



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1988

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PUTTING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TO GOOD USE

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THE DEPUTY CHIEF SECRETARY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT ONE OF THE MANY AREAS IN WHICH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WOULD BE USEFULLY EMPLOYED IN THE RUN UP TO 1997 WAS THE PREPARATION OF THE LAWS OF THE TERRITORY.

"THE 31 VOLUMES OF THE LAWS OF HONG KONG WILL NEED TO BE REVIEWED AND, WHERE NECESSARY, AMENDED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEW POSITION OF HONG KONG AFTER 1997.

"THIS EXERCISE IS ONE OF THE PRIORITY TASKS OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING THE SIGNATURE OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION," MR CHAN SAID WHEN SPEAKING AT THE 18TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE HONG KONG COMPUTER SOCIETY.

HE SAID THAT IN PARALLEL WITH THE REVIEW OF THE LAWS OF HONG KONG, THE GOVERNMENT WAS ATTEMPTING TO TRANSLATE THE EXISTING ORDINANCES AND REGULATIONS INTO AN AUTHENTIC CHINESE VERSION AND TO START BILINGUAL DRAFTING OF NEW LEGISLATION.

"A GLOSSARY OF CHINESE LEGAL TERMS IS BEING PREPARED TO ASSIST THE TRANSLATION AND DRAFTING PROCESS, WHICH WILL BE COMPUTER-AIDED FOR BETTER EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY. EXPERT SYSTEMS WILL ALSO BE EMPLOYED IF THEY PROVE TO BE VIABLE," MR CHAN SAID.

"FURTHERMORE, SINCE HONG KONG WILL NEED TO SET UP ITS OWN COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A DATABASE OF LOCALLY-TRIED CASES. THERE WILL ALSO BE A NEED TO RESEARCH INTO THE LOCAL STATUTE BOOKS MORE FREQUENTLY, FOR WHICH A COMPUTERISED TEXT RETRIEVAL SYSTEM WILL BE A MANDATORY TOOL," HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE IMPACT OF ALL THESE CHANGES WAS NOT LIMITED TO THE GOVERNMENT.

"IT EXTENDS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS WELL. ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD, THE LEGAL PROFESSION HAS BEEN EFFECTIVELY AIDED BY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR SOME TIME NOW. NO DOUBT HONG KONG WILL BENEFIT FROM ADOPTING SIMILAR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AT AN EARLY STAGE," HE SAID.

MR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT ANOTHER AREA IN WHICH HONG KONG WOULD EXPERIENCE CHANGE IN THE RUN UP TO 1997 WAS THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

"THIS DIMENSION MUST NOT BE NEGLECTED IN THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY IN HONG KONG," HE REMARKED.

ON THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MR CHAN SAID THAT THE COMMITTEE HAD ALREADY IDENTIFIED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AS ONE OF KEY AREAS FOR CLOSE EXAMINATION.

/"THE COMMITTEE

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"THE COMMITTEE HAS RECOGNISED THAT HONG KONG'S SUCCESS IS DUE, IN NO SMALL MEASURE, TO ITS HIGH PRODUCTIVITY AND ITS EXCELLENT COMPUTER INFRASTRUCTURE.

"THEREFORE, IT WILL BE ONE OF THE PRIORITIES OF THE COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT GOVERNMENT POLICIES FACILITATE AND ENCOURAGE MORE WIDESPREAD USE OF COMPUTER FACILITIES IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

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FURTHER ALLOWANCE PROPOSED FOR STUDENT TRAVEL
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THE PROPOSED STUDENT TRAVEL ASSISTANCE SCHEME WILL NOT AFFECT STUDENTS' PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, AS IT PROVIDES A GENEROUS ALLOWANCE FOR TRIPS IN ADDITION TO THOSE BETWEEN HOME AND SCHOOLS FOR NORMAL LESSONS, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR CHRIS GODWIN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE OMELCO EDUCATION PANEL AND THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, 14 TRIPS PER WEEK DURING SCHOOL TERMS ARE PROPOSED.

ORIGINALLY IT WAS THOUGHT THAT 12 TRIPS A WEEK WOULD BE SUFFICIENT : 10 TRIPS TO AND FROM SCHOOL, AND TWO ADDITIONAL FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

"HOWEVER, SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION PANEL AND THE BOARD SUPPORTED A LARGER NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL TRIPS IN VIEW OF THE WIDE RANGE OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES THAT STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE PART IN," MR GODWIN SAID.

"IT IS THEREFORE PROPOSED TO ALLOW FOR FOUR ADDITIONAL TRIPS EACH WEEK.

"SINCE THE ASSISTANCE WILL BE PAID DIRECT TO INDIVIDUALS INSTEAD OF TO CERTAIN TRANSPORT OPERATORS, THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTION ON THE MODES OF TRANSPORT USED, OR THE TIMES AT WHICH THE STUDENTS MAY TRAVEL USING THE ASSISTANCE."

UNDER THE EXISTING SCHEME, THE STUDENT TRAVEL CARD IS NOT ACCEPTED ON SEVERAL TYPES OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT, SUCH AS CROSS HARBOUR BUS ROUTES, EXPRESS COACH SERVICES, EXPRESS BUS ROUTES, RECREATIONAL BUS ROUTES, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, AND SECOND-CLASS TRAVEL ON THE STAR FERRY.

/IN ADDITION,

IN ADDITION, THE TRAVEL CARD CANNOT BE USED ON SUNDAYS AND MOST SCHOOL HOLIDAYS.

"FOR EXAMPLE, A LOT OF STUDENTS, PARTICULARLY AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL, WOULD FIND TUNNEL BUSES VERY CONVENIENT FOR GETTING TO CLASSES," MR GODWIN SAID.

"AT PRESENT THEY EITHER HAVE TO PAY FULL FARE ON A TUNNEL BUS, OR USE THE STUDENT TRAVEL CARD ON A LESS CONVENIENT MEANS OF TRANSPORT."

THE ALLOWANCE FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR TRIPS UNDER THE PROPOSED NEW SCHEME WILL ENABLE STUDENTS TO USE THE TRAVEL ASSISTANCE FOR EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES ON SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS AS WELL. THIS PROVIDES MORE FLEXIBILITY THAN THE PRESENT SCHEME.

ALSO, THE PRESENT SCHEME DOES NOT COVER STUDENTS AGED OVER 25. THERE WILL BE NO AGE LIMIT UNDER THE NEW SCHEME.

UNDER THE NEW SCHEME, THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE WILL BE DETERMINED ON THE BASIS OF THREE CRITERIA : THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE STUDENT LIVES; THE DISTRICT IN WHICH THE SCHOOL IS LOCATED; AND THE AVERAGE FARE BETWEEN THESE TWO DISTRICTS AS DETERMINED BY TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SURVEYS.

MR GODWIN NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION IN THIS FINANCIAL YEAR IS ESTIMATED TO REACH \$11,300 MILLION, OR 18 PER CENT OF TOTAL EXPENDITURE.

"SOME TERTIARY STUDENTS HAVE SUGGESTED THE CHANGE TO THE STUDENT TRAVEL SCHEME MEANS THAT GOVERNMENT IS SHEDDING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO EDUCATION," MR GODWIN SAID.

"GIVEN THE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF RESOURCES DEVOTED TO EDUCATION, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW A REDUCTION IN THE TRAVEL SUBSIDY FOR BETTER-OFF STUDENTS COULD BE INTERPRETED IN THIS WAY.

"MONEY MUST BE FOUND TO MEET THE EVER-INCREASING DEMAND FOR NEW AND IMPROVED SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY. THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE AND THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ARE CONCERNED THAT, UNDER THE PRESENT SCHEME, SOME MONEY IS BEING SPENT WHERE IT IS NOT NEEDED.

"IF THE NEW SCHEME IS APPROVED IN FULL, WE ESTIMATE THAT IT WOULD RESULT IN SAVINGS OF OVER \$80 MILLION A YEAR OVER THE PRESENT SCHEME. THE MONEY SAVED WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR OTHER MUCH-NEEDED SERVICES."

AS FOR STUDENTS IN UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE INSTITUTIONS, A PART OF THEIR FULL-YEAR TRAVELLING EXPENSES IS ALREADY INCLUDED IN LOANS UNDER THE STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME.

UNDER THE PROPOSED TRAVEL SCHEME, THE STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF STUDENT TRAVEL CARDS IN CALCULATING ANNUAL TRAVELLING EXPENSES.

"UNDER THE NEW PLAN, THE TRAVEL ASSISTANCE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO ALL WHO NEED IT. THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY UNDUE BURDEN ON ANY FAMILIES," MR GODWIN SAID.

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WAGE INDEXES FOR DECEMBER 1987 PUBLISHED

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THE OVERALL NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR DECEMBER 1987, AT 151.2, INCREASED BY 9.8 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1986 AND BY 1.2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1987, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE DECEMBER 1987 AND DECEMBER 1986 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 9.3 PER CENT.

FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR THE INCREASE WAS 12.6 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR 8.3 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR 8.5 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR 10.1 PER CENT.

A COMPARISON OF THE DECEMBER 1987 AND SEPTEMBER 1987 INDEXES SHOWS THAT THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 0.7 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 3.5 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 0.6 PER CENT.

THAT FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR DECREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT; AND THAT FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR REMAINED UNCHANGED.

THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1986 TO DECEMBER 1987 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 1. DETAILED BREAKDOWNS FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 2.

THE OVERALL REAL WAGE INDEX, AT 106.8 IN DECEMBER 1987, WAS 2.2 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT IN DECEMBER 1986 AND 0.8 PER CENT LOWER THAN THAT IN SEPTEMBER 1987.

FROM DECEMBER 1986 TO DECEMBER 1987, THE REAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR INCREASED BY 1.6 PER CENT; FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR BY 4.7 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 0.7 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 0.8 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 2.5 PER CENT.

COMPARING DECEMBER 1987 WITH SEPTEMBER 1987, THE REAL WAGE INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED BY 1.2 PER CENT; FOR THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR BY 2.1 PER CENT; FOR THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR BY 2.0 PER CENT; AND FOR THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR BY 1.3 PER CENT.

THAT FOR THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR INCREASED BY 1.5 PER CENT.

THE REAL WAGE INDEXES FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1986 TO DECEMBER 1987 FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 3.

/THESE NOMINAL

THESE NOMINAL AND REAL WAGE INDEXES ARE DERIVED FROM THE SURVEY OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONDUCTED EACH QUARTER BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY COVERS BOTH MANUAL AND NON-MANUAL WORKERS (EXCLUDING WORKERS AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROFESSIONAL LEVELS) IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE TRANSPORT SERVICES SECTOR, THE BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND THE PERSONAL SERVICES SECTOR.

SUCH INDEXES MEASURE CHANGES IN WAGE RATES BY HOLDING THE STRUCTURAL PATTERN OF THE LABOUR FORCE WITH RESPECT TO INDUSTRY, OCCUPATION, SEX AND MODE OF PAYMENT THE SAME AS THAT OF MARCH 1982, WHICH IS THE BASE PERIOD OF THE WAGE INDEXES.

WHILE THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX MEASURES CHANGES IN WAGE RATES IN MONEY TERMS, THE REAL WAGE INDEX, WHICH IS OBTAINED BY DEFLATING THE NOMINAL WAGE INDEX BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A), MEASURES CHANGES IN THE PURCHASING POWER OF THE WAGES RECEIVED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DREW ATTENTION TO THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE WAGE INDEXES AND THE INDEXES OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED WHICH ARE ALSO PUBLISHED AT QUARTERLY INTERVALS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE WAGE RATES PROVIDE A MEASURE OF THE UNIT PRICE OF LABOUR, PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS A MEASURE OF PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

WAGE RATES REPRESENT THE AMOUNT OF REMUNERATION FOR NORMAL HOURS OF WORK, AND ARE DEFINED TO INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AND SALARIES, COST-OF-LIVING ALLOWANCE, MEAL BENEFITS, COMMISSION AND TIPS, GOOD ATTENDANCE BONUS AND NIGHT SHIFT ALLOWANCE.

IN ADDITION, YEAR-END BONUS AND OTHER GUARANTEED AND REGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES THAT ARE PAID LESS FREQUENTLY THAN MONTHLY, ARE CONVERTED TO AN EQUIVALENT MONTHLY RATE WHEN COMPILING THE WAGE RATE INDEXES.

TOTAL PAYROLL, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS THE AMOUNT OF DIRECT CASH PAYMENTS THAT EMPLOYEES RECEIVE FROM EMPLOYERS. APART FROM THE ABOVE MENTIONED CASH RECEIPTS, IT ALSO INCLUDES OVERTIME PAY AND OTHER NON-GUARANTEED AND IRREGULAR BONUSES AND ALLOWANCES.

HENCE, STATISTICS ON PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED TEND TO BE SENSITIVE TO CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF HOURS ACTUALLY WORKED, THE TIMING OF THE PAYMENT OF BONUSES AND BACK-PAY, AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE LABOUR FORCE.

AS A RESULT, MOVEMENTS IN WAGE RATES DO NOT NECESSARILY CONFORM WITH THOSE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED.

THE SURVEY FINDINGS ARE PUBLISHED IN A REPORT OF WAGES, SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STATISTICS VOL. I, DECEMBER 1987 WHICH WILL BE ON SALE SHORTLY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

THE VOL. II ISSUE OF THE REPORT CONTAINING DETAILED OCCUPATIONAL STATISTICS, SUCH AS WAGE RATES, NUMBER OF NORMAL HOURS OF WORK AND NUMBER OF STANDARD WORKING DAYS IS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN EARLY MAY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE WAGE INDEXES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WAGES AND LABOUR COSTS STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 5-8235024 OR 5-8234747.

TABLE 1: NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 =100)				
	DEC. 1986	MAR. 1987	JUN. 1987	SEPT. 1987	DEC. 1987
MANUFACTURING	136.8	142.1	146.2	148.4	149.5
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	130.1	135.2	137.5	141.5	146.5
TRANSPORT SERVICES	157.3	164.0	166.6	170.4	170.3
BUSINESS SERVICES	143.6	148.6	152.6	155.8	155.8
PERSONAL SERVICES	133.1	136.7	141.0	145.7	146.6
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	137.7	142.9	146.5	149.4	151.2

/TABLE 2:

TABLE 2: NOMINAL WAGE INDEXES FOR MAJOR INDUSTRIES IN THE
MANUFACTURING SECTOR

INDUSTRY	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 = 100)				
	DEC. 1986	MAR. 1987	JUN. 1987	SEPT. 1987	DEC. 1987
GARMENTS	127.0	128.3	132.2	132.5	133.1
GLOVES	145.7	149.1	152.2	154.3	153.9
HANDBAGS	131.9	135.9	136.7	141.9	142.8
COTTON SPINNING/WEAVING	148.1	161.8	163.0	164.6	165.5
KNITTING	138.5	140.8	146.5	148.3	148.2
BLEACHING AND DYEING	150.0	160.3	167.2	168.3	169.3
PRINTING	142.6	145.2	160.6	162.4	164.1
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	136.7	144.8	146.4	146.8	146.4
METAL PRODUCTS	140.8	145.6	151.4	153.0	154.3
ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	151.5	159.2	163.0	165.6	168.6
ELECTRONICS	143.5	153.2	155.6	162.3	165.0
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	147.9	156.9	171.8	174.9	176.1
MANUFACTURING	136.8	142.1	146.2	148.4	149.5

/TABLE 3:

TABLE 3: REAL WAGE INDEXES BY SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS	INDEXES (MARCH 1982 =100)				
	DEC. 1986	MAR. 1987	JUN. 1987	SEPT. 1987	DEC. 1987
MANUFACTURING	103.9	106.0	106.3	106.9	105.6
WHOLESALE/RETAIL, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	98.8	100.9	99.9	101.9	103.4
TRANSPORT SERVICES	119.4	122.4	121.1	122.8	120.2
BUSINESS SERVICES	109.1	110.9	110.9	112.2	110.0
PERSONAL SERVICES	101.1	102.0	102.5	105.0	103.6
ALL SECTORS ABOVE	104.5	106.6	106.5	107.7	106.8

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NEW VTC CENTRE TO MEET TRAINING NEEDS

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A TRAINING CENTRE OFFERING TAILOR-MADE COURSES TO MEET THE STRONG TRAINING NEEDS FOR WHOLESALE/RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL IN 1990, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

IT WILL PROVIDE BASIC TRAINING FOR ABOUT 2,100 NEW ENTRANTS AND UPGRADING TRAINING FOR 1,400 IN-SERVICE EMPLOYEES A YEAR.

THE HEAVY TRAINING DEMAND HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIATED IN A SURVEY REPORT PUBLISHED RECENTLY BY THE COUNCIL'S WHOLESALE/RETAIL AND EXPORT/IMPORT TRADES TRAINING BOARD.

/IT ESTIMATES

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IT ESTIMATES THAT THE ANNUAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TRADES ARE 400 AT MANAGERIAL LEVEL, 2,200 AT SUPERVISORY LEVEL AND 17,000 AT CLERICAL LEVEL.

SINCE THE EXISTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS ARE UNABLE TO EXPAND AND PROVIDE MORE RELEVANT COURSES, THE BOARD THEREFORE CONSIDERS THAT A TRAINING CENTRE IS ESSENTIAL TO PROVIDE FOR SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY AND EXPERTISE TO MEET THE ENORMOUS DEMAND FOR TRAINING BY THE TRADES.

THE SURVEY CONDUCTED IN DECEMBER 1986 FOUND THAT THE TOTAL WORKFORCE OF THE TRADES HAD INCREASED TO 400,000, REPRESENTING A MODERATE GROWTH RATE OF 4.7 PER CENT WITHIN TWO YEARS.

THE MANPOWER SURVEY REPORT ON THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$22 A COPY.

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ISLANDS DB TO BE BRIEFED ON EXPLOSIVES COMPLEX STUDY

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THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD WILL BE INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF A FEASIBILITY STUDY INTO A NEW EXPLOSIVES COMPLEX AT CHI MA WAN ON LANTAU IN ITS FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW TERM ON MONDAY (APRIL 18).

MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE STUDY WHICH BEGAN FIVE MONTHS AGO TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF DEVELOPING AN EXPLOSIVES COMPLEX AT THE EAST HEADLAND OF CHI MA WAN PENINSULA, TO REPLACE THE EXISTING ONE AT STONECUTTERS ISLANDS, BY THE EARLY 1990'S.

AT THE MEETING, THE DISTRICT BOARD WILL ELECT ITS CHAIRMAN AS WELL AS CHAIRMEN FOR ITS FIVE COMMITTEES.

THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICER, MR JONATHAN NG, WILL BE THE PRESIDING OFFICER.

THE INCUMBENT CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR LAM WAI-KEUNG, IS THE SOLE NOMINEE, AND WILL THUS CONTINUE IN THE CHAIR.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO ELECT ITS REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL'S ISLANDS DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA CONCERN AN OVERSEAS STUDY TOUR TO SINGAPORE AND MALAYSIA IN JUNE, REVISION OF THE BOARD'S STANDING ORDERS, AND ROAD WORKS PROPOSED FOR SIN YAN TSENG RURAL PUBLIC HOUSING ON CHEUNG CHAU.

/MEMBERS WILL

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MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THEIR PARTICIPATION IN WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 1988, THE 1988-89 KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN AND ALLOCATION OF DB FUNDS.

THEY WILL ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE ANNUAL RECREATION AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS THE WORK PLAN FOR ICAC LIAISON ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FIRST MEETING OF THE 1988-91 ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD TO BEGIN AT 2 PM ON MONDAY (APRIL 18) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD, 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

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SONG CONTEST TO MARK ENVIRONMENT DAY

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APPLICATIONS ARE BEING INVITED FOR A POPULAR SONG CONTEST WHICH WILL BE ONE OF THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES HELD TO CELEBRATE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY (WED) 1988 IN HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKING GROUP SET UP UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPCOM) TO CO-ORDINATE THESE ACTIVITIES, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE SONG CONTEST HAS BEEN ORGANISED TO PUT ACROSS THE CENTRAL THEME OF WED OF PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AMONG THE PUBLIC.

"THE WINNER OF THE SONG CONTEST WILL REPRESENT HONG KONG IN AN INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN BANGKOK ON JUNE 5 AND ORGANISED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME," HE SAID.

CONTESTANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN ORIGINAL COMPOSITION WITH LYRICS IN CHINESE OR ENGLISH OR BOTH TO PROMOTE WED'S CENTRAL THEME.

EACH SONG IS TO BE SUBMITTED IN A DEMONSTRATION CASSETTE TAPE AND ACCOMPANIED BY THREE COPIES OF SHEET MUSIC AND LYRICS.

ENTRIES SHOULD BE SENT TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE, C/O HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, ROOM 708, MAIN WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

/ENTRY FORMS

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ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 5-8102650.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRY TO THE POPULAR SONG CONTEST IS APRIL 30.

LIST OF FINALISTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON MAY 3 AND THE FINAL WILL BE HELD ON MAY 20 AND BROADCAST LIVE BY TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED IN ITS "ENJOY YOURSELF TONIGHT" SHOW.

IF THE SONG IS SELECTED TO ENTER THE FINAL, THE ORGANISER WILL ASSIST IN ARRANGING THE MUSIC FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SONG IN THE TELEVISION SHOW.

THE PANEL OF JUDGES WILL CONSIST OF REPRESENTATIVES OF EPCOM, THE COMPOSERS AND AUTHORS SOCIETY OF HONG KONG (CASH) AND TVB.

WINNER OF THE POPULAR SONG CONTEST WILL BE AWARDED A TROPHY AND A CASH PRIZE OF \$6,000.

RETURN AIR TICKETS AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR THREE PERSONS - THE COMPOSER, LYRICIST AND SINGER - WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE WINNER TO TAKE PART IN THE INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL IN BANGKOK.

THE FIRST RUNNER-UP WILL BE AWARDED A TROPHY AND A CASH PRIZE OF \$2,500. THE SECOND RUNNER-UP WILL BE AWARDED A TROPHY AND A CASH PRIZE OF \$1,500.

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SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS SOLD BY AUCTION

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FORTY SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION THIS MORNING (SATURDAY) FOR A TOTAL OF \$848,500 WHICH WILL GO INTO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION HELD AT RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, EIGHTH FLOOR, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER DA1 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$180,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER, CG1, WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$90,000, WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1,000 EACH FOR DS179, DT428 AND DR7388.

/FOLLOWING ARE

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FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AUCTION:

DT117	\$ 6,000	DP280	\$ 7,000	DA1	\$ 180,000	CG1	\$ 90,000
DS3268	5,000	DR8828	30,000	DD78	60,000	DD28	80,000
DP1663	2,000	1632	51,000	DS3882	4,500	DU930	4,000
DR8798	2,000	DS1628	11,000	CC1238	10,000	DS2838	5,500
DS179	1,000	AP823	7,000	AK166	6,500	BT313	16,000
XX58	10,000	DT3378	3,000	DR7388	1,000	DS248	4,500
DT333	63,000	DS140	2,500	HK170	18,000	DB60	15,000
BB7828	5,000	AA933	22,000	DS168	52,000	AS308	10,500
DD2211	10,000	DT428	1,000	DS1189	3,000	DT2881	4,000
DS138	19,500	DS1623	3,500	DS1368	11,000	DS8288	11,500

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WERE REQUIRED TO PAY IN CASH OR BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED ARE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 123RD ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR CHARITY REALISED SO FAR TO \$59,073,532.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES GRANTS

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LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN KWUN TONG ARE BEING INVITED TO APPLY FOR FUNDS TO ORGANISE YOUTH ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE '88, MADAM YEUNG KAM-CHUN, SAID THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR'S PROGRAMME IS "SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY".

/"ORGANISATIONS APPLYING

SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1988

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"ORGANISATIONS APPLYING FOR FUNDS ARE EXPECTED TO ORGANISE ACTIVITIES WITH THE AIM OF ENHANCING PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, THE MEANINGFUL USE OF LEISURE, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT BY YOUNG PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN SIX AND 25," SHE SAID.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS IN THE DISTRICT INVITING THEM TO ORGANISE ACTIVITIES.

APPLICATION FORMS AND GUIDELINES ON FUNDING ARE AVAILABLE AT THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, THIRD FLOOR, IN TUNG YAN STREET.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MAY 18. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 3-416315.

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NEW PHASE STARTS AT TUEN MUN POOL

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CONSTRUCTION OF THE TUEN MUN SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX PHASE II BEGAN THIS WEEK UNDER A \$18.5 MILLION CONTRACT AWARDED BY THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE WORK WILL INVOLVE BUILDING ONE SECONDARY POOL, ONE DIVING POOL, ONE TRAINING POOL, TWO TEACHING POOLS, A SHELTERED SITTING OUT AREA AND LANDSCAPING.

THE JOB SHOULD BE COMPLETED BY JULY 11 NEXT YEAR.

EXISTING FACILITIES COMPLETED UNDER THE \$38.7 MILLION PHASE I INCLUDE ONE MAIN POOL, TWO PADDLING POOLS, AN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, A SPECTATOR STAND AND FOUR SQUASH COURTS.

THE COMPLEX, MANAGED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, IS LOCATED ALONG TUEN MUN NULLAH AT TUEN MUN AREA 16.

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URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTION IN SHAM SHUI PO

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FROM 10 AM ON TUESDAY (APRIL 19), TWO ROAD SECTIONS IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE MADE URBAN CLEARWAYS OPERATING DURING PEAK HOURS (7 AM TO 10 AM AND 4 PM TO 7 PM) ONLY.

THESE TWO ROAD SECTIONS ARE:

- * CAMP STREET BETWEEN UN CHAU STREET AND PO ON ROAD.
- * THE WESTERN KERBSIDE LANE OF PO ON ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH CAMP STREET TO A POINT ABOUT 10 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

WITHIN THE URBAN CLEARWAYS, NO VEHICLES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE EXISTING PEAK-HOUR DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS ON THREE ROAD SECTIONS WILL BE LIFTED.

THESE ARE THE SECTION OF CAMP STREET BETWEEN SHUN NING ROAD AND UN CHAU STREET, THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CAMP STREET BETWEEN SHUN NING ROAD AND PO ON ROAD, AND THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF CAMP STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH SHUN NING ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 15 METRES NORTH OF THE SAME JUNCTION.

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CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD TO BE CLOSED AT NIGHT

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TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO FOOTBRIDGES FOR THE ROUTE 5 PROJECT, TWO SECTIONS OF CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD IN TSUEN WAN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC IN THE EARLY MORNINGS BETWEEN APRIL 19 (TUESDAY) AND 22.

FROM 1.30 AM TO 5.30 AM ON APRIL 19 AND 21, THE SECTION OF CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD BETWEEN LO WAI ROAD AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED. AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL BE DIVERTED VIA SHING MUN ROAD.

THE SECTION OF CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD BETWEEN SHEK WAI KOK ROAD AND TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 1.30 AM AND 5.30 AM ON APRIL 20 AND 22. AFFECTED VEHICLES WILL ALSO BE DIVERTED TO USE SHING MUN ROAD.

AT THE SAME TIME, MOTORISTS ON TEXACO ROAD HEADING FOR SHEK WAI KOK ESTATE WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL VIA TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE, TEXACO ROAD, SHING MUN ROAD, CHEUNG SHAN ESTATE ROAD WEST, CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD AND SHEK WAI KOK ROAD.

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