



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1982

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TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1982

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**TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARTIAL OPENING OF ABERDEEN TUNNEL
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TO COINCIDE WITH THE EXPECTED OPENING OF ONE TUBE OF THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC ON FRIDAY (MARCH 12) IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO INTRODUCE NEW TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS, PARTICULARLY IN THE WAN CHAI AND HAPPY VALLEY AREAS, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY.

FOLLOWING THE OPENING AT 10 AM, THE TUNNEL WILL, THEREAFTER, BE OPEN FROM 6.30 AM TO 10.30 PM DAILY. IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CLOSE THE TUNNEL AT NIGHT TO ALLOW CONTRACTORS TO CONTINUE WORK ON TUNNEL INSTALLATIONS.

A TOLL OF \$2 WILL BE CHARGED FOR ALL VEHICLES.

WITH ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC FROM ABERDEEN TO WAN CHAI, CENTRAL, CAUSEWAY BAY, NORTH POINT AND THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO REDUCE CONGESTION CAUSED BY WEAVING MOVEMENTS AT THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

IN PARTICULAR, VEHICLES (OTHER THAN BUSES) GOING UP THE CANAL ROAD WEST RAMP TO JOIN THE FLYOVER WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO CROSS OVER TO JOIN THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL LANE. KOWLOON BOUND TRAFFIC IN THE HAPPY VALLEY AREA WILL HAVE TO USE THE UP-RAMP ADJACENT TO THE JUNCTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD- DRIVERS IN THE SPORTS ROAD, TIN LOK LANE AND MORRISON HILL ROAD AREA WILL HAVE TO TRAVEL AROUND THE RACE COURSE TO REACH THE UP-RAMP NEAR THE JUNCTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD.

DRIVERS HEADING TOWARDS THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL SHOULD SELECT THE RIGHT LANE EARLY TO AVOID FINDING THEMSELVES BEING OBLIGED TO FOLLOW CENTRAL OR NORTH POINT BOUND TRAFFIC.

TRAFFIC GOING TO ABERDEEN VIA THE TUNNEL FROM CENTRAL, KOWLOON OR FROM NORTH POINT, WILL TRAVEL VIA THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER. MOTORISTS IN WAN CHAI CAN USE THE UP-RAMP ON WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD IN FRONT OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

RESIDENTS BETWEEN REPULSE BAY AND STANLEY ARE REMINDED THAT WHILE ROAD WORKS CONTINUE ON ISLAND ROAD THEY SHOULD USE THE WONG NAI CHUNG GAP ROUTE FOR SOUTHBOUND JOURNEYS.

LEARNER DRIVERS WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL. IN ADDITION, ALL PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES, EXCEPT SOME DESIGNATED MAXICAB SERVICES, WILL ALSO BE PROHIBITED FROM USING THE TUNNEL.

THE PLB PROHIBITION WILL EXTEND TO THE FOLLOWING APPROACH ROADS TO THE TUNNEL :

- * CANAL ROAD FLYOVER SOUTHBOUND NEAR THE SLIP ROAD DOWN TO MORRISON HILL ROAD.

/* THE SLIP

- * THE SLIP ROAD AT A POINT APPROXIMATELY 130 METRES SOUTH OF THE JUNCTION OF WONG NAI CHUNG ROAD WITH SPORTS ROAD LEADING TO THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER SOUTHBOUND.
- * THE SLIP ROAD LEADING TO THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL FROM WONG CHUK HANG ROAD WESTBOUND NEAR ITS WESTERN JUNCTION WITH SHOUSON HILL ROAD.
- * THE UNDERPASS LEADING TO THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL FROM WONG CHUK HANG ROAD EASTBOUND A POINT APPROXIMATELY 170 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH NAM FUNG ROAD.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OPENING OF THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTIONS WILL BE IMPOSED ON A SECTION OF ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD BETWEEN OLD MAIN STREET ABERDEEN AND ITS JUNCTION WITH CHENGTU ROAD BETWEEN 7 AM AND 12 MIDNIGHT DAILY.

SIX BUS SERVICES AND TWO MAXICAB ROUTES WILL BE USING THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL AND DETAILS OF THESE SERVICES WILL BE ISSUED TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

MEANWHILE, CHIEF TRANSPORT OFFICER/TUNNELS, MR FRED MAY REMINDED MOTORISTS THAT UNTIL THE TUNNEL INSTALLATIONS ARE IN FULL OPERATION THEY SHOULD DRIVE WITH CAUTION AND IN PARTICULAR KEEP TO THE SPEED LIMIT OF 30 MPH AND OBSERVE LANE DISCIPLINE AT ALL TIME.

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\$220-MILLION AQUEDUCT FOR WATER FROM CHINA

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TODAY AWARDED A \$220-MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUEDUCT SYSTEM FROM MUK WU TO TAI LAM CHUNG AS PART OF THE FACILITIES FOR THE RECEPTION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES OF WATER FROM CHINA.

THE CONTRACT WAS FORMALLY SIGNED BETWEEN MR TOM TOMLINSON, ACTING DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES AND MR GU TIANXUN, DIRECTOR OF THE CHINA CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION AND MR YE HAO, DIRECTOR AND GENERAL MANAGER OF GUANGDONG WATER CONSERVANCY AND HYDRO-POWER ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CO. LTD.

IT IS THE BIGGEST OF NINE CONTRACTS SIGNED SO FAR UNDER STAGE ONE OF THE \$1 300-MILLION SCHEME TO PROVIDE FACILITIES FOR RECEIVING ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES OF WATER FROM CHINA.

MR TOMLINSON SAID, "THE CONTRACT WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF 13.8 KILOMETRES OF TUNNEL MEASURING 3.4 METRES IN DIAMETER AND THE LAYING OF 6.8 KILOMETRES OF PIPELINE WITH A DIAMETER OF 2.2 METRES.

/+WHEN COMPLETED

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+WHEN COMPLETED AT THE END OF 1984, THE NEW AQUEDUCT SYSTEM, TOGETHER WITH A PUMPING STATION TO BE CONSTRUCTED AT AU TAU, WILL BOOST WATER SUPPLY TO THE WHOLE OF WEST NEW TERRITORIES BY 910 000 CUBIC METRES DAILY.+

TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PUMPING STATION WILL BE INVITED IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR.

MR TOMLINSON SAID THAT WORK ON THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR STAGE ONE, THE LAYING OF ABOUT 1.8 KILOMETRES OF MILD STEEL PIPELINE FROM FU TEI AU TO SHEUNG SHUI, HAD BEEN COMPLETED WHILE WORK ON SEVEN OTHER CONTRACTS WAS WELL IN HAND.

WORK ON STAGE ONE, COSTING ABOUT \$700 MILLION, WILL BE COMPLETED IN VARIOUS PHASES BETWEEN SEPTEMBER AND THE END OF 1984.

MR TOMLINSON SAID : +WORK ON STAGE TWO WILL BEGIN IN 1984 AND BE COMPLETED IN 1988.+

COSTING \$450 MILLION, WORK ON STAGE TWO WILL INVOLVE :

- * THE LAYING OF PIPELINES BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI AND TAU PASS,
- * THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL PUMPING PLANTS AT THE NEW MUK WU PUMPING STATION, AU TAU PUMPING STATION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW PUMPING STATIONS AT HARBOUR ISLAND AND TAI MEI TUK, PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR,
- * THE CONSTRUCTION OF AQUEDUCT BETWEEN PLOVER COVE RESERVOIR AND PAK KONG, SAI KUNG, INCLUDING THE LAYING OF A SUBMARINE PIPELINE ACROSS TOLO CHANNEL, AND
- * THE CONSTRUCTION OF AQUEDUCT FROM TAI PO TAU TO NGAU TAM MEI.

WORK ON STAGE THREE WILL INVOLVE THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL PUMPING PLANTS AT THE NEW MUK AU, AU TAU, TAI MEI TUK AND HARBOUR ISLAND PUMPING STATIONS AND EXTENSION OF SUPPLY TO LANTAU ISLAND.

MR TOMLINSON POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT THE EXTENT OF WORK REQUIRED BEYOND STAGE ONE WOULD BE REVIEWED BEFORE IMPLEMENTATION TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CHANGES IN THE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT.

REFERRING TO WATER FROM CHINA, MR TOMLINSON SAID, +UNDER THE TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT SIGNED IN NOVEMBER 1978, HONG KONG IS GETTING 182 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER FROM CHINA THIS YEAR.

+THE LATEST WATER AGREEMENT SIGNED IN MAY 1980 WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES TO HONG KONG WITH AN AVERAGE INCREASE IN SUPPLY OF ABOUT 35 MILLION CUBIC METRES PER YEAR STARTING FROM 1983 TO REACH A MAXIMUM OF 620 MILLION CUBIC METRES PER YEAR IN 1995.+

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NEW HEART CENTRE AT GRANTHAM HOSPITAL

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HONG KONG'S MEDICAL SERVICES WILL REACH ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF HEART DISEASES WITH THE SETTING UP OF A \$45-MILLION CARDIO-THORACIC CENTRE AT THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT DISCLOSED TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE HOSPITAL, WITH A RECORD OF 25 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE TREATMENT TO TB PATIENTS, WILL BECOME A MAJOR CENTRE FOR PERFORMING HEART OPERATIONS.

THE CENTRE, OCCUPYING AN AREA OF OVER 1 500 SQUARE METRES, CONSISTS OF AN EIGHT-STORY MEDICAL BLOCK AND 16-STORY-HIGH QUARTERS FOR SENIOR HOSPITAL STAFF.

THE HEART CENTRE IS NAMED AFTER MR KWOK TAK-SENG IN RECOGNITION OF HIS DONATION OF \$10 MILLION TOWARDS THE CAPITAL COST OF THE PROJECT.

THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTED \$2 MILLION TO THE COST, WITH THE BALANCE OF COST BEING MET BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE NEW HEART CENTRE WILL COMPRISE TWO OPERATING THEATRES, A CARDIAC CATHETERISATION LABORATORY WITH BOTH ADULT AND PAEDIATRIC INVESTIGATION FACILITIES, A MEDICAL LABORATORY AND A PULMONARY PHYSIOLOGY LABORATORY.

ALL THESE SOPHISTICATED FACILITIES ARE DESIGNED TO MEET THE GROWING DEMAND FOR OPEN-HEART AND CLOSED-HEART SURGERY AS WELL AS CARDIAC INVESTIGATORY SERVICES.

IN LINE WITH THE MUCH IMPROVED SURGICAL FACILITIES, OUT-PATIENT SERVICES WILL ALSO BE EXPANDED AT THE HOSPITAL.

THE 625-BED GRANTHAM HOSPITAL, ONE OF A CHAIN OF HOSPITALS RUN BY THE ASSOCIATION, WAS OPENED IN 1957 SOLELY FOR THE CARE OF TB PATIENTS WHEN THAT DISEASE WAS THE MOST COMMON CAUSE OF DEATHS.

HOWEVER, OVER THE YEARS INTENSIVE EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE ASSOCIATION AND THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, AND TB IS NOW UNDER CONTROL, GOING DOWN TO EIGHTH IN THE 10 LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH.

AT THE SAME TIME, CANCER HAS BECOME THE NO. 1, AND HEART DISEASE THE NO. 2 KILLER DISEASE IN RECENT YEARS.

/ON THE

ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF TWO PROMINENT CHEST PHYSICIANS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1976, THE GOVERNMENT BEGAN DEVELOPING THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL FROM A PRINCIPALLY TB HOSPITAL TO A CARDIO-THORACIC CENTRE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE KWOK TAK SENG HEART CENTRE AT THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL AT WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, WILL BE OPENED BY THE GOVERNOR, AT 3 PM, ON THURSDAY (MARCH 11).

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EVENT.

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**WONG TAI SIN CDO TO FOSTER VOLUNTEER PROJECT
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A LARGE-SCALE 'VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROJECT' IS BEING ORGANISED IN WONG TAI SIN TO FOSTER A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG YOUTHS IN THE DISTRICT AND TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO OFFER THEIR SERVICES FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE AREA.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD, THE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, THE WONG TAI SIN SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE OF THE YWCA AND VARIOUS AREA COMMITTEES IN THE DISTRICT, THE PROJECT WILL START AS A TRAINING CAMP FOR 90 PARTICIPANTS.

THE CAMP WILL LAST FOR THREE DAYS AND TWO NIGHTS AND WILL BE HELD AT SAI KUNG FROM APRIL 3 TO 5.

THROUGHOUT THE CAMP, A SERIES OF WELL-PLANNED PROGRAMMES WILL BE CONDUCTED TO EXPLAIN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING.

THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE BRIEFED ABOUT WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT AND VARIOUS MEANS WILL BE ADOPTED TO IMPART TO THEM THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEER WORK.

AFTER THE TRAINING CAMP THEY WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE INTO PRACTICE THROUGH A LARGE-SCALE COMMUNITY BUILDING PROJECT FOR THE SOUTH SUB-DISTRICT OF WONG TAI SIN IN NOVEMBER, A CITY DISTRICT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FINAL GOAL IS TO FORM THEM INTO A TRAINED, WELL-ORGANISED AND ESTABLISHED VOLUNTEER GROUP UNDER THE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, HE SAID.

ANY YOUTH AGED 15 OR ABOVE LIVING IN WONG TAI SIN CAN APPLY TO JOIN THE PROJECT, AND CAN APPROACH THE YWCA OFFICE ON THE ROOFTOP OF BLOCK 14, LOWER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE BEFORE MARCH 20.

DETAILED INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ENQUIRY COUNTERS OF THE WONG TAI SIN CITY DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE YWCA OR BY TELEPHONING 3-283115 AND 3-222261.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1982

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PEOPLE IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE URGED
TO APPLY FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS
* * * *

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR SELWYN ALLEYNE, TODAY (TUESDAY) URGED MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO NEED SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO COME FORWARD AND APPLY FOR IT.

HE TOLD A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE KIWANIS CLUB THAT DESPITE THE LARGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BENEFITING FROM SOCIAL SECURITY PROVISIONS, +THERE MUST BE SOME WHO ARE ELIGIBLE AND YET HAVE NOT COME FORWARD, EITHER BECAUSE OF IGNORANCE OR BECAUSE OF A FALSE SENSE OF STIGMA.+

+NINETY PER CENT OF THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE FOR THE OLD AGE ALLOWANCE ARE ALREADY IN OUR BOOKS, AND I HOPE THAT NO ONE WHO NEEDS ASSISTANCE IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER WILL REFRAIN FROM APPLYING,+ HE SAID.

THE FUNCTION OF THE NETWORK OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS FOR THE MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS IN THE COMMUNITY, MR ALLEYNE SAID, WAS TO ENSURE THAT +NO ONE IS SEEN TO SUFFER FROM HARDSHIP AND THAT EVERY PERSON IS ABLE TO LEAD A LIFE AT A REASONABLE STANDARD.+

+WE ARE ALSO WATCHING THE LEVELS OF BENEFITS CLOSELY SO AS TO MAINTAIN THEIR REAL VALUE AS WELL AS TO KEEP PACE WITH THE GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING IN THE COMMUNITY,+ HE ADDED.

THE ESTIMATED TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR THE VARIOUS SOCIAL SECURITY SCHEMES FOR 1982-83 IS ABOUT \$780 MILLION, WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$35 MILLION FOR THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME PROVIDED BY A SEPARATE FUND, MAKING AN ESTIMATED TOTAL PAYMENT OF ABOUT \$815 MILLION.

+AS PAYMENT RATES ARE DUE FOR A REVISION SOON, THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURE IS LIKELY TO BE HIGHER,+ MR ALLEYNE SAID.

HE PUT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE BENEFITING FROM THESE SCHEMES AT ABOUT 250 000.

EARLIER IN HIS SPEECH, THE DIRECTOR OUTLINED THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE SAFETY NET PROVIDED BY THE BROAD RANGE OF SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

THESE BENEFITS COULD BE GROUPED INTO THREE MAJOR AREAS : THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE SCHEME, THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE SCHEME AND ACCIDENT COMPENSATION.

+THESE BENEFITS ARE INTENDED TO MEET THE MOST URGENT NEEDS AND TO HELP THOSE LEAST ABLE TO HELP THEMSELVES,+ MR ALLEYNE SAID.

/AN AVERAGE

AN AVERAGE FOUR-MEMBER HOUSEHOLD WITHOUT INCOME OR RESOURCES CAN GET A MONTHLY ASSISTANCE OF ABOUT \$1 660, COMPRISING A BASIC SCALE ALLOWANCE OF \$965, A MAXIMUM RENT ALLOWANCE OF \$479 AND OTHER DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AND SUPPLEMENTS.

SIMILARLY, A SINGLE PERSON ON HIS OWN CAN GET ABOUT \$590 A MONTH, INCLUDING A BASIC SCALE ALLOWANCE OF \$350, A MAXIMUM RENT ALLOWANCE OF \$144 AND OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS.

MR ALLEYNE NOTED THAT THE BASIC SCALE RATE FOR A SINGLE PERSON IN 1972 WAS \$110. SINCE THEN THERE HAD BEEN SIX REVISIONS ACCORDING TO THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INDEX OF PRICES, SPECIALLY CONSTRUCTED FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND ANOTHER REVISION IN JULY LAST YEAR TO PROVIDE A SIGNIFICANT REAL IMPROVEMENT OF 25 PER CENT.

THE TOTAL INCREASE FROM 1972 TO 1981 WAS 318 PER CENT, HE SAID, WHEREAS THE RISE IN PRICES DURING THE SAME PERIOD ACCORDING TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) WAS ABOUT 260 PER CENT.

+APART FROM THE PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS AND DISCRETIONARY GRANTS, THIS IS A CLEAR INDICATION OF THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE STANDARD OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE OVER TIME,+ MR ALLEYNE SAID.

REFERRING TO THE BASIC PUBLIC ASSISTANCE RATE, THE DIRECTOR SAID THAT ALTHOUGH IT WAS REVISED UPWARDS BY 25 PER CENT LAST JULY, THERE WAS A NEED FOR ANOTHER REVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INDEX SOON IN THE LIGHT OF THE CONTINUING INFLATION TREND.

TURNING TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCES, MR ALLEYNE SAID THAT THEY WERE INTENDED TO PROVIDE SOME HELP TO THE FAMILY TO MEET THE SPECIAL NEEDS ARISING FROM DISABILITY OR OLD AGE, AND WERE NOT INTENDED FOR BASIC LIVING EXPENSES.

WITH REGARD TO THE ASSERTION THAT THE PROVISION OF \$175 FOR OLD AGE WAS NOT ADEQUATE TO MEET LIVING EXPENSES, HE SAID AN OLD PERSON IN NEED AND HAD NO RESOURCES WAS ENTITLED TO BOTH PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND OLD AGE ALLOWANCE AND CAN GET \$350 BASIC RATE, \$144 MAXIMUM RENT, \$175 OLD AGE ALLOWANCE, A LONG-TERM SUPPLEMENT PLUS OTHER DISCRETIONARY GRANTS THAT MAY BE REQUIRED.

+THESE CAN AMOUNT TO MORE THAN \$705, WHICH IS THE USUAL AMOUNT AN OLD PERSON GETS,+ MR ALLEYNE SAID.

FOR A BLIND PERSON WITHOUT RESOURCES, HE CAN GET ABOUT \$880 A MONTH.

ANALYSIS OF HONG KONG'S 1981 RE-EXPORT TRADE
* * * *

THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE REACHED A RECORD OF \$41 739 MILLION IN 1981, AN INCREASE OF 39 PER CENT OVER THE 1980 FIGURE, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT REPORTED TODAY (TUESDAY) IN PROVIDING A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET AND BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR THE YEAR.

RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE CHANGES IN HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO THE FIVE MAJOR MARKETS :-

	<u>1981</u> (HK\$ MN.)	<u>1980</u> (HK\$ MN.)	<u>INCREASE</u> (HK\$ MN.)	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
CHINA	8 044	4 642	+3 402	+73%
U.S.A.	4 785	3 085	+1 700	+55%
INDONESIA	4 272	2 761	+1 511	+55%
SINGAPORE	3 243	2 510	+ 733	+29%
JAPAN	2 792	2 201	+ 591	+27%

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY \$3 402 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT), THE LARGEST MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS. THE COMMODITIES WITH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE TEXTILE YARN (BY \$789 MILLION OR 115 PER CENT), WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$579 MILLION OR 142 PER CENT), TELEVISION RECEIVERS (BY \$434 MILLION OR 136 PER CENT), KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS (BY \$259 MILLION OR 211 PER CENT), AND TEXTILE AND LEATHER MACHINERY AND PARTS THEREOF (BY \$109 MILLION OR 83 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE U.S. WERE REGISTERED IN THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$264 MILLION OR 119 PER CENT), WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS' OUTER GARMENTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (OTHER THAN KNITTED OR CROCHETED GOODS) (BY \$202 MILLION OR 108 PER CENT), MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, MAINLY BASKET-WORK, WICKER-WORK AND ARTICLES OF PLAITING MATERIALS (BY \$156 MILLION OR 66 PER CENT), OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT FOR EXTRACTION OF VEGETABLE OILS (BY \$153 MILLION OR 1 114 PER CENT) AS WELL AS VEGETABLES, ROOTS AND TUBERS (BY \$129 MILLION OR 436 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA SHOWED INCREASES FOR MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS AND OTHER CYCLES (BY \$467 MILLION OR 82 PER CENT), TEXTILE AND LEATHER MACHINERY AND PARTS THEREOF (BY \$32 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT), PASSENGER MOTOR CARS (BY \$52 MILLION OR 63 PER CENT), AND ALUMINIUM (BY \$43 MILLION OR 212 PER CENT).

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE OF THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$272 MILLION OR 207 PER CENT), TEXTILE MADE-UP ARTICLES (BY \$45 MILLION OR 107 PER CENT) AND PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$36 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT).

IN CONTRAST, RE-EXPORTS TO SWITZERLAND DECLINED (BY \$185 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT).

NOTABLE DECREASES WERE RECORDED MAINLY IN SILVER, PLATINUM AND OTHER METALS OF THE PLATINUM GROUP (BY \$36 MILLION OR 94 PER CENT), SCRAP AND SWEEPINGS OF PRECIOUS METALS (OTHER THAN OF GOLD) (BY \$38 MILLION OR 90 PER CENT), AND COINS NOT CURRENTLY IN USE (BY \$75 MILLION OR 99 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

RE-EXPORTS BROKEN DOWN BY MAJOR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN ARE SHOWN BELOW :

	<u>1981</u> (HK\$ MN.)	<u>1980</u> (HK\$ MN.)	<u>INCREASE</u> (HK\$ MN.)	<u>PERCENTAGE</u> <u>CHANGE</u>
CHINA	12 834	8 394	+4 440	+53%
JAPAN	8 394	5 884	+2 510	+43%
U. S. A.	4 041	3 157	+ 884	+28%
TAIWAN	3 379	2 134	+1 245	+58%
REP. OF KOREA	1 954	877	+1 077	+123%

CHINA REMAINED THE LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS. INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN WERE NOTED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, MAINLY BASKET-WORK, WICKER-WORK AND ARTICLES OF PLAITING MATERIALS (BY \$290 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT), WOVEN COTTON FABRICS (BY \$286 MILLION OR 78 PER CENT), WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS' OUTER GARMENTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (BY \$248 MILLION OR 92 PER CENT), VEGETABLES, ROOTS AND TUBERS (BY \$237 MILLION OR 218 PER CENT), AS WELL AS OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT FOR EXTRACTION OF VEGETABLE OILS (BY \$226 MILLION OR 320 PER CENT).

MOST RE-EXPORT COMMODITIES OF JAPAN ORIGIN SHOWED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING GOODS VEHICLES AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MOTOR VEHICLES (BY \$515 MILLION OR 249 PER CENT), MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS AND OTHER CYCLES (BY \$472 MILLION OR 85 PER CENT), TELEVISION RECEIVERS (BY \$175 MILLION OR 116 PER CENT), AND THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$114 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT).

OVERSEAS PURCHASES OF U.S. PRODUCTS THROUGH HONG KONG REMAINED ACTIVE IN 1981. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$195 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT), PARTS AND ACCESSORIES FOR OFFICE AND DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$74 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT), AND TEXTILE YARN (BY \$49 MILLION OR 385 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF TAIWAN ORIGIN WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILE YARN (BY \$353 MILLION OR 95 PER CENT), WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$234 MILLION OR 66 PER CENT), AND KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS (BY \$198 MILLION OR 168 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) ORIGIN ALSO SHOWED SIGNIFICANT GROWTH, PARTICULARLY FOR WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$296 MILLION OR 163 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS BY ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

WHEN ANALYSED BY ORIGIN AND THEN BY DESTINATION, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO THE U.S. (BY \$1 124 MILLION OR 66 PER CENT), JAPAN (BY \$458 MILLION OR 93 PER CENT), INDONESIA (BY \$278 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT), AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (BY \$247 MILLION OR 147 PER CENT). INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF JAPAN ORIGIN WERE MAINLY TO INDONESIA (BY \$1 155 MILLION OR 83 PER CENT), CHINA (BY \$566 MILLION OR 63 PER CENT) AND MACAU (BY \$116 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT). SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE ALSO NOTED IN RE-EXPORTS OF U.S. ORIGIN TO SINGAPORE (BY \$313 MILLION OR 99 PER CENT) AND CHINA (BY \$230 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT).

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD

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BOTH THE NORTHBOUND AND SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAYS IN A SECTION OF ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD NEAR ITS JUNCTION WITH OLD MAIN STREET, ABERDEEN, WILL BE DESIGNATED AS URBAN CLEARWAYS FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MARCH 12).

ALL VEHICLES, EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES, WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE CLEARWAYS FROM 7 AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT DAILY.

TRAFFIC SIGNS AND CARRIAGEWAY MARKINGS WILL BE PUT UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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**TAILORS AND PIECEGOODS MERCHANTS GOING METRIC
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TAILORS AND PIECEGOODS MERCHANTS WOULD BE MEASURING IN METRES AND CENTIMETRES AS FROM AUTUMN THIS YEAR, MR JIM MCGUINNIETY, SENIOR METRICATION OFFICER OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHWEST, MR MCGUINNIETY SAID THAT THE CHANGE-OVER WOULD BE ATTEMPTED FROM SEPTEMBER AND WAS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY MARCH 1983.

FOR YEARS, PIECEGOODS MERCHANTS HAVE BEEN MEASURING WITH THE YARD-STICK AND TAILORS HAVE BEEN USING THE 24-INCH RULER.

A NEW METRE-STICK WAS NOW BEING PRODUCED, AND THERE WERE PLANS TO MANUFACTURE A NEW HALF-METRE TAILORING RULER, MR MCGUINNIETY DISCLOSED.

THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PRODUCING A POCKET-SIZED MEASUREMENT CONVERSION CHART AND TWO POSTERS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE SHOPS.

THIS WAS ONLY ONE EXAMPLE OF THE COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE METRICATION PROGRAMME, MR MCGUINNIETY POINTED OUT.

+IN FACT, 45 SECTOR COMMITTEES AND SECTOR PANELS, COVERING ALMOST THE ENTIRE PRIVATE SECTOR, ARE PREPARING AND PLANNING THEIR OWN METRICATION PROGRAMMES, AND PROGRESS IS QUITE SATISFACTORY,+ HE SAID.

PLANS WERE ALSO IN HAND TO PROMOTE THE SALE OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, SUCH AS REFRIGERATORS, TELEVISION SETS AND FANS, IN METRIC UNITS.

METRICATION PROGRAMMES WERE ALSO BEING INITIATED FOR THE PACKAGING, TEXTILE AND PAPER AND PRINTING INDUSTRIES, HE SAID.

PRESS SUPPORT FOR THE METRICATION EFFORT WAS +MOST ENCOURAGING+, HE SAID.

AS FAR AS GOVERNMENT PUBLICITY EFFORTS WERE CONCERNED, A METRIC GAMES DAY FOR STUDENTS WOULD BE HELD AT PERTH STREET SPORTSGROUND ON SATURDAY (MARCH 13) AND A METRIC EXHIBITION WOULD BE ORGANISED AT THE CITY HALL IN JANUARY 1983 AS PART OF A METRIC 10-DAY PROGRAMME AIMED AT CONSUMERS.

+ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ARE NOW EFFECTIVELY METRIC,+ MR MCGUINNIETY SAID.

THE ONLY MAJOR LEGISLATION WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN METRICATED BUT WOULD BE IN THE FUTURE WERE THE ROAD TRANSPORT ORDINANCE AND THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ORDINANCE, HE SAID.

MR MCGUINNIETY SAID THAT GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE TAKING PART IN A METRICATION SEMINAR IN GUANGZHOU NEXT MONTH WHICH WOULD ALSO BE ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM SINGAPORE.

BOARD MEMBERS TO STUDY YAU MA TEI PROBLEMS
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MEMBERS OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD WILL TOUR YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI ON THURSDAY (MARCH 11) TO STUDY PROBLEMS CONFRONTING THEIR DISTRICT.

THEY WILL ALSO OBSERVE THE EFFORTS MADE BY THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS IN SOLVING SOME OF THE PROBLEMS.

THEY WILL VISIT THE FERRY POINT COMPLEX, THE CANTON ROAD JADE MARKET, THE SHEK LUNG STREET FRUIT MARKET AND CERTAIN PAVEMENTS AND BACK LANES OCCUPIED BY ILLEGAL STRUCTURES.

THEY WILL ALSO LOOK OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST AND EXAMINE THE PARKING PROBLEM IN THE AREA.

THE MEMBERS WILL THEN TRAVEL ALONG AUSTIN ROAD TO LOOK AT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS, A TOPIC WHICH THEY DISCUSSED AT THE BOARD'S RECENT INAUGURAL MEETING.

THE TOUR WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM AND IS EXPECTED TO LAST FOR MORE THAN THREE HOURS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE TOUR OF YAU MA TEI AND TSIM SHA TSUI BY MEMBERS OF THE YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD ON THURSDAY (MARCH 11). TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED. MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO USE THE TRANSPORT SHOULD ASSEMBLE OUTSIDE THE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING AT 393 CANTON ROAD BY 9.30 AM.

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AIR SERVICE TALKS
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THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR N. LATHAM, IS REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AT THE THREE-DAY AIR SERVICE TALKS BEING HELD IN BONN BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CAD SAID TODAY.

IT IS HOPED THAT, AS A RESULT OF THE DISCUSSIONS, CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS WILL BE ABLE TO OPERATE B747 FREIGHT SERVICES FROM HONG KONG TO FRANKFURT FROM APRIL THIS YEAR AND B747 PASSENGER SERVICES FROM SPRING IN 1983.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 9, 1982

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EMPLOYEES RECORD - A LEGAL REQUIREMENT
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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY HAVE TO KEEP RECORDS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES AS REQUIRED BY THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

+ANY EMPLOYER WHO FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUIREMENT IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION AND TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10 000 ON CONVICTION,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE SPOKESMAN ISSUED THE REMINDER FOLLOWING TWO RECENT PROSECUTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE REQUIREMENT. IN ONE CASE, THE PROPRIETOR OF A KNITTING FACTORY WAS FINED \$3 000 FOR FAILING TO KEEP AN EMPLOYEE RECORD.

IN THE OTHER CASE, THE PROPRIETOR OF ANOTHER KNITTING FACTORY WAS ALSO FINED \$3 000 FOR FAILING TO KEEP AN EMPLOYEE RECORD IN THE FORM OF A LIST.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT AN EMPLOYEE RECORD SHOULD CONTAIN THE EMPLOYEE'S FULL NAME AS SHOWN ON HIS IDENTITY CARD OR ANY OTHER APPROVED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS AND THE TYPE AND NUMBER OF THE DOCUMENT IN QUESTION.

IF MORE THAN 10 EMPLOYEES ARE EMPLOYED, THE RECORD SHOULD BE IN THE FORM OF A LIST. IN THE CASE OF 10 OR LESS EMPLOYEES, THE RECORD CAN BE KEPT ON SEPARATE SHEETS.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT EMPLOYEE RECORDS MUST BE KEPT AT ALL PLACES OF EMPLOYMENTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR SIZE OR LOCATION.

AN EMPLOYER WHO HAS A BRANCH OFFICE SHOULD ALSO KEEP A SEPARATE RECORD AT THAT OFFICE FOR THE EMPLOYEES THERE.

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