKET EXCHANGE RATE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AGAINST THE U.S. DOLLAR REMAINED STABLE. THIS WAS SO EVEN IN LATE MAY AND EARLY JUNE, AMIDST THE UNREST IN CHINA.

IN LINE WITH THE STRENGTHENING OF THE U.S. DOLLAR, THE OVERALL EXCHANGE VALUE OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR APPRECIATED.

SECONDLY, LOCAL INTEREST RATES ROSE FURTHER DURING THE FIRST QUARTER BUT SOFTENED SLIGHTLY SINCE APRIL.

THERE WAS, HOWEVER, A TEMPORARY SURGE IN LOCAL INTEREST RATES IN EARLY JUNE, AS LIQUIDITY IN THE INTERBANK MARKET TIGHTENED.

THIRDLY, AFFECTED BY THE EVENTS IN CHINA, LOCAL STOCK PRICES FELL SUBSTANTIALLY IN LATE MAY AND EARLY JUNE. A PERIOD OF VOLATILITY IN THE STOCK MARKET FOLLOWED.

FOURTHLY, DOMESTIC LOANS AND ADVANCES INCREASED LESS RAPIDLY IN THE SECOND QUARTER THAN IN THE FIRST QUARTER, WHILE THE LOCAL MONEY SUPPLY CONTINUED TO SHOW MODERATE GROWTH.

SINCE EARLY JUNE, BANKS HAD GENERALLY BECOME MORE CONSERVATIVE IN THEIR LENDINGS, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT OF PROPERTY MORTGAGES.

THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST SAID THAT THE ECONOMIC FORECASTS FOR 1989 WERE UPDATED IN THE LIGHT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS.

THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF THE GDP WAS LOWERED FROM SIX PER CENT TO FIVE PER CENT. THIS WAS THE COMBINED RESULT OF A FASTER THAN EXPECTED SLOW-DOWN IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY DURING THE SECOND QUARTER AND OF THE REPERCUSSIONS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE RECENT EVENTS IN CHINA.

"HOWEVER, JUDGING FROM THE LATEST TRENDS, THE IMPACT OF THE LATTER FACTOR IN THE SHORT TERM IS PROBABLY NOT AS SEVERE AS INITIALLY THOUGHT, AND SEEMS UNLIKELY TO OUTFRAN THE CYCLICAL DOWNTURN OF THE ECONOMY THAT HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SOME TIME," HE SAID.

IN THE EXTERNAL SECTOR, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS LOWERED TO 4.5 PER CENT, FROM SIX PER CENT IN THE MAY UPDATE. THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 18 PER CENT; THAT OF IMPORTS WAS REDUCED SLIGHTLY, TO 12.3 PER CENT.

INVISIBLE TRADE WAS EXPECTED TO GROW MORE SLOWLY, AT SEVEN PER CENT IN REAL TERMS (INSTEAD OF 11 PER CENT IN THE MAY UPDATE) FOR EXPORTS OF SERVICES AND FIVE PER CENT (INSTEAD OF 10 PER CENT IN THE MAY UPDATE) FOR IMPORTS OF SERVICES.

ON THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, ALTHOUGH THE ORDERS POSITION FOR THE LARGE MANUFACTURERS UP TO JUNE WAS STILL SATISFACTORY, THE VARIOUS MAJOR INDUSTRIES ARE FACING MIXED PROSPECTS IN THE SHORT TERM.

MOST INDUSTRIES ARE AFFECTED BY A SLACKENING OF DEMAND FOR HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS OVERSEAS, PARTLY AS A RESULT OF SLOWER ECONOMIC GROWTH IN SUCH MARKETS AS THE UNITED STATES.

/MOREOVER, THE

MOREOVER, THE STRENGTHENING OF THE U.S. DOLLAR IN MAY AND JUNE, COUPLED WITH A HIGHER RATE OF DOMESTIC INFLATION, WILL TEND TO RESTRAIN THE PRICE COMPETITIVENESS OF HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS LEADING TO SLOWER GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE LATTER PART OF THE YEAR.

A SLOW-DOWN IN OVERSEAS DEMAND COULD ALSO LEAD TO REDUCED GROWTH IN THAT PART OF HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO CHINA WHICH ARE ASSOCIATED WITH OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES.

RE-EXPORT TRADE IS LIKELY TO REMAIN ROBUST, ALTHOUGH ITS GROWTH RATE IS NOT AS HIGH AS IN THE EARLY PART OF THIS YEAR AND IS EXPECTED TO DECELERATE FURTHER.

MUCH WILL DEPEND ON CHINA BOTH AS A MAJOR SOURCE AND AS A MAJOR OUTLET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS.

THE EXPECTED SLOW-DOWN IN THE GROWTH RATES OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS OF SERVICES IS, IN PART, A REFLECTION OF MORE MODERATE DEMAND FOR TRADE-RELATED SERVICES AS WELL AS A SLACKENING IN TOURIST SPENDING.

IN THE DOMESTIC SECTOR, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF PRIVATE CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE WAS LOWERED FROM SEVEN PER CENT TO 5.5 PER CENT.

THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE EXPECTED SLOW-DOWN IN OVERALL ECONOMIC GROWTH. GOVERNMENT CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE WAS, HOWEVER, FORECAST TO GROW FASTER, AT SIX PER CENT INSTEAD OF 4.6 PER CENT, PARTLY BECAUSE OF A LARGER ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IN RECENT MONTHS.

AS REGARDS GROSS DOMESTIC FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION, THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE WAS REDUCED FROM AROUND SIX PER CENT TO 4.5 PER CENT.

WHILE THE FORECAST GROWTH RATES OF EXPENDITURES ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AND ON PLANT AND EQUIPMENT WERE LITTLE CHANGED, THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT CUT-BACK IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS' MARGIN.

OVERALL, BECAUSE THE FORECAST GROWTH RATE OF PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE WAS RAISED WHILE THAT OF PRIVATE SECTOR EXPENDITURE WAS REDUCED, PUBLIC SECTOR EXPENDITURE SHOULD PROVIDE A RELATIVELY GREATER IMPETUS THAN WAS ENVISAGED EARLIER IN INCREASING DOMESTIC DEMAND.

THE CURRENT INFLATIONARY PRESSURES ARE STILL STRONG. INASMUCH AS THEY ARE LARGELY DOMESTICALLY GENERATED THEY SHOULD EASE GRADUALLY AS THE GROWTH RATE OF THE ECONOMY CONTINUES TO SLOW.

HOWEVER, UP TO JUNE THE RATE OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION HAD BEEN ACCELERATING.

A SLOWER INCREASE IN THE CPI WAS RECORDED IN JULY, BUT IT IS TOO EARLY TO DETERMINE ANY SIGNIFICANT DOWNTREND.

/HAVING REGARD

HAVING REGARD TO THESE DEVELOPMENTS, IT WAS CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE TO RAISE THE FORECAST RATE OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) FROM 8.5 PER CENT TO 9.5 PER CENT, AND THAT IN THE GDP DEFLATOR FROM NINE PER CENT TO 9.5%.

OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT DEFLATORS, FASTER INCREASES WERE FORECAST FOR THOSE ON PRIVATE CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE AND RE-EXPORTS, AGAINST SLOWER INCREASES FOR THOSE ON BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURE, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT EXPENDITURE, AND RETAINED IMPORTS.

DETAILS OF THE UPDATED FORECAST ARE SHOWN IN THE ATTACHED TABLE.

THE HALF-YEARLY ECONOMIC REPORT 1989 WILL BE ON SALE ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 29) AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$20 A COPY.

	FORECAST FOR 1989 RELEASED WITH THE BUDGET (AS AT 1.3.89)	UPDATED FORECAST (AS AT 25.8.89)
	(%)	(%)
GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF :		
PRIVATE CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE	7	5.5
GOVERNMENT CONSUMPTION EXPENDITURE	4.6	6
GROSS DOMESTIC FIXED CAPITAL FORMATION	5.8	4.5
TRANSFER COSTS OF LAND AND BUILDINGS	5	5
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION	3	3.4
PRIVATE	2	1.5
PUBLIC	5	7
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS' MARGIN	6	0
PLANT, MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT	8	8
PRIVATE	8	7
PUBLIC	11	40
TOTAL EXPORTS OF GOODS	15.2	11.9
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	7	4.5
RE-EXPORTS	22	18
IMPORTS OF GOODS	15.5	12.3
EXPORTS OF SERVICES	11	7
IMPORTS OF SERVICES	10	5
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP)	6	5
PER CAPITA GDP	4.8	3.8

/GROWTH RATE

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GROWTH RATE IN MONEY TERMS OF :

GDP	15.6	14.9
PER CAPITA GDP	14.3	13.6

RATE OF INCREASE IN :

GDP DEFLATOR	9	9.5
DOMESTIC DEMAND DEFLATOR	9.3	9.4
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A)	8.5	9.5

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY RELEASED

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IN JULY, THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS WAS STILL SUBSTANTIAL, WHILE THAT OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS REMAINED MODERATE. THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS SLOWED DOWN SIGNIFICANTLY.

THESE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN JULY 1989 WAS \$21,104 MILLION, \$969 MILLION OR 4.8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN JULY 1988, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY \$7,456 MILLION OR 31.1 PER CENT TO \$31,431 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT \$52,535 MILLION IN JULY 1989, WAS THUS \$8,425 MILLION OR 19.1 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN JULY 1988.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 9.8 PER CENT OR \$4,329 MILLION OVER A YEAR EARLIER, TO \$48,723 MILLION IN JULY 1989.

AS THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS WAS MUCH SLOWER THAN THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE SURPLUS OF \$3,812 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 7.8 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN JULY 1989.

THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$284 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 0.6 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN JULY 1988.

PUTTING THESE TRADE FIGURES IN PERSPECTIVE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1989 WAS \$315,689 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$123,162 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$192,527 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1988, IN VALUE TERMS TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$58,640 MILLION OR 22.8 PER CENT, DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY \$7,408 MILLION OR 6.4 PER CENT, AND RE-EXPORTS BY \$51,232 MILLION OR 36.3 PER CENT.

/OVER THE

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY \$59,262 MILLION OR 22.3 PER CENT, TO \$325,347 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$9,658 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 3.0 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1989. THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$9,036 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 3.4 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1988.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE MODERATE GROWTH RATE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN RECENT MONTHS WAS LARGELY ATTRIBUTABLE TO A SLACKENING OF DEMAND FOR HONG KONG'S PRODUCTS IN THE MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS.

THE APPRECIATION OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR, IN LINE WITH THE U.S. DOLLAR, AGAINST OTHER MAJOR CURRENCIES EARLIER THIS YEAR MIGHT HAVE ALSO AFFECTED THE GROWTH RATE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CONTINUED SURGE IN RE-EXPORTS WAS DERIVED FROM CONVENTIONAL ENTREPOT TRADE AS WELL AS FROM THE OUTWARD PROCESSING ACTIVITIES IN CHINA.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THE VALUE OF RETAINED IMPORTS FELL IN JULY OVER A YEAR EARLIER. THIS SUGGESTED THAT THE GROWTH IN DOMESTIC DEMAND WAS CONTINUING TO SLACKEN.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FIGURES FOR JULY 1989.

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$21,104 MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$31,431 MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$52,535 MILLION	
	IMPORTS	:	\$48,723 MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$3,812 MILLION	[IN SURPLUS]

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	MAY 89 TO	MAY 88 TO	INCREASE	
	JUL 89	JUL 88	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	57,755	55,529	2,226	4.0
RE-EXPORTS	89,330	67,792	21,538	31.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	147,085	123,321	23,764	19.3
IMPORTS	147,396	127,137	20,259	15.9
TRADE BALANCE	-311	-3,816	3,505	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	JULY	JULY	INCREASE	
	1989	1988	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21,104	20,135	969	4.8
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(40.2%)	(45.6%)		
RE-EXPORTS	31,431	23,975	7,456	31.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	52,535	44,110	8,425	19.1
IMPORTS	48,723	44,394	4,329	9.8
TRADE BALANCE	3,812	-284	4,096	

/LAST MONTH

LAST MONTH	JULY	JUNE	INCREASE	
	1989	1989	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	21,104	18,956	2,148	11.3
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(40.2%)	(38.8%)		
RE-EXPORTS	31,431	29,886	1,545	5.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	52,535	48,842	3,693	7.6
IMPORTS	48,723	50,054	-1,331	-2.7
TRADE BALANCE	3,812	-1,212	5,024	

CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN-JUL	JAN-JUL	INCREASE	
	1989	1988	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DEMESTIC EXPORTS	123,162	115,754	7,408	6.4
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(39.0%)	(45.0%)		
RE-EXPORTS	192,527	141,295	51,232	36.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	315,689	257,049	58,640	22.8
IMPORTS	325,347	266,085	59,262	22.3
TRADE BALANCE	-9,658	-9,036	-622	

LAST 12 MONTHS	AUG 88 TO	AUG 87 TO	INCREASE	
	JUL 89	JUL 88	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	225,072	206,268	18,804	9.1
RE-EXPORTS	326,637	227,650	98,987	43.5
TOTAL EXPORTS	551,709	433,918	117,791	27.1
IMPORTS	558,060	438,581	119,479	27.2
TRADE BALANCE	-6,351	-4,663	-1,688	

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VISIT OF PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES

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THE FOLLOWING ANNOUNCEMENT WAS MADE BY THE BUCKINGHAM PALACE PRESS OFFICE TODAY (FRIDAY):

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES ARE TO PAY A VISIT TO INDONESIA AT THE INVITATION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA.

AFTER VISITING INDONESIA THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES WILL GO ON TO VISIT HONG KONG.

THE VISITS WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN FRIDAY 3RD AND FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 1989.

THE PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED VISIT TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WILL NOT NOW TAKE PLACE.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1989

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GOVT WELCOMES ROYAL VISIT
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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) WELCOMED THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY BUCKINGHAM PALACE THAT THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES WOULD VISIT HONG KONG.

THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES WILL BE IN HONG KONG FROM NOVEMBER 8 TO 10.

DETAILS OF THE ROYAL COUPLE'S PROGRAMME WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE.

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POWER COMPANY MEETS DEMANDS OF A ROBUST ECONOMY: SES
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ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS HAS INCREASED BY OVER EIGHT PER CENT ANNUALLY WHILE CHARGES IN REAL TERMS ARE LOWER THAN THEY WERE IN 1983 AFTER TAKING INFLATION INTO ACCOUNT.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID THIS TODAY (FRIDAY) AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "ELECTRICITY AND YOU" EXHIBITION ORGANISED BY THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED AT THE OCEAN TERMINAL.

"ELECTRICITY STOKES THE ENGINE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. OUR ECONOMY HAS ENJOYED ROBUST GROWTH AVERAGING 11 PER CENT PER ANNUM IN REAL TERMS OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS," MRS CHAN SAID.

"THANKS TO SOUND FORWARD-PLANNING AND PRUDENT INVESTMENT, CHINA LIGHT AND POWER CO., LTD. HAS BEEN ABLE TO ANTICIPATE AND MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR ELECTRICITY AT COSTS THAT MUST BE THE ENVY OF MANY OTHER COUNTRIES."

MRS CHAN NOTED THAT IN THE COMING DECADE, CHINA LIGHT AND POWER WOULD CONTINUE TO INVEST IN NEW GENERATING FACILITIES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY.

"INVESTMENTS AMOUNTING TO \$60 BILLION ARE ANTICIPATED," SHE SAID.

"THIS BEARS AMPLE TESTIMONY TO THE CONFIDENCE WHICH SHAREHOLDERS, BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS, CONTINUE TO HAVE IN THE LONGER TERM FUTURE AND PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG."

ON ELECTRICAL SAFETY, MRS CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD LONG BEEN AWARE OF PUBLIC CONCERN OVER THIS.

/"FOLLOWING A

"FOLLOWING A SERIES OF COMPREHENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH THE RELEVANT ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE REPRESENTING THE ELECTRICAL TRADE, WORKERS AND CONSUMERS, A NEW ELECTRICITY BILL WAS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN MAY THIS YEAR AND WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL," SHE SAID.

"THE BILL PROVIDES FOR A COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK DEMARCATING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, SUPPLY COMPANIES AND CONSUMERS ON ELECTRICITY-RELATED MATTERS.

"IT ALSO PROVIDES FOR A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR QUALIFIED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS UNDER WHICH ONLY REGISTERED WORKERS MAY PERFORM ELECTRICAL WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SET OF SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

"SUBJECT TO THE PASSING OF THE BILL BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE PROPOSALS WILL TAKE EFFECT BY PHASES NEXT YEAR.

"WHEN THE COMPLETE SET OF THE NEW ELECTRICITY LEGISLATION IS FULLY IMPLEMENTED, AND WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, I AM CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE A MORE EFFECTIVE AND SAFE USE OF OUR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY."

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BROADCASTING IN HK ENTERING NEW ERA

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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT HONG KONG COULD SUPPORT AND INDEED DEMANDED A MORE SOPHISTICATED AUDIO VISUAL AND ENTERTAINMENT SECTOR.

IN HER TALK ENTITLED "BROADCASTING IN THE NINETIES - EXCITING TIMES AHEAD" TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF ADMIRALTY, MISS CHUNG SAID BROADCASTING WAS ENTERING A NEW ERA OF CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT.

"CHANGE IS BOTH INEVITABLE AND DESIRABLE. WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY, THERE ARE NEW AND MORE EFFECTIVE WAYS OF DELIVERING TELEVISION AND RADIO SERVICES TO THE HOME." SHE SAID.

MISS CHUNG SAID THAT IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, THE FRANCHISES OF THE TWO EXISTING WIRELESS TELEVISION STATIONS WERE RENEWED FOR ANOTHER 12 YEARS, WITH NEW LICENCE CONDITIONS INTRODUCED TO REQUIRE SUFFICIENT LEVELS OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT.

"THE PREVIOUS TV DIET OF DRAMA, SOAP OPERAS AND VARIETY SHOWS HAS BEEN IMPROVED TO INCLUDE A MINIMUM AMOUNT OF CURRENT AFFAIRS, DOCUMENTARIES, CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMES AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES," SHE SAID.

"THE AMOUNT OF ADVERTISEMENTS, STATION PROMOS, REPEATS OF FEATURE FILMS, ETC. IS RESTRICTED BUT CAN BE VARIED WITH THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY'S APPROVAL."

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MISS CHUNG SAID THERE WERE OVER 1.5 MILLION TELEVISION RECEIVERS IN HONG KONG AND ABOUT 600,000 VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDERS.

"FIVE MILLION PEOPLE AGED FOUR AND ABOVE WATCH TELEVISION EVERYDAY FOR AN AVERAGE OF THREE TO FOUR HOURS. NO WONDER MOST PEOPLE HAVE A LOVE-HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE BOX," SHE SAID.

SHE HAILED THE "RENEWED COMPETITION" BETWEEN TVB AND ATV AND WAS GLAD THAT THE AUDIENCE HAD REACTED FAVOURABLY TO THE INNOVATIONS INTRODUCED TO SOME PROGRAMMES.

ON CABLE TELEVISION, MISS CHUNG DESCRIBED THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES BETWEEN "NARROW CAST" CABLE TV AND BROADCAST WIRELESS TV AND POINTED OUT THAT THE HONG KONG CABLE TV OPERATOR WOULD, UNLIKE HIS FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS, HAVE TO PRODUCE, OR BUY FROM INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS, A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF LOCAL PROGRAMMING.

"LOCAL SUBSCRIBERS DEMAND PROGRAMMES WHICH ARE NOT ONLY MADE IN CANTONESE BUT ALSO REFLECT THE SPECIFIC LOCAL CULTURE THAT THE LOCAL AUDIENCE IDENTIFIES WITH," SHE SAID.

"THIS PARTICULAR LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL IDENTITY OF THE HONG KONG CHINESE POPULATION HAS GIVEN RISE TO HONG KONG-BASED PRODUCTION HOUSES BEING THE ONLY MAJOR PRODUCERS OF PROGRAMMES WITH MASS APPEAL IN THE TERRITORY.

"IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ANNUAL LOCAL PRODUCTION WILL INCREASE FROM 7,000 HOURS TO 15,000 HOURS WITHIN FIVE YEARS. THIS FIGURE, WHEN COMPARED TO TVB'S CURRENT PRODUCTION OF OVER 4,000 HOURS, ATV'S 3,000 HOURS AND RTHK'S 650 HOURS, REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF THE PRESENT OUTPUT."

MISS CHUNG STRESSED THAT HONG KONG-BASED PRODUCTION HOUSES HAD BECOME SUPPLIERS OF PROGRAMMES TO OTHER COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.

"THE HONG KONG CABLE TV SYSTEM WILL FEATURE A VERY SOPHISTICATED, HIGH-TECH OPTICAL FIBRE NETWORK WHICH WILL ALLOW INTERACTIVE SERVICES," SHE SAID.

"AT THE MOMENT, THE TV STATIONS TALK TO YOU BUT YOU CAN'T TALK BACK. WITH CABLE TV, WITH THE PRESS OF A BUTTON, IT IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE HOME SHOPPING, HOME BANKING OR THE PURCHASE OF STOCKS AND SHARE, GOLD AND FOREIGN CURRENCIES ARRANGED AT HOME."

MISS CHUNG ALSO DISCUSSED THE PROPOSAL TO DEREGULATE THE RECEPTION OF SATELLITE SIGNALS INTENDED FOR GENERAL RECEPTION BUT NOT TO ALLOW THE RETRANSMISSION OF SUCH SIGNALS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

SHE ANNOUNCED THE CREATION OF LICENCES FOR HOTEL TELEVISION WHICH COULD BE FUNDED BY ADVERTISEMENTS OR PAY-PER-VIEW. THIS SHOULD LEAD TO THE EXPANSION OF THE "RELATIVELY UNDEVELOPED HOTEL TELEVISION INDUSTRY", SHE ADDED.

/ON RADIO,

ON RADIO, SHE REMARKED THAT IT REMAINED A POPULAR MEDIUM WITH UNIQUE QUALITIES OF IMMEDIACY AND VERSATILITY. SHE TALKED ABOUT THE U.K. AND U.S. MODEL FOR RADIO DEVELOPMENT.

SHE NOTED THAT IN HONG KONG BOTH THE NUMBER OF REGULAR AND CASUAL RADIO LISTENERS HAD DECLINED BETWEEN 1986 AND 1988, FROM 48 PER CENT TO 38 PER CENT FOR THE DAILY AUDIENCE, AND 64 PER CENT TO 58 PER CENT FOR THE AUDIENCE WHO LISTENED AT SOME TIME DURING THE WEEK.

THE PROPORTION OF THE ADVERTISING MARKET CAPTURED BY RADIO HAD ALSO SEEN A 39 PER CENT DECLINE BETWEEN 1984 AND 1988, SHE ADDED.

MISS CHUNG WAS CONFIDENT THAT THERE WAS SCOPE FOR FURTHER GROWTH IN THE RADIO INDUSTRY AND HER CONFIDENCE WAS REAFFIRMED BY NINE CONSORTIA WHICH HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN BIDDING FOR THE SECOND COMMERCIAL RADIO LICENCE, TO BE ISSUED NEXT YEAR.

"THE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL BARRIERS TO ENTRY INTO RADIO BROADCASTING, AS OPPOSED TO TV, ARE FEW AND OUR VIEW IS THAT HONG KONG'S ECONOMY SHOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPORT TWO COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS, IN ADDITION TO AN EXPANDED RTHK, PROVIDED THEY OFFER DIVERSE PROGRAMME SERVICES WHICH APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC," SHE SAID.

ON RTHK, MISS CHUNG SAID THE CORPORATISATION OF RTHK WOULD RESULT IN A "FORMAL AND VISIBLE GUARANTEE OF RTHK'S EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE" AND MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR USE OF RESOURCES.

ON THE WORK OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY, SHE SAID THAT THE FIRST TWO YEARS WERE HECTIC, BUT THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY HAD DISCHARGED ITS DUTIES "WITH EFFICIENCY, FIRMNESS, TACT AND PATIENCE".

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NEW LAW AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING TAKES EFFECT NEXT FRIDAY

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A JOINT POLICE/CUSTOMS FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT TO RECEIVE REPORTS ABOUT KNOWN OR SUSPECTED DRUG-RELATED FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS WILL START OPERATING NEXT FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 1) WHEN THE NEW DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) ORDINANCE 1989 WILL COME INTO EFFECT (EXCEPT FOR SECTION 25).

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR GARETH MULLOY.

PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 12. THE NEW LEGISLATION IS AIMED AT CONFISCATING THE PROCEEDS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING AND AT COUNTERING DRUG MONEY LAUNDERING.

"UNDER THE ORDINANCE, WHEN A PERSON IS CONVICTED OF A DRUG TRAFFICKING OFFENCE, THE COURT WILL FIRST SENTENCE THE CONVICTED PERSON AND THEN DETERMINE WHETHER HE HAS EVER BENEFITTED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING." MR MULLOY SAID.

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"IF HE HAS, THE COURT WILL ASSESS THE VALUE OF HIS PROCEEDS FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING AND IMPOSE A CONFISCATION ORDER ON THOSE PROCEEDS."

MR MULLOY SAID SECTION 25 OF THE ORDINANCE PROVIDED FOR A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF 14 YEARS' IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF \$5 MILLION FOR ANY PERSON WHO WAS CONVICTED OF ASSISTING A DRUG TRAFFICKER TO RETAIN OR OTHERWISE BENEFIT FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING PROCEEDS.

"SECTION 25 WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON DECEMBER 1 TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR AFFECTED SECTORS. PARTICULARLY FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, TO MAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW REQUIREMENTS." HE SAID.

THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS HAVE EACH FORMED A SPECIAL UNIT TO ENFORCE THE NEW LEGISLATION AND WILL OPERATE A JOINT FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT AS FROM NEXT FRIDAY.

THE JOINT UNIT WILL HAVE A TELEPHONE HOTLINE (5-520520) AND A POST OFFICE BOX (PO BOX 6555, GENERAL POST OFFICE) TO RECEIVE REPORTS.

MR MULLOY SAID DISCLOSURES WOULD NOT BE TREATED UNDER THE ORDINANCE AS A BREACH OF CONTRACT OR RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT. OR PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR SEEKING DAMAGES FOR ANY LOSS THUS INCURRED.

THE FACT OF THE DISCLOSURE AND THE IDENTITY OF THE PERSON MAKING THE DISCLOSURE WOULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC, HE CONTINUED.

"DRUG TRAFFICKING GENERATES HUGE PROFITS WHICH ARE USED BY TRAFFICKERS TO FURTHER THEIR ILLICIT TRADE TO FINANCE OTHER ILLLEGAL ACTIVITIES AND TO INVEST IN LEGITIMATE BUSINESSES TO EARN MORE PROFITS, THUS CREATING A SELF-PERPETUATING CYCLE," MR MULLOY STRESSED.

"WE HOPE THAT THIS LEGISLATION WILL HELP US BREAK THE CYCLE."

THE ENACTMENT DATES OF THE ORDINANCE WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

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BILL AIMS AT CRACKING DOWN ON VICE SIGNBOARDS

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PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO COMBAT NUISANCES ASSOCIATED WITH PROSTITUTION WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE CRIMES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989 PROVIDES FOR THE REMOVAL OF SIGNBOARDS ADVERTISING THE SERVICES OF PROSTITUTES, AND FOR A SCHEME TO CLOSE PREMISES OR FORFEIT VESSELS WHERE VICE-RELATED OFFENCES HAVE REPEATEDLY TAKEN PLACE.

"UNDER THE NEW BILL, IT WILL BE AN OFFENCE TO DISPLAY OR PERMIT THE DISPLAY OF A SIGN WHICH MAY BE UNDERSTOOD TO ADVERTISE THE SERVICES OF A PROSTITUTE," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

/"THE MAXIMUM

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"THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR BREAKING THIS LAW WILL BE A FINE OF \$10,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

"THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WILL ALSO EMPOWER THE POLICE TO TAKE DOWN OFFENDING SIGNS, WHETHER OR NOT THE PEOPLE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGNS ARE IDENTIFIED."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CLOSURE ORDER SCHEME INTRODUCED BY THE BILL WOULD ALLOW THE COURTS TO ORDER THAT PREMISES WHERE OFFENCES RELATED TO VICE HAD OCCURRED BE CLOSED.

"SPECIAL PROVISION IS MADE TO PROTECT 'INNOCENT' LANDLORDS WHO HAVE UNWITTINGLY LET THEIR PREMISES TO PROSTITUTES AND THEIR PROTECTORS," HE SAID.

"THE SCHEME STIPULATES THAT, FOLLOWING A FIRST OFFENCE RELATING TO THE PREMISES, THE LANDLORD HAS A PERIOD OF GRACE IN WHICH TO EVICT THE TENANTS.

"FOLLOWING THE END OF THE GRACE PERIOD, IF A SECOND VICE-RELATED OFFENCE IS COMMITTED WITHIN ONE YEAR, THE COURTS MAY ORDER THE CLOSURE OF THE PREMISES IN QUESTION.

"THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE FORFEITURE OF VESSELS WHERE OFFENCES RELATED TO PROSTITUTION HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

"THE PROPOSALS IN THE BILL HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND MODIFIED FOLLOWING PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON A WHITE BILL LAST YEAR."

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LIBERATION DAY OBSERVANCE

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A WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (AUGUST 28) IN MEMORY OF MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS WHO DIED IN DEFENCE OF HONG KONG IN DECEMBER 1941 OR LATER AS PRISONERS OF WAR.

THE CEREMONY, TO OBSERVE THIS YEAR'S LIBERATION DAY, WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SHRINE IN THE CITY HALL GARDEN OF REMEMBRANCE, BEGINNING AT 10.45 AM.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM MILITARY FORCES AND VETERANS ASSOCIATIONS WILL LAY WREATHS AT THE SHRINE, TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE SOUNDING OF THE LAST POST, A TWO-MINUTE SILENCE AND REVEILLE, AND THE FIRING OF THREE VOLLEYS IN SALUTE.

THE FIRING PARTY, BUGLER AND SENTRIES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS).

LAYING WREATHS AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE:

/COMMANDER BRITISH

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COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES, MAJOR-GENERAL P.R. DUFFELL, FOR THE
BRITISH FORCES IN HONG KONG;

MR ARTHUR E. GOMES FOR THE HONG KONG PRISONERS OF WAR
ASSOCIATION;

SIR ALBERT RODRIGUES FOR THE HONG KONG WAR MEMORIAL FUND;

MR T.A. LEONARD FOR THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION;

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL CHRISTOPHER PATEY FOR THE ROYAL HONG KONG
REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS);

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CANADA, MS A.M. DOYLE, FOR THE HONG KONG
VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA;

MAJOR PETER A. RULL FOR THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE
VOLUNTEERS) ASSOCIATION;

WARRANT OFFICER SECOND CLASS P.K. TIDEY FOR THE MIDDLESEX
REGIMENT;

MR WILKIE WU FOR THE BRITISH ARMY AID GROUP;

MR J.O. EDWARDS FOR THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FAR EAST
PRISONERS OF WAR CLUB;

MR MAXIMO A. CHENG FOR THE SECOND WORLD WAR VETERANS
ASSOCIATION; AND

MAJOR R.D. TAYLOR FOR THE EX-GUNNERS ROLL OF HONG KONG.

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GOVT TO REVIEW LIVESTOCK FARMERS' APPLICATION DEADLINE

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL REVIEW THE DEADLINE FOR LIVESTOCK FARM
OPERATORS IN PHASE I STAGE II CONTROL AREAS TO APPLY FOR EX-GRATIA
ALLOWANCES AND CAPITAL GRANTS IN VIEW OF A DELAY IN THE COMPLETION OF
THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON PRIVATE FARMS.

LIVESTOCK FARMERS' REPRESENTATIVES HAD REQUESTED THAT THE
DEADLINE BE EXTENDED AT A MEETING OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL
CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

FARMERS' REPRESENTATIVES SAID FARM OPERATORS HAD TO AWAIT THE
RESULT OF THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS BEFORE CONSIDERING WHETHER TO
CEASE OR CONTINUE OPERATION.

THE PRESENT DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS IS
DECEMBER 31 THIS YEAR.

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FOR A SIMILAR REASON, FARMERS' REPRESENTATIVES ALSO REQUESTED THAT THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME SHOULD NOT BE ENFORCED IN THE TUEN MUN ENVIRONS BEFORE THE GOVERNMENT HAD REVIEWED THE OUTCOME OF THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

HOWEVER, THEY SAID LIVESTOCK FARMERS IN THE AREA WHO WISHED TO CEASE BUSINESS AND APPLY FOR EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO DO SO FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

THE LANDS AND WORKS BRANCH REPRESENTATIVE CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT THINKING.

AT THE MEETING, THE COMMITTEE ALSO DECIDED TO RECONVENE THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES TO COLLECT FARMERS' VIEWS AND SUPPLY INFORMATION TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION IN UNDERTAKING THE NEXT ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE RATES OF EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCES.

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AWARDS FOR SOCIAL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS IN SOUTHERN

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TWELVE SOCIAL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS AND FOUR VOLUNTEER GROUPS HAVE WON THE 1988-89 SOUTHERN DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD SCHEME FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE DISTRICT COMMUNITY.

THE WINNERS WILL EACH BE PRESENTED A SOUTHERN DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD TROPHY AND A GIFT COUPON AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 27) WHICH FORMS PART OF THE PROGRAMME FOR A TWO-DAY CAMP.

THE CAMP, TO BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION IN POK FU LAM, HAS BEEN ORGANISED TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE WINNERS AND THE SUCCESSFUL NOMINEES TO SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE, AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS, IN VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE.

LAUNCHED IN 1983-84, THE SCHEME IS AN ANNUAL EVENT ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO GIVE DUE RECOGNITION TO THOSE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE RENDERED COMMENDABLE VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE.

A SENIOR LECTURER IN THE APPLIED SOCIAL SCIENCE FACULTY OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC, MR MAK HOI-WAH, HAS BEEN INVITED TO OFFICIATE AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND TO GIVE A TALK ON "VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE".

/ALSO OFFICIATING

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ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG; ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DAVID LEUNG; DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER, MR PAUL CHEUNG; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, MR WONG KING-CHEUNG.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SOCIAL SERVICE AWARD SCHEME TO BEGIN AT 2 PM ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 27) AT THE HONG KONG PHAB ASSOCIATION, 75 POK FU LAM RESERVOIR ROAD.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF SOUTHERN CENTRE BY 1.15 PM FROM WHERE A GOVERNMENT VAN WILL TAKE THEM TO THE VENUE.

INFORMATION OFFICER, MR ALEX LI, WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

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DB DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR KOREA

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A 22-MEMBER DELEGATION FROM THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD LEFT FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING ON A SIX-DAY STUDY TOUR.

A DELEGATION MEMBER, DB CHAIRMAN MR AMBROSE LAU, SAID BEFORE DEPARTING FOR CHEJU THAT THE DELEGATION WOULD STUDY SEOUL'S SUBURBAN COMMUNITIES AND REDEVELOPMENTS.

THEY ALSO VISIT THE SEOUL MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT FOR A BRIEFING ON SEWAGE DISPOSAL FACILITIES AND PROGRAMMES.

"WE WILL VISIT THE HANGANG RIVERSIDE PARK TO STUDY THE MANAGEMENT METHODS OF NATIONAL RECREATIONAL FACILITIES," MR LAU SAID.

ANOTHER MEMBER, DISTRICT OFFICER MR STEPHEN FISHER, POINTED OUT THAT THE TOUR WILL ALSO COVER THE SEOUL METROPOLITAN SUBWAY AND FEEDER TRANSPORT SYSTEMS.

"WE WILL ALSO STUDY THE ADMINISTRATION OF SMALL KOREAN COMMUNITIES WHICH ARE COMPARABLE TO OUR DISTRICTS," MR FISHER SAID, ADDING THAT A DETAILED REPORT ON THE TOUR WILL BE COMPILED AFTER THE GROUP RETURNS TO HONG KONG.

THE TOUR IS ONE OF THE MANY ACTIVITIES ORGANISED THIS YEAR BY THE DISTRICT BOARD TO BROADEN MEMBERS' HORIZONS.

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IT HAS BEEN PLANNED BY A SPECIAL DB WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY A DELEGATION MEMBER, MR LEUNG SIK-WAH.

SEVEN OTHER DB MEMBERS, 11 COMMUNITY LEADERS AND A DISTRICT SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER ARE IN THE GROUP.

THEY ARE DUE TO RETURN TO HONG KONG ON AUGUST 30.

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16 NEW SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO OPEN NEXT MONTH

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SIXTEEN NEW GOVERNMENT AND AIDED SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL BE OPERATIONAL NEXT MONTH TO CATER FOR STUDENTS IN FIVE NEW TOWNS.

OF THESE SCHOOLS, EIGHT ARE IN SHA TIN, THREE IN TUEN MUN, TWO IN YUEN LONG, TWO IN TAI PO AND ONE IN FANLING, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE EIGHT NEW SCHOOLS IN SHA TIN ARE THE JOCKEY CLUB TI-I COLLEGE, SIR ELLIS KADOORIE SECONDARY SCHOOL, SUNG LAN MIDDLE SCHOOL, LOCK TAO SECONDARY SCHOOL, TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS WONG FUNG LING COLLEGE, CHRIST COLLEGE, CHINESE YMCA COLLEGE, AND HK AND KOWLOON CHIU CHOW PUBLIC ASSOCIATION MA CHUNG SUM SECONDARY SCHOOL.

IN TUEN MUN, THE THREE NEW SCHOOLS ARE SHI HUI WEN SECONDARY SCHOOL, SEMPLE MEMORIAL ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL AND CHUNG SING BENEVOLENT SOCIETY SCHOOL.

THE NEW SCHOOLS IN YUEN LONG ARE THE YUEN LONG PUBLIC GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL AND BETHEL HIGH SCHOOL.

THE REMAINING SCHOOLS ARE THE BUDDHIST TAI PO CHI HONG COLLEGE AND HONG KONG RED SWASTIKA SOCIETY TAI PO SECONDARY SCHOOL IN TAI PO, AND THE SKH CHAN YUNG SECONDARY SCHOOL IN FANLING.

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NOVEMBER START ON SECOND LOK MA CHAU BRIDGE

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WILL START BUILDING A SECOND CROSS BORDER BRIDGE OVER THE SHENZHEN RIVER AT LOK MA CHAU IN NOVEMBER.

TENDERS ARE NOW BEING INVITED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE. THE CONTRACT WILL ALSO COVER THE WIDENING OF A SECTION OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD FROM FAN KAM ROAD TO SAN TIN.

A CONTRACT NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER LINK PROJECT STAGE 1, WHICH COMPRISES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.8-KILOMETRE DUAL-TWO-LANE HIGHWAY AND A BRIDGE OVER THE SHENZHEN RIVER CARRYING TWO TRAFFIC LANES, IS EXPECTED TO BE OPENED LATER THIS YEAR.

TO COPE WITH THE ANTICIPATED INCREASE IN CROSS-BORDER TRAFFIC, THE SECOND BRIDGE CARRYING TWO ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC LANES WILL BE BUILT ADJACENT TO THE FIRST BRIDGE.

UPON ITS COMPLETION, A DUAL-TWO-LANE ROAD LINK WILL BE PROVIDED BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SHENZHEN AT LOK MA CHAU.

ON THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 12-KILOMETRE TRUNK ROAD FOR THROUGH TRAFIC FROM AU TAU TO FAN KAM ROAD, SHEUNG SHUI.

THE PROJECT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES.

THE FIRST PHASE BETWEEN PAK SHEK AU AND FAN KAM ROAD WAS OPENED IN 1987.

PHASE 2 FROM MAI PO TO PAK SHEK AU, PHASE 3 FROM FAIRVIEW PARK TO MAI PO AND PHASE 4 FROM AU TAU TO FAIRVIEW PARK IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY END 1989, END 1990 AND MID 1991 RESPECTIVELY.

THOUGH INITIALLY A DUAL-TWO-LANE TRUNK ROAD, THERE WILL BE PROVISION FOR FUTURE EXPANSION TO A DUAL-THREE-LANE ROAD.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT TO CATER FOR THE FUTURE TRAFFIC GROWTH ASSOCIATED WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER LINK IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT WIDENING WORKS ON THIS SECTION OF THE CIRCULAR ROAD SO THAT A DUAL-THREE-LANE HIGHWAY WILL BE PROVIDED BETWEEN AU TAU AND SHEUNG SHUI IN 1991.

WIDENING WORKS OF THE SECTION FORM SAN TIN TO FAN KAM ROAD WILL BE COVERED BY THE PRESENT CONTRACT WHICH ALSO INCLUDES OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS SUCH AS A FOOTBRIDGE NEAR SHEK WU WAI VILLAGE AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT CHAU TAU, MAI PO, HA SAN WAI AND POK WAI VILLAGES.

THE WIDENING WORKS ON THE REMAINING SECTIONS OF THE ROAD WILL BE CARRIED OUT UNDER SEPARATE CONTRACTS FOR COMPLETION IN 1991, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CONTRACT WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY BINNIE CONSULTANT LIMITED ROR THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT. THE COMPANY WILL ALSO SUPERVISE CONSTRUCTION.

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THREE SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO BE BUILT IN TAI PO
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE NEW "FLEXI-DESIGN" SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN TAI PO UNDER TWO SEPARATE CONTRACTS.

THE FIRST CONTRACT INVOLVES THE BUILDING OF TWO SCHOOLS, ADJACENT TO EACH OTHER, ON A 12,530-SQUARE-METRE SITE IN AREA 17, FU SHIN ESTATE.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE SAME DESIGN ON A 5,840-SQUARE-METRE SITE IN AREA 3/23, TAI WO ESTATE WILL BE AWARDED UNDER THE SECOND CONTRACT.

EACH OF THE THREE SCHOOLS WILL HAVE A GENERAL CLASSROOM BLOCK WITH 26 CLASSROOMS AND THREE REMEDIAL TEACHING ROOMS, A SPECIAL BLOCK WITH 14 SPECIAL ROOMS, AN ASSEMBLY HALL AND A BASKETBALL COURT.

WORK UNDER THE CONTRACTS IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE AROUND NOVEMBER THIS YEAR AND TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON SEPTEMBER 22.

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SERVICING AND FORMATION WORKS FOR SHA TIN VILLAGES
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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR UNDERTAKING SERVICING AND MINOR FORMATION WORKS FOR KAK TIN VILLAGE, SAN TIN WAI AND LEI UK TSUEN IN SHA TIN.

THE WORKS WOULD INVOLVE THE FORMATION OF PLATFORMS FOR VILLAGE-TYPE DEVELOPMENT HOUSES AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NUMBER OF SERVICING FACILITIES TO IMPROVE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF THE VILLAGES.

THESE INCLUDE A TOILET, AN ELECTRICITY SUBSTATION, A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT, RETAINING WALLS, CARPARKS, FOOTPATHS AND ASSOCIATED DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE WORKS.

THE CONTRACTOR IS ALSO REQUIRED TO CARRY OUT SLOPE TREATMENT WORKS AND REMEDIAL WORKS CONCERNING BOULDERS IN THE VICINITY OF THE VILLAGES.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN NOVEMBER AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 12 TO 14 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CONSULTANTS FOR THE PROJECT AT 4 FUNG WO LANE, WO CHE, SHA TIN.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON SEPTEMBER 14.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 1989

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U.S. HONOURS HK DRUG FIGHTER
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THE UNITED STATES DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA) HAS PRAISED THE PROFESSIONALISM AND GOOD WORK OF A HONG KONG SENIOR CUSTOMS INSPECTOR IN A JOINT HONG KONG/U.S. OPERATION IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

IN A CEREMONY HELD TODAY (FRIDAY) AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS, THE DEA'S SPECIAL AGENT IN HONG KONG, MR JAMES HARRIS, PRESENTED A PLAQUE TO SENIOR INSPECTOR CHU KOK-PANG IN RECOGNITION OF HIS GOOD WORK AND ASSISTANCE IN THE OPERATION.

THE OPERATION RESULTED IN THE CONVICTION OF THREE MEN AND THE SEIZURE OF 14.8 KILOGRAMS OF NO. 4 HEROIN IN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES. THE ESTIMATED STREET VALUE OF THE DRUGS IN THE UNITED STATES WAS AROUND US\$22.7 MILLION.

MR CHU FLEW TO NEW YORK IN JANUARY TO TESTIFY IN COURT.

MR HARRIS SAID INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION WAS IMPORTANT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

HE ADDED THAT THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE DEA AND THE HONG KONG CUSTOMS, IN PARTICULAR THE CUSTOMS INVESTIGATION BRANCH, DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS HAD LED TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF FOUR DRUG CASES IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE SEIZURE OF 24.3 KILOGRAMS OF NO. 4 HEROIN IN BOTH PLACES.

THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR K.S. TONG, WAS ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY.

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CALL FOR SUPPORT IN ANTI-MOSQUITO DRIVE
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THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH IS APPEALING TO THE PUBLIC FOR SUPPORT IN THE SECOND PHASE OF THE TERRITORY-WIDE ANTI-MOSQUITO EDUCATION CAMPAIGN AIMED AT ELIMINATING THE MOSQUITO NUISANCE NORMALLY EXPERIENCED IN LATE SUMMER.

THE FIRST PHASE OF THE CAMPAIGN WAS LAUNCHED IN APRIL THIS YEAR, AND THE SECOND PHASE TO REINFORCE THE CAMPAIGN WILL BEGIN NEXT MONTH.

AS PART OF THE CAMPAIGN, THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS HAVE PRODUCED A LEAFLET GIVING THE GUIDELINES ON MOSQUITO PREVENTION FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE PUBLIC AND TO CONSTRUCTION SITE OPERATORS.

/EMPHASISING THE

EMPHASISING THE MESSAGE OF "NO STAGNANT WATER, NO MOSQUITO BREEDING", THE LEAFLET SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING MEASURES TO REDUCE THE CHANCE OF MOSQUITO BREEDING:

- * TO KEEP ALL TINS, BOTTLES, RECEPTACLES AND OUTER TYRES AWAY FROM OPEN SPACES AND TO TURN UPSIDE DOWN ALL LARGE RECEPTACLES WHICH CANNOT BE MOVED READILY;
- * TO KEEP WATER STORAGE TANKS COVERED AND SEE THAT THEY ARE IN GOOD REPAIR;
- * TO ENSURE THAT DRAINAGE IS IN ORDER SO AS TO PREVENT POSSIBLE ACCUMULATION OF WATER; AND
- * TO RENEW WATER IN VASES AT LEAST ONCE WEEKLY AND MAKE SURE THAT NO WATER ACCUMULATES IN TRAYS OR UNDER-PLATES FOR FLOWER POTS.

THE SENIOR HEALTH INSPECTOR OF THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT, MR SAMUEL WONG, URGED BUILDING CONTRACTORS TO INSPECT THEIR SITES FREQUENTLY AND TO ELIMINATE ALL STAGNANT WATER ON BUILDING SITES, OR SPRAY AT LEAST ONCE WEEKLY A LAYER OF LIGHT DIESEL ON THE SURFACE OF WATER WHICH COULD NOT BE ELIMINATED.

"DISTRICT HEALTH STAFF OF BOTH THE URBAN SERVICES AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS ARE ALWAYS WILLING TO OFFER ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE," HE SAID.

MR WONG POINTED OUT THAT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE, IT IS AN OFFENCE TO ALLOW MOSQUITO BREEDING ON PREMISES, AND THE OFFENDER IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE ANTI-MOSQUITO MESSAGE, THE UNIT WILL SEND LETTERS WITH SUPPORTING INFORMATION TO BUILDING CONTRACTORS, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND MANAGEMENT OFFICES OF LARGE PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES APPEALING FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION.

"ANTI-MOSQUITO POSTERS AND LEAFLETS WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED TO SCHOOLS AS WELL AS DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION FOR DISPLAY," MR WONG SAID.

"BROADCASTING VANS WILL TOUR THE TERRITORY DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD TO SPREAD THE ANTI-MOSQUITO MESSAGES.

"IN ADDITION, A HOTLINE -- 3-7230013 -- WITH A TAPED MESSAGE ON THE PROPER WAYS TO ELIMINATE MOSQUITO BREEDING WILL BE SET UP.

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY LEAVE QUESTIONS AND THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBERS AFTER LISTENING TO THE RECORDED MESSAGE AND STAFF OF THE HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT WILL ANSWER THEM INDIVIDUALLY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," MR WONG ADDED.

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NEW IDENTITY CARDS FOR MEN BORN IN 1945-48

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MEN BORN IN 1945, 1946, 1947 OR 1948 WOULD BE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM SEPTEMBER 4 TO OCTOBER 21.

"MEN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP CAN CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

THESE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

"THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS. TO AVOID HAVING TO QUEUE UP FOR A LONG TIME AT THE ISSUE OFFICES OR TO COME BACK ON ANOTHER DAY, APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO GO TO THESE OFFICES IN THE MORNINGS AND THE AFTERNOONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

- HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI
TEL. NO. 5-747070
- EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD
TEL. NO. 3-7553679
- WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR,
393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI
TEL. NO. 3-7232424
- TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET
TEL. NO. 0-4981259
- SHA TIN : SHOP 8A, SECOND FLOOR, CHANWAY SHOPPING
CENTRE, 11-17, SHA TIN CENTRE STREET, SHA TIN
TEL. NO. 0-6059108
- YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK
ROAD
TEL. NO. 0-4771543
- 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. 0-6727191

/THE SPOKESMAN

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THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED MEN BORN IN 1949, 1950, 1951 OR 1952 WHO HAVE NOT APPLIED FOR THEIR NEW IDENTITY CARDS TO COME FORWARD WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY AS THERE IS ONLY ONE MORE WEEK LEFT BEFORE THE CURRENT PHASE CLOSES ON SEPTEMBER 2.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$3,000.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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REMOVAL OF KOWLOON MARRIAGE REGISTRY

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THE KOWLOON MARRIAGE REGISTRY LOCATED AT THE FIFTH FLOOR OF THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 29), THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NEW ADDRESS IS UPPER BASEMENT AND LEVEL 3, ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE, 10 SALISBURY ROAD, TSIM SHA TSUI.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE REGISTRY WILL BE KNOWN AS THE TSIM SHA TSUI MARRIAGE REGISTRY ON AND AFTER AUGUST 29.

THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE REGISTRY WILL BE:

MONDAY - FRIDAY	8.45 AM - 12.45 PM 2 PM - 4.45 PM
SATURDAY	9 AM - 11.30 AM
SUNDAY (MARRIAGE CEREMONIES ONLY)	9 AM - 12.45 PM 2 PM - 4.45 PM

THE REGISTRY WILL BE CLOSED ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE ON TEL. 3-7333111.

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1983 PRIVATE CARS COME UNDER INSPECTION SCHEME
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PRIVATE CARS MANUFACTURED IN 1983 WHICH REQUIRED A NEW LICENCE COMMENCING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR MUST PASS A ROADWORTHINESS TEST PRIOR TO LICENCE RENEWAL, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"UNDER THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 2, 1986, ALL SIX-YEAR-OLD PRIVATE CARS MUST FIRST OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS FROM A GOVERNMENT-DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRE BEFORE THEIR LICENCES CAN BE RENEWED," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

"WITH THE APPROACH OF 1990, IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT 1983 CARS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE INSPECTION SCHEME," HE SAID.

THERE ARE 17 DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR AND APPOINTMENTS FOR INSPECTION MAY BE MADE FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE EXPIRY DATE OF THE VEHICLE LICENCE.

THE PARTS INSPECTED INCLUDE: THE BRAKING AND STEERING SYSTEM, SUSPENSION, WHEELS AND TYRES, ENGINE AND TRANSMISSION, ELECTRICAL FITTINGS AND LIGHTING, BODYWORK AND GENERAL ITEMS SUCH AS NUMBER PLATES, WINDSCREEN WIPERS AND WASHERS AND SEAT BELTS.

OF THE 42,289 VEHICLES WHICH UNDERWENT THEIR FIRST INSPECTIONS UNDER THE SCHEME IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, ABOUT 73 PER CENT PASSED, COMPARED WITH A PASS RATE OF 74 PER CENT AMONG THE 70,785 FIRST INSPECTIONS IN 1988. A TOTAL OF 194,089 INSPECTIONS HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT UP TO LAST MONTH.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT THE CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS FOR ANY PRIVATE CAR WHICH HAS PASSED THE TEST MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE DEPARTMENT WITHIN FOUR MONTHS OF THE ISSUE DATE FOR RELICENSING A VEHICLE, OTHERWISE ITS VALIDITY WILL LAPSE.

THE FEE FOR A CAR INSPECTION IS \$160, AND A RE-CHECK FEE OF \$50 IS CHARGED WHEN DEFECTS FOUND IN THE ORIGINAL INSPECTION ARE REMEDIATED AND EXAMINED WITHIN 14 DAYS. IN CASES OF SPECIFIED MINOR FAULTS, THE RE-CHECK IS FREE OF CHARGE.

SHOULD A CAR OWNER DISAGREE WITH THE RESULT OF A TEST, HE CAN APPEAL TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR A FRESH, INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION.

"TO AVOID UNNECESSARY INCONVENIENCE, CAR OWNERS SHOULD HAVE THEIR VEHICLES CHECKED AND REPAIRED BEFORE THE INSPECTION APPOINTMENT WITH CAR TESTING CENTRES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE ON 5-8691166.

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TRAFFIC PLAN FOR FOOTBALL MATCHES AT HK STADIUM

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN HAPPY VALLEY FROM SUNDAY (AUGUST 27) AND WILL BE EFFECTIVE THROUGHOUT THE COMING FOOTBALL SEASON, WHENEVER THERE IS A FOOTBALL MATCH AT THE HONG KONG STADIUM.

TWO HOURS PRIOR TO THE KICK-OFF OF EACH MATCH, THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS WILL COME INTO EFFECT:

- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN LEIGHTON ROAD AND STADIUM PATH WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND;
- * CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD AND COTTON PATH WILL BE RESTRICTED TO VEHICLES REQUIRING LOCAL ACCESS;
- * EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND, BUT VEHICLES WILL STILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE ST PAUL'S HOSPITAL CARPARK FROM TUNG LO WAN ROAD;
- * LINK ROAD BETWEEN CAROLINE HILL ROAD AND HAPPY VIEW TERRACE WILL BE RE-ROUTED ONE-WAY UPHILL; VEHICLES EXITING FROM UPPER SECTION OF BROADWOOD ROAD, HAPPY VIEW TERRACE AND LEIGHTON HILL WILL PROCEED DOWN VIA BROADWOOD ROAD TO WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD;
- * VEHICLES ON CAROLINE HILL ROAD WILL BE BANNED FROM TURNING RIGHT TO LINK ROAD, IF NECESSARY;
- * WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ON HYSAN AVENUE WILL HAVE TO TURN LEFT TO EASTBOUND LEIGHTON ROAD;
- * SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON SUN WUI ROAD WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM TURNING RIGHT TO WESTBOUND LEIGHTON ROAD;
- * THE SERVICE ROAD AROUND THE STADIUM WILL BE CLOSED;
- * TRAFFIC CONES MAY BE LAID ON THE SECTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD BETWEEN HYSAN AVENUE AND CAROLINE HILL ROAD FOR TWO-LANE EASTBOUND TRAFFIC; AND
- * THE BUS STOP ON EASTBOUND LEIGHTON ROAD NEAR MATHESON STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN TWO HOURS BEFORE AND 15 MINUTES AFTER THE START OF EACH NIGHT MATCH IF NECESSARY.

IN ADDITION, 15 MINUTES BEFORE THE END OF THE MATCH, CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND LEIGHTON ROAD WILL BECOME ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND WHILE CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN LEIGHTON ROAD AND COTTON PATH WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC. LINK ROAD WILL ALSO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC EXCEPT FOR ACCESS TO OR FROM PREMISES IN LINK ROAD VIA BROADWOOD ROAD.

/ON COMPLETION

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ON COMPLETION OF THE MATCH, CAROLINE HILL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND LEIGHTON ROAD; AND EASTERN HOSPITAL ROAD BETWEEN STADIUM PATH AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC IF NECESSARY.

DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ABOVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS, CAUSEWAY BAY-BOUND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 5 AND 14M WILL BE DIVERTED VIA WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD AND MORRISON HILL ROAD TO LEIGHTON ROAD; GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 28A WILL HAVE ITS SERVICE SUSPENDED; AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 30 AND 30A WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED VIA WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD, MORRISON HILL ROAD AND LEIGHTON ROAD TO HYSAN AVENUE.

MATHESON STREET, THE SECTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD SOUTH OF IRVING STREET, RUSSELL STREET AND SHARP STREET EAST WILL BE PROHIBITED AREAS FOR LEARNER DRIVERS BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4.30 PM FOR DAY MATCHES AND BETWEEN 7 PM AND 8.30 PM FOR NIGHT MATCHES.

PARKING SPACES ON SUN WUI ROAD WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 2 PM AND 6 PM FOR DAY AND NIGHT MATCHES RESPECTIVELY WHILE THOSE ON STADIUM PATH AND THE UNNAMED SERVICE ROAD AROUND THE STADIUM WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM NOON AND 4 PM FOR DAY AND NIGHT MATCHES RESPECTIVELY.

ALL THE ABOVE SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, WILL BE IN FORCE UNTIL CROWDS HAVE DISPERSED AFTER THE MATCH.

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHARITY WALK

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED TO FACILITATE THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING CHARITY WALK TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY (AUGUST 27).

IN KOWLOON, THE SECTION OF LEI YUE MUN ROAD EASTBOUND BETWEEN JUNK BAY ROAD AND KAI TIN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 6 AM TO NOON TO ALL VEHICULAR TRAFFIC EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES AND PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES.

VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA JUNK BAY ROAD AND KAI TIN ROAD BEFORE REJOINING LEI YUE MUN ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF LEI YUE MUN ROAD WESTBOUND BETWEEN KAI TIN ROAD AND JUNK BAY ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC. VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA KAI TIN ROAD AND JUNK BAY ROAD BEFORE REJOINING LEI YUE MUN ROAD.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, FINNIE STREET, HOI CHAK STREET, HOI KWONG STREET, HOI TAI STREET, HOI WAN STREET AND TONG CHONG STREET (EXCEPT FOR ACCESS TO THE SHELL GAS STATION) IN QUARRY BAY WILL BE CLOSED FROM 7 AM TO 1 PM.

/ALL PARKING

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ALL PARKING SPACES IN FINNIE STREET, HOI CHAK STREET AND HOI WAN STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 0.01 AM TO 2 PM.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE PUBLIC LIGHT BUS STAND IN HOI KWONG STREET WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN KWUN TONG

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT WAI YIP STREET EASTBOUND SECTION BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH TSUN YIP STREET AND HOI YUEN ROAD WILL BE CLOSED FROM 12.30 AM TO 5.30 AM ON SUNDAY AND MONDAY (AUGUST 27 AND 28) TO FACILITATE FOOTBRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

VEHICLES AFFECTED BY THE ARRANGEMENT WILL BE DIVERTED TO TRAVEL VIA TSUN YIP STREET, HUNG TO ROAD AND HOI YUEN ROAD BEFORE REJOINING WAI YIP STREET EASTBOUND.

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