



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 1985

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WORK BEGINS ON REVIEW OF TREATIES, ACCORDS

MUCH PRELIMINARY WORK HAD BEEN DONE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS TO GATHER TOGETHER AND TO REVIEW THE 300 MULTILATERAL TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS WHICH APPLIED TO HONG KONG AND ABOUT 160 BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AS WELL, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR MICHAEL THOMAS, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ADDRESSING THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY ON THE SUBJECT OF +LEGAL REFORM IN HONG KONG PRIOR TO 1997,+ MR THOMAS SAID HE EXPECTED THIS WORK WOULD CONTINUE IN ORDER TO ASSIST THOSE WHO WERE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP IN CARRYING OUT THE TASKS ASSIGNED TO THEM.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT BY THESE TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS, HONG KONG ENJOYED BENEFITS AND RIGHTS ON THE ONE HAND, AND INCURRED DUTIES AND OBLIGATIONS ON THE OTHER.

SOME OF THESE TREATIES AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE VERY OLD, PERHAPS IN SOME CASES OF LITTLE VALUE NOW. OTHERS WERE VITALLY IMPORTANT IN MAINTAINING HONG KONG'S INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE. SOME OF THEM ALSO APPLIED TO CHINA, BUT MANY DID NOT.

+THE WORK THAT WILL SOON HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WILL INVOLVE EXAMINATION OF EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WITH A VIEW TO DECIDING HOW BEST ITS VALUE CAN BE PRESERVED AFTER THE CHANGE OF SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997,+ HE SAID.

+THIS WILL DEPEND UPON A CASE BY CASE EXAMINATION OF THE TERMS OF EACH AGREEMENT,+ MR THOMAS SAID. +EACH WILL HAVE TO BE EXAMINED TO SEE WHETHER THE AGREEMENT PROVIDES FOR IT TO APPLY TO AN SAR OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC.

+THE WORK WILL INVOLVE CONSULTATION WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES WHO PARTICIPATE IN THOSE AGREEMENTS SINCE THEY MAY WISH TO VARY THEIR TERMS TO ENSURE THAT ITS APPLICATION TO HONG KONG IS NOT AFFECTED BY THE CHANGE OF SOVEREIGNTY,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER, DESCRIBING THE POLITICAL SETTLEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG AS +AN ACT OF GREAT STATESMANSHIP ON THE PART OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS,+ MR THOMAS SAID IT GAVE THOSE INVOLVED IN GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION +CLEAR AND SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES, NOT ONLY TO MAINTAIN THOSE SYSTEMS UPON WHICH HONG KONG'S PROSPERITY AND STABILITY DEPEND, BUT AT THE SAME TIME A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC TASKS TO CARRY OUT IN ORDER TO PREPARE HONG KONG FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION.+

/+THOSE OF

+THOSE OF US IN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT MUST BEND OURSELVES TO THE WORK WHICH IS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND TO ENSURE THAT THE LEGAL SYSTEM OF HONG KONG AND THE LAWS IN FORCE IN 1997 WILL BE FIT FOR USE BY THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION FOR THE PERIOD OF 50 YEARS FOLLOWING 1997.+

HE FELT THAT THE TASKS AHEAD COULD BE LOOKED AT FROM FOUR DIFFERENT POINTS OF VIEW, HE SAID.

FIRSTLY, THERE WERE SPECIFIC TASKS WHICH AROSE FROM THE EXPRESS TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION. HERE AND THERE WERE PASSAGES WHICH POINTED TO SPECIFIC CHANGES MUST BE MADE IN THE LAW TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE DECISIONS OF THE U.K. AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS.

SECONDLY, THERE WERE TASKS WHICH WERE IMPLICIT FROM THE EXPRESS TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION. IN THE FIELD OF LAW, THESE FLOW FROM THE COMMITMENT TO END BRITISH RULE IN 1997. IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT WHEREVER THE LAWS PRESENTLY IN FORCE IN HONG KONG DERIVED AUTHORITY FROM BRITISH LAW, THE NECESSARY CHANGES MUST BE MADE TO ENABLE THE LAWS OF HONG KONG TO BE FREE-STANDING WITH A VITALITY AND AUTHORITY OF THEIR OWN.

THIRDLY, THERE WERE CHANGES AFFECTING THE LAW, THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AND THE PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES WHICH WERE AT LEAST HIGHLY DESIRABLE IN A TERRITORY WHICH WOULD BECOME CHINESE RATHER THAN BRITISH IN 1997.

AND LASTLY, THERE WAS THE LEGAL WORK THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE IN SUPPORT OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WHICH WOULD BE SET UP BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS AFTER THE JOINT DECLARATION HAD BEEN RATIFIED THIS SUMMER.

OF TASKS EXPRESSLY MENTIONED, MR THOMAS SAID IT WOULD BE APPARENT THAT A NUMBER OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION MUST BE IMPLEMENTED BY MEANS OF LEGISLATION.

TAKING THE MOST OBVIOUS EXAMPLE, MR THOMAS SAID PARAGRAPH TWO OF THE JOINT DECLARATION STATED THAT THE U.K. GOVERNMENT DECLARED THAT IT WOULD RESTORE HONG KONG TO THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 1997.

+THAT REQUIRES THE LAW TO BE CHANGED TO TERMINATE SOVEREIGNTY WITH EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 1997 AND TO TERMINATE JURISDICTION OVER THE TERRITORIES,+ HE SAID.

LEGISLATION TO ACHIEVE THIS HAD ALREADY BEEN BROUGHT FORWARD TO THE U.K. PARLIAMENT IN THE HONG KONG BILL WHICH TONIGHT WOULD GO THROUGH ITS COMMITTEE STAGE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

+IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS BILL WILL BECOME AN ACT OF PARLIAMENT WITHIN A FEW WEEKS. THE U.K. GOVERNMENT BY THAT MEANS WILL HAVE SECURED PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL WHICH WILL ENABLE IT TO RATIFY THE TERMS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IN DUE COURSE,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

TURNING TO TASKS IMPLICIT IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, MR THOMAS SAID THAT AFTER 1997, THE LAWS IN HONG KONG WOULD DERIVE THEIR AUTHORITY FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW, THE CONSTITUTIONAL INSTRUMENT BY WHICH THE SOVEREIGN BODIES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA UNDER ITS CONSTITUTION WOULD ESTABLISH THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION AND PRESCRIBED THE SYSTEMS TO BE INSTITUTED THERE.

+THE PROBLEM ARISES FROM THE FACT THAT TODAY MANY LAWS WHICH ARE PART OF THE LAW OF HONG KONG ARE STILL IN THE FORM OF U.K. ACTS OF PARLIAMENT AND U.K. ORDERS IN COUNCIL,+ HE SAID.

SOMETIMES THIS WAS FOR HISTORICAL REASONS. MUCH OF U.K. LEGISLATION WAS NOT MADE SPECIALLY FOR HONG KONG BUT WAS EXTENDED TO THIS AND MANY OTHER DEPENDENT TERRITORIES WITH NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS.

IN OTHER CASES, THIS WAS BECAUSE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF HONG KONG DID NOT HAVE UNLIMITED POWERS OF LEGISLATION. IN PARTICULAR, THERE WAS ORDINARILY NO POWER IN A DEPENDENT TERRITORY TO PASS LAWS THAT APPLIED BEYOND THE LIMITS OF THAT TERRITORY.

SO HAVING REGARD TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES MENTIONED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, MR THOMAS SAID, THE PROGRESSIVE LOCALISATION OF ALL LEGISLATION THAT AT PRESENT DERIVED FROM THE U.K. WOULD BE ESSENTIAL.

+THIS WILL RESULT IN HONG KONG'S LAWS BEING SELF-STANDING AND WHOLLY INDEPENDENT OF U.K. LEGISLATION BEFORE THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY TAKES PLACE.

+IN THAT WAY THE HONG KONG SAR CAN EXPECT TO INHERIT THE LAWS PRESENTLY IN FORCE IN HONG KONG IN A FORM THAT WILL NOT CONTRAVENE THE BASIC LAW,+ HE SAID.

AREAS IN WHICH HONG KONG MUST LOCALISE ITS OWN LAWS AND CEASE TO RELY UPON U.K. LEGISLATION WERE TO BE FOUND IN THE FIELDS OF MERCHANT SHIPPING, CIVIL AVIATION, PATENTS AND COPYRIGHT.

+THESE SUBJECTS HAVE ALL BEEN MARKED DOWN BY THE ADMINISTRATION AS MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION,+ HE SAID.

WHILE THESE WERE SOME OF THE MAJOR TASKS AHEAD WHICH COULD BE FORESEEN, MR THOMAS SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT A FURTHER SERIES OF REFORMS WOULD BE REQUIRED WHEN THE BASIC LAW WAS PUBLISHED, WHICH WAS EXPECTED TO BE BY THE 1990S'.

+I FORESEE THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO REMOVE FROM OUR LAWS BY 1997 REFERENCES TO THE PRESENT CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS WHICH CANNOT SURVIVE BEYOND 1997.

+REFERENCES TO 'COLONY' OR 'THE CROWN' OR 'THE SECRETARY OF STATE' ARE OBVIOUS EXAMPLES OF WHAT I HAVE IN MIND. OFFENCES SUCH AS TREASON WHICH REFLECT THE BRITISH CONCEPT OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE SOVEREIGN MAY NEED TO BE CONSIDERED.

+AGAIN, DEPENDING UPON THE BASIC LAW REFERENCES IN OUR LAWS TO POSTAGE STAMPS AND COATS OF ARMS WILL DOUBTLESS NEED SOME AMENDMENT. IN RELATION TO LAND, THE POSITION OF THE CROWN AS THE PROPRIETOR OF ALL CROWN LAND WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

+IT MAY BE APPROPRIATE FOR ITS TITLE IN LAND TO BE VESTED INSTEAD IN SOME CORPORATION WHICH IN ITS STYLE AND FORM WILL NOT BE INCONSISTENT WITH CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY AND THE PROVISIONS OF THE BASIC LAW.

+OATHS AND DECLARATIONS PROVIDED UNDER THE LAW MAY ALSO NEED TO BE LOOKED AT AND PROBABLY CHANGED TO REFLECT THE NEW POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

MR THOMAS SAID THAT IT WAS PROVIDED BY THE JOINT DECLARATION THAT THE POWER OF FINAL JUDGEMENT AFTER 1997 WOULD BE VESTED IN THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL IN THE HONG KONG SAR, WHICH MIGHT AS REQUIRED INVITE JUDGES FROM OTHER COMMON LAW JURISDICTIONS TO SIT ON IT.

+IT FOLLOWS THEREFORE THAT CHANGES MUST BE MADE TO THE LAWS OF HONG KONG IN ORDER TO CONSTITUTE A FINAL COURT OF APPEAL IN A MANNER THAT IS CONSISTENT BOTH WITH THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW,+ HE SAID.

HE AGREED WITH THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND OTHERS THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO ESTABLISH THIS COURT OF APPEAL WELL BEFORE 1997 IN ORDER TO ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION.

+IT WOULD BE MUCH TO THE ADVANTAGE OF HONG KONG IF ITS JURISDICTION AND JURISPRUDENCE COULD BE ESTABLISHED WELL BEFORE 1997 SO THAT THE AUTHORITY OF ITS JUDGEMENTS CAN BE APPRECIATED, ESPECIALLY BY THE IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS INTERESTS BOTH HERE AND ABROAD,+ HE SAID.

AS TO THE THIRD CATEGORY OF TASKS, NAMELY THOSE WHICH WERE HIGHLY DESIRABLE GIVEN THE PROSPECT OF IMPORTANT POLITICAL CHANGES, MR THOMAS SAID IT WAS DESIRABLE THAT THE PEOPLE OF THIS TERRITORY, MOST OF THEM CHINESE SPEAKING, SHOULD BE ABLE TO READ AND UNDERSTAND IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE THE PUBLIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW WHICH IN SO MANY RESPECTS GOVERNED THEIR LIVES AND THEIR RELATIONSHIPS IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE.

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+WHATEVER THE MERITS OF THAT IN PRINCIPLE, I AM CONVINCED THAT IN THE NEW POLITICAL SITUATION WHERE HONG KONG WILL BECOME A PART OF CHINA, IT BECOMES A POLITICAL NECESSITY FOR HONG KONG'S LAWS TO BE INTELLIGIBLE TO THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO READ ENGLISH AND THAT IT IS NOW IMPERATIVE TO PROMOTE THE USE OF CHINESE IN OUR LEGISLATION,+ HE SAID.

+MY OWN VIEW IS THAT BOTH LANGUAGES, CHINESE AND ENGLISH, SHOULD HAVE EQUAL STATUS IN THE LEGISLATION OF HONG KONG AND IN ITS INTERPRETATION IN THE COURTS.

+THIS WILL, HOWEVER, REQUIRE A VERY HIGH STANDARD OF LEGAL DRAFTSMANSHIP IF THE TWO LANGUAGES ARE TO CONVEY AN IDENTICAL OR NEAR IDENTICAL MEANING,+ HE SAID.

HOWEVER, MR THOMAS SAID, WE HAD BEGUN TO CONSIDER THE WAY IN WHICH THIS WORK COULD SOON BE UNDERTAKEN. +WE ARE LOOKING AT SKILLED INTERPRETERS WHO CAN BE TRAINED IN BASIC LEGAL DRAFTING TECHNIQUES, AND WE ARE LOOKING FOR LAWYERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN JOINING CHAMBERS AS DRAFTSMEN.

+IF IT IS DECIDED TO GO AHEAD, WE HOPE THAT IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO MAKE A START ON PRODUCING SELECTED PIECES OF NEW LEGISLATION IN BOTH LANGUAGES IN THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE SESSION,+ HE SAID.

ANOTHER TASK WHICH WAS HIGHLY DESIRABLE WAS THAT OF CODIFICATION, MR THOMAS SAID. CODIFICATION OF THE ENTIRE LAW, INCLUDING ALL ASPECTS OF THE COMMON LAW, WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR EVEN THE PEOPLE OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT TO UNDERTAKE.

+IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE, IN MY VIEW FOR US TO TACKLE A FEW SELECTED AREAS OF THE COMMON LAW, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHICH AFFECT ORDINARY PEOPLE WHEN THEY COME UP AGAINST AUTHORITY,+ HE SAID.

PRELIMINARY WORK WAS BEING DONE ON THE CODIFICATION WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING HOW EASILY, GIVEN OUR RESOURCES, USEFUL CODIFICATION COULD BE UNDERTAKEN TO CLARIFY THE LAW AND THEREBY TO MAINTAIN PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN THE LAW.

+THIS WILL MAKE IT MORE DURABLE IN THE YEARS BEYOND 1997,+ HE SAID.

MR THOMAS SAID THE LEGAL SYSTEM, WHILE RETAINING ALL ITS FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES WHICH HAD SERVED HONG KONG SO WELL IN THE PAST, MUST BE APPLIED IN A MANNER THAT RETAINED THE CONFIDENCE OF CHINESE SPEAKERS.

/+IT IS

+IT IS PLAINLY DESIRABLE THAT THERE SHOULD BE MORE HONG KONG CHINESE LAWYERS AS JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

MR THOMAS SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE ABLE PRACTITIONERS COMING FORWARD FOR JUDICIAL SERVICE AS THE NUMBER OF CHINESE SPEAKERS IN THE JUDICIARY WAS STILL FAR TOO LOW.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THERE WERE NOT SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF HONG KONG CHINESE LAWYERS.

IT WAS DIFFICULT TO ARGUE THAT THE SHORT TERM REWARDS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE FOR YOUNG LAWYERS WERE AS GOOD AS THOSE AVAILABLE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, BUT, MR THOMAS SAID, HE HOPED SOON TO BE ABLE TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR YOUNG HONG KONG CHINESE LAWYERS BY ACCELERATING THEIR PROGRESS THROUGH THE SALARY SCALE.

MR THOMAS CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT ANOTHER IMPORTANT THEME WAS TO MAINTAIN AND UPDATE THE EXISTING COMMON LAW AND STATUTE LAW FRAMEWORK IN THE YEARS BEFORE 1997.

+IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO TAKE CARE OF THE LAW AND ITS PROCESSES, NOT AS SOME MUSEUM EXHIBIT OR FOSSIL, BUT AS A PUBLIC SERVICE, RESPONDING TO THE DEMANDS THAT SOCIETY PLACES UPON IT AND GIVING VALUE FOR MONEY.

+WE MUST SUCCEED IN PRESERVING THE BEST FEATURES AND DISCARDING THE WORST, SO THAT HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY AFTER 1997 ALL THOSE ADVANTAGES FROM ITS LAWS AND LEGAL INSTITUTIONS TO WHICH BRITAIN AND CHINA ATTACHED SO MUCH IMPORTANCE IN THEIR RECENT POLITICAL ACCORD.

+THE LAW'S REPUTATION MUST STAND ON ITS MERITS, NOT ITS HISTORICAL RESPECTABILITY. WHATEVER WE MAY SUCCEED IN DOING IN PREPARING LEGISLATION TO MEET THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997, WE WILL FAIL IN OUR DUTY AS GUARDIANS FOR THE FUTURE IF WE DO NOT ENSURE THAT OUR LEGAL SYSTEM IS SUFFICIENTLY RATIONAL AND COST-EFFECTIVE TO STAND UP TO CRITICAL OBJECTIVE PUBLIC SCRUTINY,+ MR THOMAS SAID.

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JANUARY EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED
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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY 1985, VALUED AT \$39 243 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 20 PER CENT COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1984 TRADE, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE BY 3 PER CENT TO \$11 166 MILLION, IMPORTS BY 20 PER CENT TO \$19 119 MILLION, AND RE-EXPORTS BY 50 PER CENT TO \$8 958 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER INCREASED BY 20 PER CENT.

COMPARING JANUARY 1985 WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S.A. ROSE BY LESS THAN ONE PER CENT IN VALUE. ANALYSED BY COMMODITIES, INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN CLOTHING (BY \$211 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT), BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$25 MILLION OR 7 PER CENT) AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$13 MILLION OR 3 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$97 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT) AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$92 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES EXPORTED TO CHINA INCREASED IN VALUE, PARTICULARLY OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$205 MILLION OR 2 579 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$158 MILLION OR 167 PER CENT), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$75 MILLION OR 232 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$3 MILLION OR 77 PER CENT) AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (BY \$2 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM WERE REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$29 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT), METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$21 MILLION OR 94 PER CENT), AND PRINTED MATTER (BY \$5 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILES (BY \$33 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT) AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$23 MILLION OR 46 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY OF METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY \$14 MILLION OR 2 018 PER CENT) AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$13 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT) - AND IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA OF CLOTHING (BY \$24 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT).

/DEMAND FOR

DEMAND FOR GOODS IMPORTED FROM CHINA REMAINED STRONG. INCREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN CLOTHING (BY \$157 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT), TEXTILE FIBRES (OTHER THAN WOOL TOPS) AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$99 MILLION OR 80 PER CENT), BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$53 MILLION OR 111 PER CENT), TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$51 MILLION OR 59 PER CENT) AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY \$47 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM JAPAN, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$248 MILLION OR 82 PER CENT) AND ROAD AND AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY \$205 MILLION OR 96 PER CENT). HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY \$20 MILLION OR 48 PER CENT) AND IRON AND STEEL (BY \$15 MILLION OR 7 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S.A. WERE MOSTLY OF OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$121 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT), TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY \$97 MILLION OR 85 PER CENT), AND MANUFACTURES OF METAL (BY \$58 MILLION OR 234 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN ORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY \$43 MILLION OR 50 PER CENT), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$33 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT).

MEANWHILE, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY \$19 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT) AND IN IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE OF TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN ROAD AND AIR CUSHION VEHICLES (BY \$28 MILLION OR 99 PER CENT). HOWEVER, IMPORTS OF TEXTILES FROM TAIWAN INCREASED (BY \$156 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT), AS DID IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS FROM SINGAPORE (BY \$179 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT).

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY \$2 415 MILLION OR 149 PER CENT), U.S.A. (BY \$243 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT), JAPAN (BY \$212 MILLION OR 67 PER CENT), MACAU (BY \$92 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT), PHILIPPINES (BY \$52 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) (BY \$52 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (BY \$32 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT) AND FRANCE (BY \$18 MILLION OR 49 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECLINES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA (BY \$127 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (BY \$34 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT).

/MOST COMMODITIES

MOST COMMODITIES RE-EXPORTED THROUGH HONG KONG EXHIBITED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$482 MILLION OR 210 PER CENT), OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$413 MILLION OR 309 PER CENT), TEXTILES (BY \$334 MILLION OR 38 PER CENT) AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$251 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT). DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY \$45 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY \$39 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT) AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (NOT INCLUDING UNMILLED CEREALS) (BY \$21 MILLION OR 67 PER CENT).

THE JANUARY 1985 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+ WILL BE ON SALE LATER THIS MONTH AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$5 PER COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, +HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE+, WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN JANUARY 1985 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY APRIL 1985 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$12 PER COPY. ENQUIRIES CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AT BASKERVILLE HOUSE, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. : 5-214375).

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING TRADE STATISTICS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 5-444436).

FOLLOWING ARE STATISTICAL TABLES:

TABLE 1 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKETS	JANUARY 1985 (\$ MN)	JANUARY 1984 (\$ MN)	INCREASE(+)/DECREASE(-) (\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
U.S.A.	4 769	4 753	+ 15	+ *
CHINA	1 410	670	+740	+111
U.K.	749	791	- 42	- 5
F.R. OF GERMANY	726	889	-162	- 18
CANADA	349	344	+ 5	+ 1
AUSTRALIA	340	359	- 19	- 5
JAPAN	330	369	- 39	- 11

SINGAPORE	223	233	- 10	- 4
NETHERLANDS	204	211	- 7	- 3
SWITZERLAND	160	181	- 22	- 12

* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISIONS	JANUARY 1985 (\$ MN)	JANUARY 1984 (\$ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) (\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4 132	3 989	+143	+ 4
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFAC- TURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS, JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES, AND PLASTIC ARTICLES)	1 505	1 525	- 20	- 1
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES AND SEMI- CONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS)	977	846	+131	+ 15
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	809	842	- 33	- 4
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	762	721	+ 41	+ 6
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	665	595	+ 70	+ 12

/TABLE 3 :

TABLE 3 : IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SOURCES

MAJOR SOURCES	JANUARY 1985 (\$ MN)	JANUARY 1984 (\$ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) (\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
CHINA	4 840	4 508	+ 331	+ 7
JAPAN	4 094	3 048	+1 046	+ 34
U.S.A.	2 050	1 628	+ 422	+ 26
TAIWAN	1 623	1 242	+ 382	+ 31
SINGAPORE	1 266	946	+ 320	+ 34
U.K.	747	728	+ 19	+ 3
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	673	459	+ 214	+ 47
F.R. OF GERMANY	511	401	+ 110	+ 28
FRANCE	311	242	+ 69	+ 29
AUSTRALIA	270	283	- 13	- 5

TABLE 4 : IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY SECTIONS

COMMODITY SECTIONS	JANUARY 1985 (\$ MN)	JANUARY 1984 (\$ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) (\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	5 325	3 643	+1 681	+ 46
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON AND STEEL, AND PAPER)	4 948	4 513	+ 435	+ 10
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFAC- TURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES AND CLOCKS, ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	3 340	2 616	+ 724	+ 28

/FOOD AND

FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	1 671	1 808	- 137	- 8
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1 228	1 182	+ 46	+ 4
MINERALS FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	1 200	948	+ 252	+ 27

TABLE 5 : RE-EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKETS	JANUARY 1985 (\$ MN)	JANUARY 1984 (\$ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) (\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
CHINA	4 038	1 623	+2 415	+149
U.S.A.	1 202	959	+ 243	+ 25
JAPAN	527	315	+ 212	+ 67
SINGAPORE	366	400	- 34	- 8
TAIWAN	348	358	- 10	- 3
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA)	302	251	+ 52	+ 21
MACAU	255	163	+ 92	+ 56
INDONESIA	215	342	- 127	- 37
PHILIPPINES	147	95	+ 52	+ 55
AUSTRALIA	111	124	- 13	- 10

TABLE 6 : RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISIONS	JANUARY 1985 (\$ MN)	JANUARY 1984 (\$ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) (\$ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1 215	881	+ 334	+ 38
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES	822	572	+ 251	+ 44

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	712	230	+ 482	+210
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	618	546	+ 72	+ 13
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	546	134	+ 413	+309
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	525	324	+ 201	+ 62

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\$633M PUBLIC HOUSING TENDERS ACCEPTED
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TENDERS TOTALLING MORE THAN \$633 MILLION WERE APPROVED TODAY BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S BUILDING COMMITTEE FOR YET ANOTHER BATCH OF PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF TWO NEW ESTATES -- TSUI LAM IN JUNK BAY NEW TOWN AND CHEUNG ON ON TSING YI ISLAND, THE BUILDING OF MORE BLOCKS IN LEI TUNG ESTATE ON AP LEI CHAU, AS WELL AS THE INSTALLATION OF LIFTS/ ESCALATORS ON NEW STRUCTURES IN THE HIN KENG AND LEI TUNG ESTATES.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY MR H.M.G. FORSGATE.

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OLD LADY OF THE SEA RETIRES
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AS THE MARINE POLICE REGION UNDERGOES EXPANSION AND PROGRESS, MORE AND MORE OF THE OLD POLICE LAUNCHES, ARE HAVING TO RETIRE.

POLICE LAUNCH 33, "SEA RESCUER", WHICH HAS BEEN REPLACED BY THE MODERN AND SOPHISTICATED PL 71, KING YEE, IS NO EXCEPTION. THE SEA RESCUER WILL SOON BE BURIED IN MARINE HISTORY AS IT GOES ON TO AN UNKNOWN FUTURE AFTER BEING HANDED OVER TO THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD.

THE LAUNCH WAS ONE OF THE LEGENDARY 70-FOOTERS, THE OLDEST OF WHICH HAVE BEEN IN SERVICE WITH MARINE SINCE 1953. DURING HER 23-YEAR SERVICE IN MARINE, SHE SERVED IN WEST AND NORTH SECTORS BEFORE SHE CAME TO EAST DIVISION BEFORE HER RETIREMENT.

/SHE HAS

SHE HAS RENDERED A GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRANT OPERATIONS AND PROVIDED CONVEYANCE SERVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE ISLANDS IN TIME OF EMERGENCY. SHE ALSO ASSISTED THE COMMAND LAUNCH NO. 1 IN A RESCUE OPERATION FOR AN AIRCRAFT CRASH WHICH OCCURRED IN THE PORT SHELTER LAST SUMMER.

PL 33 WAS BUILT IN 1956, ORIGINALLY FOR THE THEN CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PREVENTIVE SERVICE. SHE PATROLLED HONG KONG WATERS IN PREVENTIVE SERVICE COLOURS FOR THE FIRST SIX YEARS OF HER LIFE UNTIL IN 1962 CAME 'OPERATION HAZLEMERE'. THIS WAS THE HUGE INFLUX OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FROM CHINA, WHICH BECAME KNOWN AS THE 'EXODUS'.

ALONG WITH HER SISTER VESSELS IN THE PREVENTIVE SERVICE -- WHICH BECAME PLS 32 AND 34 -- SHE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE MARINE POLICE, WHERE SHE WAS TO STAY FOR THE REMAINING 23 YEARS OF HER LIFE.

FOR MUCH OF THE 60'S AND THE FIRST PART OF THE 70'S SHE WAS A RELIEF LAUNCH, CALLED INTO SERVICE WHEN OTHER VESSELS WENT INTO DOCK. SHE THEREFORE BECAME SOMETHING OF A TRAMP, MOVING FROM SECTOR TO SECTOR AS REQUIRED.

WHEN THE DUTY SYSTEM CHANGED IN THE MID 1970'S 'SEA RESCUER' WAS ONE OF THE VESSELS MANNED ON THE SO-CALLED GANG OF FOUR SYSTEM OF ONE INSPECTOR AND FOUR MEN AND DURING THIS PERIOD, MOSTLY SPENT IN NORTH SECTOR, SHE BECAME KNOWN AS A VERY SMART VESSEL.

IN RECENT YEARS WITH INADEQUATE FUNDS SPENT ON HER MAINTENANCE, THIS OLD LADY HAS BEGUN TO SHOW HER AGE. HER SERVICE IN MARINE WAS FINALLY TERMINATED WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF THE NEW PL71, KING YEE, WHICH HAS TAKEN OVER THE SEA RESCUER'S DUTIES.

INSPECTOR LEUNG SHEUNG-TAI, COMMANDER OF PL 71, POINTED OUT THAT MORE STAFF WERE REQUIRED FOR THE NEW LAUNCH IN ADDITION TO THE OLD CREW FROM THE 'SEA RESCUER' IN VIEW OF ITS IMPROVED FACILITIES AND CAPABILITY.

'OUR SPEED HAS INCREASED TO 26 KNOTS COMPARED WITH THE 9 KNOTS OF PL 33. THE NEW LAUNCH IS AIR CONDITIONED AND INSTALLED WITH ALL SORTS OF MODERN AND SOPHISTICATED FACILITIES WHICH ARE SURE TO HELP IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF OUR SERVICE.

'TO ENSURE ALL OLD AND NEW STAFF ARE WELL PREPARED FOR THEIR JOBS ON THE NEW LAUNCH, THEY HAVE BEEN GIVEN AN ON BOARD TRAINING PERIOD OF ONE AND A HALF MONTHS BY THE TRAINING UNIT LED BY MR PETER WYATT, STAFF OFFICER, NAVIGATION AND SEAMANSHIP, MARINE,' HE ADDED.

ALTHOUGH THE OLD SEA RESCUER'S CREW ARE PLEASED WITH ALL THE NEW AND IMPROVED CONDITION ON THE KING YEE WHICH THEY REGARD AS A SYMBOL OF MODERNISATION, SOME OF THEM ADMIT THEY DO MISS THEIR DAYS ABOARD THE 'OLD LADY'.

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COMPUTER STUDIES PILOT SCHEME EXTENDED

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THE PILOT SCHEME ON COMPUTER STUDIES WILL BE EXTENDED TO A FURTHER 105 PUBLIC SECTOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS THIS SEPTEMBER AND SCHOOLS WISHING TO JOIN SHOULD APPLY BEFORE MARCH 29.

MORE THAN \$12 MILLION WAS APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE YESTERDAY TO COVER THE COST OF EQUIPMENT AND RELATED EXPENDITURE IN CONNECTION WITH THE EXTENSION.

THE PILOT SCHEME STARTED IN SEPTEMBER 1982 WHEN COMPUTER STUDIES WAS INTRODUCED IN FORM 4 OF 30 SCHOOLS AND THE STUDENTS SUBSEQUENTLY SAT THE FIRST HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION IN COMPUTER STUDIES LAST YEAR.

IN THE SECOND PHASE OF THE SCHEME, A FURTHER 75 SECONDARY SCHOOLS INTRODUCED THE NEW SUBJECT IN THE 1984-85 SCHOOL YEAR.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THIRD PHASE THIS SEPTEMBER WILL BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS TO 210.

PENDING FINAL APPROVAL AND PROVIDED FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PLANS TO ALLOW ALL PUBLIC SECTOR SCHOOLS TO IMPLEMENT COMPUTER STUDIES IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS IF THEY SO WISH.

SCHOOLS WISHING TO JOIN THE PILOT SCHEME THIS SEPTEMBER SHOULD APPLY TO THE PRINCIPAL INSPECTOR (COMPUTER EDUCATION), ADVISORY INSPECTORATE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, 4TH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HONG KONG.

THOSE SCHOOLS WISHING TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME AT A LATER DATE SHOULD ALSO SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS BEFORE MARCH 29 TO FACILITATE FUTURE PLANNING.

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, SCHOOL HEADS CAN CONTACT THE COMPUTER EDUCATION SECTION ON 5-8392478 OR 5-8392479.

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SURVEY SHOWS YOUTHS NEED MORE SPORTS FACILITIES

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A RECENT SURVEY ON HOW YOUTHS IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT SPEND THEIR LEISURE TIME HAS FOUND THAT YOUNG PEOPLE FAVOUR OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, BUT THAT THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH FACILITIES TO MEET THE DEMAND.

THE SURVEY, FUNDED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD, RECOMMENDS THAT MORE RECREATION FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN THE DISTRICT.

THE FAVOURITE PASTIME OF THE PERSONS INTERVIEWED, WHOSE AGES RANGE FROM 12 TO 24, WERE BALL GAMES, SWIMMING, CYCLING AND WATCHING TELEVISION. ONLY A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE FAVOURED GAMBLING ACTIVITIES.

WHILE MOST YOUTHS LIKE ACTIVE RECREATION, THEY PREFERRED TO ARRANGE ACTIVITIES NEAR THEIR HOME AMONG THEMSELVES OR WITH FRIENDS. SOME OF THE YOUTHS INDICATED THEY PREFERRED ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY SCHOOLS, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS OR COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS.

ABOUT HALF OF THE YOUTHS INDICATED THAT THEY HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO TAKE PART IN ACTIVITIES THEY LIKED, BECAUSE THE FACILITIES WERE INADEQUATE OR THEY EITHER HAD NO TIME, OR NO MONEY.

MOST OF THE YOUTHS SUGGESTED THAT MORE SPORTS, ACADEMIC AND CRAFTSMANSHIP CLASSES AND SOCIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE ORGANISED IN THE DISTRICT.

SOME OF THEM ALSO FELT THAT MORE LIBRARIES, SPORTS GROUNDS, PARKS, CAMP SITES, SWIMMING POOLS AND VENUES FOR STAGING SHOWS, SHOULD BE BUILT.

THE SURVEY INDICATED THAT THE AUTHORITIES SHOULD ARRANGE MORE SOCIAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES TO INSTILL SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS AMONG YOUTHS, AND TO HELP THEM DEVELOP THEIR KNOWLEDGE BY ORGANISING MORE ACADEMIC AND CRAFTSMANSHIP CLASSES.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES SHOULD ALSO BE PUBLICISED IN SCHOOLS THROUGH VARIOUS CHANNELS, SUCH AS THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SCHOOL LIAISON COMMITTEE AND THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP AND COMMUNITY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS SHOULD STEP UP EFFORTS IN FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION TO HELP PARENTS LEARN HOW TO ESTABLISH CLOSER LINKS WITH THEIR CHILDREN.

THE SURVEY WAS INITIATED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE AS PART OF THE DISTRICT'S PROGRAMME TO COINCIDE WITH THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR.

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FESTIVAL ORGANISED FOR YOUTH YEAR

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A YOUTH FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD THIS SUMMER IN CONNECTION WITH THE 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR.

THE +1985 YOUTH FESTIVAL+, JOINTLY PRESENTED BY TVB AND THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE ON 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR, WILL INCLUDE A NUMBER OF EVENTS WHICH WILL BE FEATURED IN A TELEVISION SERIES OF FIVE ONE-HOUR PROGRAMMES.

LADY YOUDE WILL BE THE HONORARY PATRON OF THE +1985 YOUTH FESTIVAL+.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF SIR RUN RUN SHAW, CHAIRMAN OF TVB, FIVE AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE +1985 YOUTH FESTIVAL+. THE AWARDS AND THEIR PATRONS ARE :

<u>AWARD</u>	<u>PATRON</u>
IYY 1985 YOUTH FESTIVAL YOUNG DESIGNER AWARD	MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN
YOUNG MUSIC PERFORMER AWARD	DR PHILIP KWOK
INTER-DISTRICT STUDENT TEAM CHAMPION AWARD	MR DONALD LIAO
APPRENTICE TEAM CHAMPION AWARD	MR ALLEN LEE
TOUR CO-ORDINATOR AWARD	MRS SELINA CHOW

SPEAKING AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY), MRS SELINA CHOW, CHAIRPERSON OF THE CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR 1985 INTERNATIONAL YOUTH YEAR REITERATED THE IYY THEME - +PARTICIPATION, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE+.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE IYY COULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, SHE SAID.

+TVB WAS ONE OF THE FIRST MAJOR ORGANISATIONS TO RESPOND TO OUR CALL. THEY INVITED OUR COMMITTEE TO JOINTLY PRESENT THE 1985 YOUTH FESTIVAL AND CREATED AN EXCITING MASTER PLAN WHICH WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE WELCOMED BY OUR YOUTH COMMUNITY.

+I HOPE THIS FESTIVAL WILL INSPIRE OTHER ORGANISATIONS TO CREATE THEIR OWN PROGRAMME FOR THE IYY TO ENRICH THE LIVES OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE NOT ONLY DURING 1985 BUT INTO THE FUTURE,+ SHE SAID.

/MR ROBERT

MR ROBERT H.C. CHAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OF THE 1985 YOUTH FESTIVAL, SAID THAT TVB'S INTEREST IN YOUTH WENT BACK TO 1980, WHEN IT LAUNCHED ITS FIRST YOUTH PROGRAMMING.

+WE BELIEVE THAT THE FESTIVAL SHOULD HIGHLIGHT THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR YOUNGER GENERATION BY ENCOURAGING THEM TO RECOGNISE AND DEVELOP THEIR TALENTS AND SKILLS TO THE FULLEST,+ HE SAID.

OTHER EVENT CO-ORGANISERS OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDE THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL DESIGN COUNCIL, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY (CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TRAINING CENTRE) AND THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

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ONE MILLION PLANTS A YEAR

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANTS MORE THAN 1 000 000 PLANTS A YEAR TO BEAUTIFY THE ENVIRONMENT IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE DIRECTOR OF NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES, MR MICHAEL SUEN, SAID TODAY.

SPEAKING AT THE PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY OF THE 1985 NEW TERRITORIES STUDENTS POTTED PLANTS COMPETITION, MR SUEN SAID THE PLANTS COULD BE FOUND AT ROADSIDES, HOUSING ESTATES AND AMENITY AREAS IN THE NEW TOWNS.

MR SUEN SAID IT WAS VERY ENCOURAGING TO SEE THAT THIS YEAR'S POTTED PLANTS COMPETITION WAS WARMLY SUPPORTED BY BOTH THE SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS.

A TOTAL OF 65 SECONDARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE COMPETITION INDICATING THAT MORE STUDENTS WERE AWARE OF THE BEAUTIFICATION SCHEME.

HE ALSO URGED THE PUBLIC TO COOPERATE WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO BEAUTIFY THE ENVIRONMENT.

WINNERS OF THE COMPETITION WERE LATER PRESENTED WITH BOOK TOKENS TOTALLING \$14 500 CONTRIBUTED BY THE ROTARY CLUB OF NEW TERRITORIES.

ALL THE POTTED PLANT ENTRIES HAVE BEEN PUT ON DISPLAY AT THE TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL FROM TODAY UNTIL SATURDAY (MARCH 16).

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TRAINING SCHEME FOR INSURANCE EMPLOYEES
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EMPLOYERS FROM THE INSURANCE SECTOR CAN NOW UPGRADE THE QUALITY OF THEIR STAFF THROUGH PROPER TRAINING BY JOINING THE INSURANCE TRAINEESHIP SCHEME.

THE SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL'S INSURANCE TRAINING BOARD.

UNDER THE SCHEME, EMPLOYERS OF INSURANCE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEND THEIR TRAINEES WHO POSSESS FORM 5 EDUCATION LEVEL TO ATTEND COMPLEMENTARY THEORY COURSE AT TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ON PART-TIME BASIS.

THE COURSE AIMS AT PREPARING TRAINEES FOR THE DIPLOMA EXAMINATIONS HELD BY THE AUSTRALIAN INSURANCE INSTITUTE.

IN ADDITION, A TWO-YEAR PART-TIME DAY RELEASE INSURANCE COURSE BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR IS BEING ORGANISED FOR TRAINEES FROM INSURANCE ESTABLISHMENTS.

+ADMISSION OF TRAINEES TO THE SCHEME AND THE INSURANCE COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID.

TO JOIN THE SCHEME, HE SAID, EMPLOYERS AND TRAINEES ARE REQUIRED TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO ENSURE THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BOTH PARTIES ARE PROTECTED AND FULFILLED.

EMPLOYERS CAN ALSO MAKE USE OF THE SERVICE OF THE COUNCIL'S PLACEMENT UNIT TO RECRUIT YOUNG PEOPLE WHO ARE INTERESTED TO START THEIR CAREER IN THE INSURANCE FIELD.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE SCHEME AND THE PLACEMENT SERVICE CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE BOARD ON 5-8932341 EXT. 258.

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HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT WINNERS
TO RECEIVE PRIZES FROM COUNCILLOR
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WINNERS OF THE 1985 SCHOOLS' HEALTH EDUCATION PROJECT COMPETITION WILL RECEIVE THEIR AWARDS FROM URBAN COUNCILLOR FREDERICK FUNG AT A CEREMONY TO BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

ALTOGETHER 24 SECONDARY SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THIS YEAR'S COMPETITION WHICH WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL, THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

ALL WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE PUT ON DISPLAY AT THE EXHIBITION HALL. IT WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AFTER TOMORROW'S PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY UNTIL MARCH 18. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER AND/OR PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CITY HALL EXHIBITION HALL AT 3 P.M TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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AWARDS FOR POSTER DESIGN WINNERS
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STUDENTS FROM THE LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE AND THE LUNG KONG WORLD FEDERATION SCHOOL LIMITED LAU WONG FAT SECONDARY SCHOOL WON TOP PRIZES IN THE 17TH ANNUAL INDUSTRIAL SAFETY POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE WINNING ENTRIES WERE SELECTED BY A PANEL OF JUDGES COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE CULTURAL CRAFTS CENTRE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE DESIGN DEPARTMENT OF LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE, THE CREATIVE SUB-DIVISION OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

THE COMPETITION WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS - 'A' SECTION FOR STUDENTS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND 'B' SECTION FOR THOSE IN POST-SECONDARY COLLEGES AND VOCATIONAL INSTITUTES.

MORE THAN 450 ENTRIES FROM 52 SCHOOLS WERE SUBMITTED AND SELECTION OF THE BEST ENTRIES FOR BOTH SECTIONS WAS HELD LAST WEEK.

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IN SECTION 'A' THE FIRST PRIZE OF A CASH COUPON OF \$1 500 GOES TO KWOK TIN-WAI OF LUNG KONG WORLD FEDERATION SCHOOL LTD. LAU WONG FAT SECONDARY SCHOOL, WHILE THE 'B' SECTION FIRST PRIZE OF A \$3 000 CASH COUPON GOES TO LIU SUK-FAN OF LEE WAI LEE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

IN ADDITION, 10 ENTRIES FROM EACH SECTION WILL GET AWARDS OF CASH COUPONS OF \$300 AND \$600 RESPECTIVELY.

THE PRIZES WILL BE PRESENTED BY MR A.J. BISLEY, PRINCIPAL LECTURER OF SWIRE SCHOOL OF DESIGN, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, AT A CEREMONY AT THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, IN CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, AT 10 AM ON APRIL 1 (MONDAY).

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RENDEZVOUS FOR MUSIC LOVERS * * * *

THREE +RENDEZVOUS FOR MUSIC LOVERS+ HAVE BEEN ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE DEPARTMENT.

THEY WILL BE HELD ON THREE CONSECUTIVE SATURDAYS STARTING ON MARCH 23, FROM 5 PM TO 7 PM AT THE YAUMATEI MUSIC CENTRE.

PIANIST MISS TERESITA BOTELHO, WHO TEACHES AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY AND THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, WILL SPEAK ON THE +ART OF PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT (WOODWIND, BRASS, STRING AND VOCAL)+ AND ON +HOW TO PREPARE FOR EXAMINATION, COMPETITION AND PERFORMANCE.+

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS MAY BE OBTAINED ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS AT THE YAUMATEI MUSIC CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, GOLDEN GATE COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 138, AUSTIN ROAD.

TICKETS MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF CAMBRIDGE COURT, 84 WATERLOO ROAD AND THE KWUN TONG MUSIC CENTRE, THIRD FLOOR, 100 TING FU STREET, YAN HAU MANSION, NGAU TAU KOK, KOWLOON.

FOR ENQUIRIES, CALL AT 3-7149255 AND 3-7226240.

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CONFERENCE ON MANAGEMENT TRAINING
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MORE THAN 50 MANAGEMENT TEACHERS AND TRAINERS WILL ATTEND THE THIRD ANNUAL CO-ORDINATION CONFERENCE ON MANAGEMENT TRAINING ON FRIDAY (MARCH 15) FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM.

THE THEME FOR THE ONE-DAY CONFERENCE IS +THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT TEACHERS AND MANAGEMENT TRAINERS IN HONG KONG+.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY TRAINING OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL (VTC) AND THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, THE CONFERENCE IS TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR ALL MANAGEMENT EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS TO IDENTIFY AREAS OF CO-OPERATION AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANAGEMENT TRAINING FACILITIES IN HONG KONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CONFERENCE'S OPENING CEREMONY OFFICIATED BY THE HON ALEX WU, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE VTC ON FRIDAY (MARCH 15) AT 9.30 AM AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OF HONG KONG, 17TH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONFERENCE, MR P.F. BARRETT, WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISORY TRAINING, WILL SPEAK TO THE PRESS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT CENTRE OF HONG KONG AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY.

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WORKFORCE BEING SURVEYED
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FIELD WORK TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON THE LATEST MANPOWER SITUATION AND TRAINING NEEDS OF THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY BEGAN TODAY.

THE TWO-WEEK SURVEY, ORGANISED BY THE BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD UNDER THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, WOULD HELP THE BOARD TO FORMULATE MANPOWER TRAINING PLANS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID.

INFORMATION COLLECTED WILL BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENT, HE ADDED.

SURVEY INTERVIEWERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT 2 000 EMPLOYERS IN THE INDUSTRY DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD TO COLLECT AND HELP COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

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UC BATHING SHEDS FOR HIRE
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APPLICATIONS ARE BEING INVITED FOR THE HIRE OF SEVEN BATHING SHEDS AT SOUTH BAY BEACH ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE SHEDS MEASURING 28, 33 AND 56 SQUARE METRES, WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR USE BETWEEN MAY THIS YEAR AND MARCH 1986.

THE RENTS FOR THE SHEDS FOR THE 11-MONTH PERIOD ARE \$4 000, \$4 800 AND \$6 400 RESPECTIVELY.

ALL REGISTERED FIRMS, COMPANIES, CLUBS AND ORGANISATIONS ARE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

APPLICATION FORMS, AT \$100 EACH, WILL BE AVAILABLE AS FROM MONDAY (MARCH 18) UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH AT THE HONG KONG REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS OF THE CITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 6TH FLOOR, CAUSEWAY BAY MAGISTRACY BUILDING, ELECTRIC ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES IS APRIL 15, 1985 AND A BALLOT, TO DECIDE THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS, WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 22.

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APPRENTICES GRADUATE
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THE GOVERNMENT APPRENTICES' GRADUATION CEREMONY, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT 5.30 PM AT THE MORRISON HILL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN WOOD ROAD, WAN CHAI.

MRS SELINA CHOW WILL ADDRESS THE GATHERING AND PRESENT THE CERTIFICATES.

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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PRESS VISIT ARRANGED
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ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR A PRESS VISIT TO THE
PHYSIOTHERAPY UNIT OF THE QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL ON MONDAY
(MARCH 18) AFTERNOON.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE EVENT SHOULD ASSEMBLE
AT THE ENTRANCE NEAR THE ADMISSION OFFICE OF THE QUEEN MARY
HOSPITAL BY 2 PM. GIS OFFICERS WILL ASSIST.

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ROAD WORK IN CENTRAL
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GAGE STREET AND A SHORT SECTION OF ABERDEEN STREET BETWEEN
GAGE STREET AND GOUGH STREET IN CENTRAL WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC
FROM 8 AM ON SATURDAY (MARCH 16) UNTIL 8 AM NEXT MONDAY (MARCH 18)
FOR ROAD WORK.

DURING THE CLOSURE, SHING WONG STREET WILL BE REROUTED
ONE-WAY NORTHBOUND AND GOUGH STREET WILL BECOME ONE-WAY EASTBOUND.
TRAFFIC FROM ABERDEEN STREET HEADING FOR WELLINGTON STREET WILL
BE DIVERTED VIA HOLLYWOOD ROAD AND WYNDHAM STREET.

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NOTE TO TV NEWS EDITORS:

PLEASE BROADCAST THE ABOVE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN YOUR
MORNING TRAFFIC BULLETINS.

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