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LADY YOUDE ATTENDS BALLET

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LADY YOUDE, HONORARY PATRON OF THE HONG KONG BALLET GROUP, THIS (SUNDAY) EVENING ATTENDED THE BALLET +LA FILLE MAL GARDEE+ IN THE CITY HALL CONCERT HALL.

BASED ON THE LIVES OF FARMERS, THE FULL-LENGTH BALLET COMBINED BALLET DANCING AND FOLK DANCES - SUCH AS CLOG DANCE AND CHICKEN DANCE - WITH A NUMBER OF MIMES. IT WAS STAGED IN HONG KONG FOR THE FIRST TIME BY THE HONG KONG BALLET GROUP.

LADY YOUDE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG BALLET GROUP, MR STANLEY HO, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN.

THE HONG KONG BALLET GROUP, FORMED IN 1964, OFFERS LOCAL BALLET STUDENTS AN OUTLET FOR THEIR TALENTS AND ENTHUSIASM. THE GROUP HAS STAGED AT LEAST TWO FULL-LENGTH CLASSICAL BALLETS EACH YEAR AND HAS PERFORMED AT THE CITY HALL AND THE ARTS CENTRE AS WELL AS IN TSUEN WAN AND YUEN LONG.

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LEGCO CANDIDATES TO HOLD FORUMS

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CANDIDATES STANDING FOR ELECTION TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE CONSTITUENCIES OF HONG KONG ISLAND (EAST) AND WONG TAI SIN WILL HOLD PUBLIC FORUMS TO ANNOUNCE THEIR ELECTORAL PLATFORMS.

THE HONG KONG ISLAND (EAST) FORUM WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22 (SUNDAY) IN ST PAUL'S CONVENT SCHOOL, LEIGHTON ROAD IN CAUSEWAY BAY AT 3 PM.

THE SIX CANDIDATES IN THIS CONSTITUENCY ARE MRS PEGGY LAM PEI AND MR ALBERT CHEUNG CHI-PIU FROM WAN CHAI DISTRICT, AND EASTERN DISTRICT'S MR LEE KAM-KAI, MR KWAN LIM-HO, MR CHUM TING-PONG AND MR LEE YU-TAI.

THE WONG TAI SIN FORUM WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 23 (MONDAY) IN THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 104 CHING TAK STREET AT 8 PM.

THE TWO CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION IN THIS CONSTITUENCY ARE DR CONRAD LAM KUI-SHING AND MR LIU KOON-SING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE TWO FORUMS.

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JULY EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE FOR JANUARY - JULY 1985, VALUED AT $265 171 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 8 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1984, ACCORDING TO TRADE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS TO $71 984 MILLION, WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 39 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS TO $61 555 MILLION AND IMPORTS BY 5 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS TO $131 632 MILLION. DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1985 WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S. DECREASED BY 8 PER CENT. ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $1 073 MILLION OR 35 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $887 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $164 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT), CLOTHING (BY $85 MILLION OR 1 PER CENT) AS WELL AS POWER GENERATING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT (BY $30 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT).

MOST COMMODITIES EXPORTED TO CHINA INCREASED RAPIDLY IN VALUE, PARTICULARLY OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $838 MILLION OR 695 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $759 MILLION OR 89 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $379 MILLION OR 116 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY $117 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT) AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (NOT INCLUDING UNMILLED CEREALS) (BY $30 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT).

DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $352 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $124 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $57 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT).

DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY $732 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT) AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $165 MILLION OR 55 PER CENT). DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING TO JAPAN ALSO FELL (BY $198 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT).

/HOWEVER, INCREASES .....

HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY OF METALLIFEROUS ORES AND METAL SCRAP (BY $31 MILLION OR 45 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $17 MILLION OR 7 PER CENT) AND IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $8 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION ARE PRESENTED IN TABLE 2.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAJOR SOURCES ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

DEMAND FOR GOODS IMPORTED FROM JAPAN INCREASED IN THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1985 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $1 400 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT; ROAD VEHICLES (INCLUDING AIR CUSHION VEHICLES) (BY $996 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $755 MILLION OR 68 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $415 MILLION OR 13 PER CENT) AS WELL AS MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY $401 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY $678 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $453 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT).

AS FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA, LARGE DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TEXTILES (BY $1 366 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT) AS WELL AS MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS (BY $303 MILLION OR 34 PER CENT). HOWEVER, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY $277 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT) AS WELL AS CLOTHING (BY $237 MILLION OR 5 PER CENT).

DECREASES IN IMPORTS FROM THE U.S. WERE MOSTLY OF ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $806 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT) AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY $342 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN INORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY $274 MILLION OR 280 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $135 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT) AS WELL AS TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY $126 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT).

/MEANWHILE, INCREASES .....

MEANWHILE, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN IMPORTS FROM TAIWAN OF TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY $886 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT) AND IN IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $286 MILLION OR 145 PER CENT). HOWEVER, IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL FROM TAIWAN DECREASED (BY $67 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT), AS DID IMPORTS OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS FROM SINGAPORE (BY $266 MILLION OR 7 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY SECTION.

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAJOR MARKETS ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 5. SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (BY $16 065 MILLION OR 128 PER CENT), U.S. (BY $1 392 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT), JAPAN (BY $564 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT), MACAU (BY $231 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT), ITALY (BY $152 MILLION OR 116 PER CENT), FRANCE (BY $99 MILLION OR 43 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (BY $94 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT) AND CANADA (BY $80 MILLION OR 15 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA (BY $647 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (BY $367 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION ARE GIVEN IN TABLE 6. 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 $2 980 MILLION OR 170 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS (BY $1 929 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $1 587 MILLION OR 135 PER CENT) AS WELL AS ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $1 229 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT).

DECREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (BY $117 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT); MANUFACTURED FERTILIZERS (BY $82 MILLION OR 94 PER CENT) AND FEEDING STUFF FOR ANIMALS (NOT INCLUDING UNMILLED CEREALS) (BY $72 MILLION OR 59 PER CENT).

THE JULY 1985 ISSUE OF THE +HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS - SUMMARY+ WILL BE AVAILABLE 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 JULY 1985 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN EARLY OCTOBER 1985 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT $13 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 .....

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 MARKET	JAN.-JULY 1985 ($ MN)	JAN.-JULY 1984 ($ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
U.S.A.	31 369	34 109	-2 740	- 8
CHINA	9 202	5 460	+3 742	+69
U.K.	4 657	5 564	- 908	-16
F.R. OF GERMANY	4 326	5 438	-1 112	-20
JAPAN	2 435	2 795	- 360	-13
CANADA	2 375	2 516	- 141	- 6
AUSTRALIA	1 874	2 059	- 185	- 9
SINGAPORE	1 274	1 554	- 280	-18
NETHERLANDS	1 164	1 323	- 159	-12
FRANCE	961	1 040	- 79	- 8

TABLE 2 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN.-JULY 1985 ($ MN)	JAN.-JULY 1984 ($ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	24 130	25 694	-1 564	- 6
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY PLASTIC TOYS AND DOLLS= JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES AS WELL AS PLASTIC ARTICLES)	11 536	11 644	- 108	- 1

/ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, ...

ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES (MAINLY HOUSEHOLD TYPE APPLIANCES AND SEMI-CONDUCTOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS)	5 990	6 506	- 516	- 8
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS; WATCHES AND CLOCKS	5 682	5 534	+ 148	+ 3
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	5 181	5 888	- 707	-12
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4 229	5 140	- 911	-18

TABLE 3 : IMPORTS FROM TEN MAJOR SOURCES

MAJOR SOURCE	JAN.-JULY 1985 ($ MN)	JAN.-JULY 1984 ($ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
JAPAN	32 041	29 037	+3 004	+10
CHINA	30 690	31 757	-1 067	- 3
U.S.A.	13 034	13 653	- 619	- 5
TAIWAN	12 463	9 622	+2 841	+30
SINGAPORE	6 582	6 605	- 23	- *
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	5 230	4 062	+1 169	+29
U.K.	4 559	5 172	- 613	-12
F.R. OF GERMANY	3 773	2 961	+ 812	+27
ITALY	1 902	1 612	+ 289	+18
SWITZERLAND	1 878	1 946	- 68	- 4

* LESS THAN 0.5%

/TABLE 4 : .....

TABLE 4 : IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY SECTION

COMMODITY SECTION	JAN.-JULY 1985 ($ MN)	JAN.-JULY 1984 ($ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
MACHINERY AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT	37 033	30 744	+6 289	+20
MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (MAINLY TEXTILE PRODUCTS, DIAMONDS, IRON, STEEL AND PAPER)	35 795	37 100	-1 305	- 4
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY WATCHES, CLOCKS AND ARTICLES OF APPAREL)	24 298	21 563	+2 735	+13
FOOD AND LIVE ANIMALS CHIEFLY FOR FOOD	10 782	11 472	- 690	- 6
CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	8 892	8 826	+ 65	+ 1
MINERAL FUELS, LUBRICANTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	6 300	7 199	- 899	-12

TABLE 5 : RE-EXPORTS BY TEN MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN.-JULY 1985 ($ MN)	JAN.-JULY 1984 ($ MN)	INCREASE(+)/ DECREASE(-) ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
CHINA	28 575	12 510	+16 065	+128
U.S.A.	8 074	6 682	+ 1 392	+ 21
JAPAN	3 128	2 564	+ 564	+ 22
TAIWAN	2 551	2 837	- 286	- 10

/SINGAPORE .....

SINGAPORE	2 340	2 707	- 367	- 14
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	2 036	2 049	- 13	- 1
MACAU	1 609	1 379	+ 231	+ 17
INDONESIA	1 560	2 207	- 647	- 29
SAUDI ARABIA	789	798	- 9	- 1
PHILIPPINES	788	773	+ 15	+ 2

TABLE 6 : RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN.-JULY 1985 ($ MN)	JAN.-JULY 1984 ($ MN)	INCREASE(+) ($ MN)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	8 786	6 857	+1 929	+ 28
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES	5 802	4 574	+1 229	+ 27
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	4 731	1 751	+2 980	+170
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4 130	3 618	+ 512	+ 14
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	3 952	2 537	+1 415	+ 56
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3 214	2 763	+ 451	+ 16

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33 MORE BUILDING PLANS APPROVED

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THIRTY-THREE BUILDING PLANS WERE APPROVED BY THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE IN JULY -- 11 ON HONG KONG ISLAND, SEVEN IN KOWLOON AND 15 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THEY INCLUDED A 26-STOREY APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL BUILDING AT BONHAM ROAD, A 30-STOREY COMMERCIAL BUILDING AT THE JUNCTION OF QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WING FUNG STREET AND WING LOK LANE, A 20-STOREY HOTEL BUILDING AT GLOUCESTER ROAD AND MARSH ROAD, A 14-STOREY CINEMA-APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL BUILDING AT KOWLOON CITY ROAD, AND A TWO-STOREY SCHOOL EXTENSION AT TAI PO MARKET.

THE SAME MONTH, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE GAVE PERMISSION FOR WORK TO START ON 41 PROJECTS -- 15 ON HONG KONG ISLAND, NINE IN KOWLOON AND 17 IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THESE PROJECTS INCLUDED TWO APARTMENT BLOCKS AT SOUTH BAY ROAD; AN APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL BLOCK FOR THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION'S FORTRESS HILL DEVELOPMENT, A HOTEL AT PRAT AVENUE, A FOOTBRIDGE AT PO LO TSUI ON LAMMA ISLAND AND AN APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL BLOCK AT SAI KUNG.

THE TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF THESE 41 PROJECTS WAS 294 793 SQUARE METRES, OF WHICH 194 976.5 SQUARE METRES WERE FOR NON-DOMESTIC PURPOSES AND THE REMAINDER FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

ALSO IN JULY, 34 OCCUPATION PERMITS WERE ISSUED FOR NEWLY-COMPLETED BUILDINGS.

THEY INCLUDED A 22-STOREY APARTMENT-COMMERCIAL BLOCK AT ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD AND TUNG SING ROAD, TWO FIVE-STOREY APARTMENT BLOCKS AT VILLAGE TERRACE, A 10-STOREY COMMERCIAL BLOCK AT JAVA ROAD, A SEVEN-STOREY KINDERGARTEN-NURSERY BLOCK AT THE JUNCTION OF LEIGHTON ROAD AND TUNG LO WAN ROAD AND A NINE-STOREY VOCATIONAL TRAINING SCHOOL AT TAI LIN PAI ROAD AND SAN KWAI STREET IN KWAI CHUNG.

THE TOTAL FLOOR AREA OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS 233 714.8 SQUARE METRES, OF WHICH 102 979.7 SQUARE METRES WERE FOR NON-DOMESTIC PURPOSES AND THE REMAINDER FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF THESE BUILDINGS WAS ABOUT $1 020 MILLION.

THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE ALSO ISSUED SEVEN DEMOLITION ORDERS ON 14 BUILDINGS.

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RESTAURANT FINED FOR USING BORIC ACID

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY WARNED OPERATORS OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS NOT TO USE BORIC ACID IN PRESERVING FOOD BECAUSE IT IS A BANNED PRESERVATIVE.

THIS FOLLOWS A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH THE LICENSEE OF A RESTAURANT IN ABERDEEN WAS PROSECUTED BY A CAUSEWAY BAY COURT MAGISTRATE FOR SELLING FOOD CONTAINING BORIC ACID. THE OFFENDER WAS CONVICTED AND FINED $3 000 PLUS A PAYMENT OF $227 FOR FOOD ANALYSIS.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE OFFENCE CARRIES A MAXIMUM FINE OF $10 000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT. HE WARNED THAT BORIC ACID IS NOT A PERMITTED PRESERVATIVE BECAUSE IT IS AN IRRITANT TO THE STOMACH AND OTHER ORGANS.

+THE DEPARTMENT'S HEALTH INSPECTORS ARE REGULARLY TAKING FOOD SAMPLES FROM VARIOUS RESTAURANTS AND WALL STALLS FOR ANALYSIS TO ENSURE THAT BORIC ACID IS NOT CONTAINED IN FOOD FOR PUBLIC CONSUMPTION,+ HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT'S HEALTH STAFF ARE ALSO REGULARLY TESTING FOOD SAMPLES FROM RESTAURANTS AND WALL STALLS TO FIND OUT IF THEY USE SALICYLIC ACID IN PREPARING FOOD.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SOME UNSCRUPULOUS FOOD OPERATORS AND ILLEGAL HAWKERS ADD SALICYLIC ACID TO FISH BALLS AND MEAT BALLS TO MAKE THEM LOOK FRESH.

HE WARNED THAT SALICYLIC ACID IS TOXIC WHEN TAKEN BY MOUTH AND CAN CAUSE DIZZINESS, NAUSEA, VOMITTING, MENTAL CONFUSION AND IRRITATION OF THE GASTRIC MUCOSA WITH EROSION AND ULCERATION.

+IN SEVERE CASES WHERE LARGE DOSES OF THE CHEMICAL ARE TAKEN, DEATH MAY OCCUR,+ SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

+THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR SELLING FOOD WITH SALICYLIC ACID IS ALSO $10 000 FINE AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.+

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FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY, RETAIL TRADE GOING METRIC

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THE LOCAL FOOTWEAR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AND RETAIL TRADE ARE GOING METRIC.

MOST MANUFACTURERS ARE ALREADY USING A NEW METRIC CLASSIFICATION, KNOWN AS THE +FRENCH SHOE SIZING SYSTEM+ AND RETAILERS ARE FOLLOWING THIS.

THE METRICATION COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT HAS SENT LETTER WITH CONVERSION CHARTS TO ALL SHOE RETAIL OUTLETS URGING THEM TO SPEED UP THE CHANGE.

THE FRENCH SYSTEM -- ALSO KNOWN AS THE EUROPEAN CONTINENTAL SHOE SIZING SYSTEM -- IS THE ACCEPTED CLASSIFICATION IN THE EEC COUNTRIES, CHINA AND MOST OF THE WORLD.

UNDER THE SYSTEM, SHOE SIZES RANGE FROM 15 TO 46 WITH THREE SIZES FOR EVERY TWO CONSECUTIVE CENTIMETRES.

ONLY SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS OF EXISTING MACHINERY ARE NECESSARY FOR THE CONVERSION.

AND TO HELP PROMOTE THE USE OF THE FRENCH SYSTEM, 7 500 SHOE SIZE RULERS HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO FOOTWEAR MANUFACTURERS AND RETAILERS.

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A 'TREMENDOUS BURST' OF PLANTING

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THERE WAS A +TREMENDOUS BURST+ OF PLANTING THROUGHOUT THE CITY AREAS OF HONG KONG IN 1984-85, THE URBAN COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR LAST YEAR RECORDS. THE RESULTS: 22 000 NEW TREES, 1 250 BAMBOOS, 265 000 SHRUBS, 284 000 GROUND-COVER PLANTS, 4 440 CLIMBERS AND SOME 223 400 FLOWERING ANNUALS.

+THIS WAS BY FAR THE HIGHEST RATE OF PLANTING ACHIEVED IN ANY YEAR,+ STATES THE REPORT. +IT WAS THE CLIMAX OF A STEADY INCREASE IN OUTPUT WHICH HAS SEEN THE ANNUAL VOLUME OF PERMANENT LANDSCAPE PLANTING RAISED SOME 400 PER CENT ABOVE THAT ACHIEVED IN 1978+.

THE REPORT, RECENTLY PUBLISHED UNDER THE TITLE +INCOMPARABLE HONG KONG+, POINTS OUT THAT GREENERY AND NATURAL VEGETATION ARE A +TREASURED RESOURCE FOR THOSE WHOSE LIVES ARE SET MAINLY IN A CONTEXT OF TOWERING BLOCKS OF CONCRETE AND STEEL.+

/THE COUNCIL, ...

THE COUNCIL, THE REPORT ADDS, +STRIVES BOTH TO DEFEND AND PRESERVE EXISTING GREENERY AND TO CREATE NEW ISLANDS OF NATURAL VEGETATION, HOWEVER SMALL, IN ANY LOCATION WHERE PLANTING IS POSSIBLE -- INCLUDING ROADSIDES AND THE UNDERSIDES OF FLYOVER COMPLEXES.+

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLANTING PROGRAMME IS ALSO UNDERSCORED IN A FOREWORD TO THE REPORT, BY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN HILTON CHEONG-LEEN. AFTER EMPHASISING THE COUNCIL'S +ON-GOING COMMITMENT TO THE 'GREENING' OF HONG KONG+, HE NOTES: +LONG YEARS OF EFFORT IN PLANTING AND LANDSCAPING ARE NOW BEARING VISIBLE FRUIT, ESPECIALLY ON AND AROUND OUR HIGHWAYS.+

+INCOMPARABLE HONG KONG+, PRICED AT $15, IS ON SALE AT THE URBAN COUNCIL SALES OUTLETS AT THE CITY HALL, KOWLOON CENTRAL LIBRARY AND IN ICE HOUSE STREET AS WELL AS AT LEADING BOOKSHOPS.

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YOUTHS URGED TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY

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THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS BRENDA FUNG, TODAY (SUNDAY) CALLED ON YOUNG PEOPLE TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

MRS FUNG WAS SPEAKING TO A GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN AN ORIENTATION CAMP WHICH OPENED THE COMMUNITY IN PERSPECTIVE SCHEME, A COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECT, IN FAIRVIEW PARK COUNTRY CLUB.

NOTING THAT CIVIC EDUCATION WAS EVERYBODY'S RESPONSIBILITY, MRS FUNG SAID THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE HAD A ROLE TO PLAY IN PROMOTING CIVIC EDUCATION.

+WITH THEIR EXPERIENCE IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE ABLE TO DEVELOP THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NECESSARY TO BECOME RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS WHO CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT,+ SHE ADDED.

MRS FUNG ALSO URGED PARTICIPANTS TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT AS CITIZENS TO SIGN UP AS ELECTORS IN THE CURRENT VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE SO THAT THEY COULD VOTE IN THE DISTRICT BOARD, URBAN COUNCIL, AND REGIONAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

MRS FUNG WAS TOLD THAT A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES HAD BEEN DRAWN UP IN THE COMING MONTHS FOR PARTICIPANTS WHICH INCLUDE LECTURES, VISITS, FORUMS AND SEMINARS.

/THEY WILL .....

THEY WILL ALSO TAKE PART IN STUDIES ON LOCAL PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE CAUSED MUCH CONCERN AMONG RESIDENTS IN MONG KOK. THEY WILL BE COLLECTING INFORMATION ON THE OBSTRUCTION AND NUISANCE CAUSED BY SIGNBOARDS IN MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS AND THE EFFECT OF BILLIARD PARLOURS AND VIDEO GAME CENTRES ON TEENAGERS.

THE COMMUNITY IN PERSPECTIVE SCHEME, SPONSORED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD, IS AIMED AT ENHANCING YOUNG PEOPLE'S KNOWLEDGE IN THEIR COMMUNITY AND FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.

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CAMPSITES AVAILABLE FOR OUTDOOR EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

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TO PROVIDE SCHOOL CHILDREN WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF LIVING IN A NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, A NUMBER OF CAMPSITES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SECONDARY, PRIMARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS ORGANISING OUTDOOR EDUCATION ACTIVITIES ON WEEKDAYS.

SEVEN CAMPSITES ARE EARMARKED FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO ENABLE SCHOOLS TO EXTEND CLASSROOM THEORY INTO FIELDWORK, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

EIGHT CAMPSITES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE INTEGRATION OF SCHOOL SUBJECTS IN CAMPING SITUATIONS.

THE CAMPSITES ARE AT GAUDETE HOUSE ON CHEUNG CHAU, SILVERMINE BAY OUTDOOR RECREATION CAMP, Y.W.C.A. YOUTH CAMP ON LANTAO ISLAND, WU KAI SHA YOUTH VILLAGE, MA WAN YOUTH CAMP, WONG YEE CHAU YOUTH CAMP, PO LEUNG KUK HOLIDAY CAMP, CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE SUEN DOUH CAMP, PAK TAM CHUNG HOLIDAY CAMP AND HIGH ROCK CHRISTIAN CENTRE.

THERE ARE ALSO EIGHT CAMPSITES FOR SPECIAL SCHOOLS FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED OR PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. SEVEN OF THE SITES ARE ALSO AT THE GAUDETE HOUSE, WU KAI SHA, MA WAN, SILVERMINE BAY, Y.W.C.A., PAK TAM CHUNG AND SUEN DOUH, WHILE THE EIGHTH CAMPSITE IS THE PHAB CENTRE.

+THE DEPARTMENT WILL PAY BOARD AND LODGING CHARGES FOR ACCOMPANYING TEACHERS AND GIVE A SUBSIDY TOWARDS CAMP CHARGES OF ALL SECONDARY AND PRIMARY STUDENT-CAMPERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+SPECIAL SCHOOL STUDENTS WOULD BE FULLY FINANCED BY THE SIR ROBERT HO TUNG CHARITABLE FUND AND THEREFORE NO FEES WILL BE CHARGED,+ HE SAID.

/HE ADDED .....

HE ADDED THAT NO STUDENTS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO ATTEND ANY CAMP WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENTS.

HEADS OF SCHOOLS WISHING TO USE THE FACILITIES ARE ADVISED TO CONTACT THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AT KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SIXTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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CAS CADETS COMPETE IN FOOTDRILL

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SOME 460 CIVIL AID SERVICES CADETS FROM 21 TEAMS AROUND THE TERRITORY TOOK PART IN AN INTER-UNIT FOOTDRILL COMPETITION THIS (SUNDAY) MORNING.

FOOTDRILL IS IMPORTANT IN INSTILLING DISCIPLINE AND TEAM SPIRIT AMONG MEMBERS, A CAS SPOKESMAN SAID.

AFTER THE COMPETITION, CAS TACTICAL FORCE COMMANDER, MR WU MAN-KONG, PRESENTED PRIZES TO THE TOP THREE TEAMS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE IN DRILL PERFORMANCE AND UNIFORM.

THE CHAMPION TEAM -- THE KOWLOON CITY CADET UNIT -- WAS AWARDED THE NORMAN LEUNG SHIELD.

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REFRESHMENT KIOSK OFFERED

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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SALE OF LIGHT REFRESHMENT AT THE YUEN WO PLAYGROUND, A MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS COMPLEX FOR RESIDENTS OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN.

FACILITIES IN THE PLAYGROUND INCLUDE SIX TENNIS COURTS, FOUR BASKETBALL COURTS, TWO MINI-SOCCER PITCHES, A CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA AND SITTING-OUT AREAS.

THE TENDER PERIOD IS FOR THREE YEARS STARTING NOVEMBER 1.

TENDER FORMS, WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE RSD ON LEVEL 4, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN, SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE TENDER BOX AT RSD HEADQUARTERS AT SWIRE AND MACLAINE HOUSE (AUSTIN CENTRE), THIRD FLOOR, 19-23 AUSTIN AVENUE, TSIM SHA TSUI, BEFORE 9 AM ON OCTOBER 11. LATE SUBMISSION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY CALL THE RSD'S SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 0-6065720 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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LANDS AND WORKS GROUP'S SWIMMING GALA

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THE LANDS AND WORKS GROUP OF DEPARTMENTS HELD ITS THIRD SWIMMING GALA AT THE PAO YUE KONG SWIMMING POOL COMPLEX AT SHUM WAN ROAD TODAY (SUNDAY).

ABOUT 300 PERSONS TOOK PART IN 25 EVENTS.

ONE OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY'S EVENTS WAS THE 4 X 50 METRES INVITATION RELAY IN WHICH SIX GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS COMPETED.

PRIZES WERE PRESENTED TO WINNERS BY THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS, MR NICKY CHAN, MRS CHAN AND DIRECTORS OF DEPARTMENTS.

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FRESH AND SALT WATER CUTS

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SHEUNG WAN WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (SEPTEMBER 18) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY SHING WONG STREET, HOLLYWOOD ROAD, LADDER STREET AND CIRCULAR PATHWAY, INCLUDING 270-276 QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL AND 1-2 TSUI ON LANE.

SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN YAU MA TEI AND MONG KOK WILL ALSO BE TURNED OFF FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY JORDAN ROAD, GASCOIGNE ROAD, NATHAN ROAD, WATERLOO ROAD, YIM PO FONG STREET, ARGYLE STREET, SAI YEE STREET, BOUNDARY STREET AND THE WATERFRONT.

MEANWHILE, PRESSURE WILL BE WEAK ON FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN TSIM SHA TSUI FROM 10 PM ON WEDNESDAY TO 8 AM THE NEXT DAY, DUE TO MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY AUSTIN ROAD, CHEONG WAN ROAD, THE SITE OF THE OLD KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION AND THE WATERFRONT.

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