



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ARTS ACADEMY FACILITIES AMONG FINEST - DUCHESS  
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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT TODAY (MONDAY) OFFICIALLY OPENED THE NEW THEATRE BLOCK OF THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, SHE CONGRATULATED THE ORGANISERS ON +THE EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENT OF COMPLETING THIS BUILDING, WITH ALL ITS COMPLEXITIES, IN SO SHORT A TIME+.

+THESE ARE SOME OF THE FINEST FACILITIES ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD,+ SHE SAID.

+THE DECISION TO INVEST SO MUCH WEALTH AND EFFORT IN THIS ACADEMY SEEMS TO ME TO HAVE BEEN AS BOLD AS IT WAS TIMELY, COMING AT A MOMENT WHEN SO MUCH LOOKED UNCERTAIN.+

THE DUCHESS THEN WATCHED A THREE-HOUR PERFORMANCE OF DON GIOVANNI BY THE GLYNDEBOURNE OPERA COMPANY IN THE NEW AUDITORIUM.

SHE HAD LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE ACADEMY IN 1982.

EARLIER TODAY, THE DUCHESS, ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, HAD VISITED THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL IN SHA TIN.

THERE SHE SHOWED KEEN INTEREST IN THE RED CROSS HOSPITAL SCHOOL, CONDUCTED IN THE PAEDIATRIC WARD AND SAW CHILDREN LISTENING TO A STORY FROM A CASSETTE RECORDER.

WITH THE HELP OF AN INTERPRETER, SHE SPENT SOME TIME CHATTING WITH THE PUPILS - AND THEN SURPRISED THEM - BY SPEAKING IN CANTONESE THE WORDS +GOOD MORNING+ AND +GOOD BYE+ .

AS SHE LEFT, SHE SMILINGLY ASKED IF ANY OF THE CHILDREN WISHED TO GO BACK TO BRITAIN WITH HER, BUT RECEIVED NO REPLY.

THE DUCHESS ALSO TOURED THE GERIATRIC AND WOMEN'S MEDICAL WARDS.

AFTERWARDS, ACCOMPANIED BY MR CHAMBERS SHE WENT TO THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY, WHERE SHE WAS WELCOMED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL, MR Q.W. LEE AND THE VICE CHANCELLOR, DR MA LIN.

THE DUCHESS SAW A SLIDE SHOW ON UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES AND TOURED THE ART GALLERY, WHERE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS FROM THE JIN TO THE TANG PERIODS UNCOVERED IN GUANGDONG, WERE BEING DISPLAYED.

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DUCHESS VISITS PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL  
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HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUCHESS OF KENT SPENT AN HOUR AT THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL IN SHA TIN TODAY (MONDAY) TO SEE THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT OF THE HOSPITAL WHICH SHE HAD OPENED THREE YEARS AGO.

THE 1 446-BED HOSPITAL, WHICH SERVES AS A REGIONAL HOSPITAL FOR THE EAST NEW TERRITORIES AND A TEACHING HOSPITAL FOR THE MEDICAL FACULTY OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED BY THE DUCHESS IN NOVEMBER, 1982.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR JOHN CHAMBERS, THE DUCHESS OF KENT WAS GREETED ON ARRIVAL AT THE HOSPITAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, DR K.L. THONG, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES, DR S.H. LEE AND OTHER SENIOR STAFF.

THE DUCHESS WENT FIRST TO A MEMORIAL PLAQUE, WHICH SHE HAD PERSONALLY UNVEILED WHEN SHE ATTENDED THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE HOSPITAL.

SHE WAS HAPPY TO LEARN THAT THE FOUR-PHASE COMMISSIONING PROGRAMME OF THE \$713.5 MILLION HOSPITAL HAD BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED IN JULY LAST YEAR AND WAS PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF MEDICAL FACILITIES, INCLUDING A 24-HOUR ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY SERVICE.

SHE WAS LATER TAKEN ON A TOUR OF THE GERIATRIC DAY HOSPITAL IN THE MAIN BLOCK WHERE SHE WAS WELCOMED BY PROFESSOR JOHN VALLANCE-OWEN, PROFESSOR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE OF THE UNIVERSITY.

PROFESSOR VALLANCE-OWEN EXPLAINED THAT THE UNIT AIMED TO HELP THE AGED TO LIVE AN INDEPENDENT LIFE AND TO OVERCOME SOCIAL PROBLEMS LIKE LONELINESS, AND PROVIDED THEM WITH TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION SERVICES.

SOME 20 ELDERLY PEOPLE GO EVERY DAY TO USE THE UNIT'S FACILITIES.

AT THE WOMEN'S MEDICAL WARD, THE DUCHESS MET A GROUP OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

AT THE PAEDIATRIC WARD, THERE WAS A LITTLE SURPRISE WAITING FOR THE DUCHESS.

AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD BOY PATIENT, WU KAM-LAN, GREETED HER AND PRESENTED HER WITH A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS.

THE DUCHESS, ACCOMPANIED BY PROFESSOR DAVID DAVIES, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE PAEDIATRIC UNIT, THEN TOURED THE WARD AND TALKED TO SOME YOUNG PATIENTS WHO WERE HAVING THEIR LESSONS AT THE RED CROSS HOSPITAL SCHOOL SET UP THERE.

THE SCHOOL, RUN BY THE RED CROSS SCHOOLS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE, PROVIDES TUITION FOR YOUNG PATIENTS WHILE THEY ARE IN HOSPITAL. THERE ARE THREE TEACHERS, SERVING AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 35 CHILDREN FROM VARIOUS UNITS IN THE HOSPITAL.

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PROPERTY MARKET HEALTHY, SAYS LAND AGENT

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THE PROPERTY MARKET IS NOW HEALTHY AND POSITIVE AND SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS ARE BEING MADE IN VARIOUS DEVELOPMENTS WHICH SIGNIFY LONG-TERM CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG.

THIS WAS SAID TODAY BY THE GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT, MR BOB POPE, IN A SPEECH TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF VICTORIA.

HE LISTED AS EXAMPLES THE 6TH KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINAL, THE SITE OF THE CHINA PASSENGER FERRY TERMINAL AT CANTON ROAD, ANOTHER SITE AT CANTON ROAD PURCHASED BY THE AW SIAN GROUP AND THE SITE AT VICTORIA BARRACKS PURCHASED BY MESSRS. SWIRE PROPERTIES, WHO WERE ALSO INTERESTED IN OBTAINING THE ADJOINING SITE WHICH WOULD PROBABLY BE OFFERED FOR AUCTION IN MAY.

+I AM PLEASED TO SAY, AS AN AUCTIONEER OF GOVERNMENT LAND, THAT WE HAVE HAD A 100 PER CENT SALES RECORD FOR ALL SITES OFFERED FOR AUCTION.

+ADMITTEDLY TWO PURCHASERS DID NOT SUBSEQUENTLY COMPLETE, BUT THESE ARE BEING OFFERED FOR RESALE AND I SEE NO DIFFICULTY IN RESELLING THEM, ALTHOUGH AT POSSIBLY MORE SENSIBLE PRICES,+ HE SAID.

ON RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION MR POPE SAID THE DEMAND HAD BEEN +TREMENDOUS+.

THE LAND OFFICE HAD REGISTERED SOME 54 000 SALES AGREEMENTS WHICH WAS AN 80 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THOSE REGISTERED LAST YEAR.

THIS WAS LARGELY DUE TO A 30 PER CENT INCREASE IN SUPPLY AND IT WAS EXPECTED THAT PRICES WOULD REMAIN STEADY OVER THE NEXT YEAR, PARTICULARLY AS THERE WERE MANY LARGE PROJECTS STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION SUCH AS WHAMPOA GARDENS, KORNHILL AND HENG FA CHUEN.

+THERE WERE SIGNS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE YEAR THAT SPECULATION WAS EMERGING AND QUEUES OF INTENDING PURCHASERS WERE QUITE COMMON,+ MR POPE SAID.

+THIS WORRIED GOVERNMENT SO MUCH THAT THERE WAS TALK OF LEGISLATION BEING ENACTED TO CONTROL SPECULATION.+

HOWEVER, BY THE END OF THE YEAR, IT WAS QUITE APPARENT THAT THE SPECULATION WAS SHORT-LIVED AND MANY DEVELOPERS TOOK A REASONABLE ATTITUDE AND INTRODUCED A BALLOT SYSTEM OF FLAT ALLOCATION RATHER THAN A QUEUING SYSTEM.

GOVERNMENT WAS ALSO CONSIDERING RAISING THE DEPOSIT NECESSARY TO RESERVE FLATS WHICH WOULD AGAIN DETER SPECULATORS, HE SAID.

/THE LUXURY .....

THE LUXURY END OF THE MARKET SHOWED A MUCH STRONGER RECOVERY AS IT WAS THIS SECTOR WHICH WAS WORST HIT DURING THE PROPERTY RECESSION, HE CONTINUED.

HOWEVER, THE YEAR OF THE OX SAW THE RELEASE OF +PENT-UP DEMAND+ AIDED BY LOW-INTEREST RATES AND AN OVERALL INCREASE IN CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG.

THERE WERE SIGNS THAT MANY FOREIGN FIRMS WERE SETTING UP OFFICES IN HONG KONG AND REQUIRED ACCOMMODATION FOR THEIR EXECUTIVES.

IN FACT, THERE WERE SIGNS OF A RATHER TOO RAPID INCREASE IN PRICES, BUT WITH THE SUPPLY OF LARGER-SIZE FLATS THE INCREASING DEMAND WAS MET, AND A MORE STEADY RECOVERY WAS NOW APPARENT.

MR POPE SAID THE OFFICE SECTOR HAD SHOWN A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT AS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE OVER-SUPPLY AND A LOW OCCUPANCY RATE.

CURRENTLY, IT WAS APPARENT THAT THERE WAS A PRACTICALLY 100 PER CENT OCCUPANCY RATE WITHIN THE TSIM SHA TSUI AREA AND WITH THE LIMITED SUPPLY OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION IN THAT LOCALITY THIS MAY WELL LEAD IN THE SHORT TERM TO AN INCREASE IN PRICES AND RENTALS.

HOWEVER, WITH THE OVER-SUPPLY OF OFFICES IN CENTRAL DISTRICT OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, THERE HAD BEEN A NARROWING OF THE RENTAL SPREAD BETWEEN OFFICES IN CENTRAL AND ELSEWHERE AND THIS WAS ENCOURAGING MOVEMENT BACK TO CENTRAL WHERE HIGH QUALITY OFFICE SPACE WAS AVAILABLE AT REASONABLE RENTALS.

THERE WERE SIGNS, HE SAID, THAT OFFICE ACCOMMODATION IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WOULD BE IN RELATIVELY SHORT SUPPLY OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS, BUT THIS WAS LIKELY TO BE A TEMPORARY SITUATION AS THERE WOULD BE A NUMBER OF NEW PROJECTS COMING ON STREAM IN 1988.

THEREFORE, OFFICE SALE PRICES AND RENTALS IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WERE NOT EXPECTED TO SHOW MUCH OF AN INCREASE.

THE MOST ENCOURAGING SECTOR OF THE PROPERTY MARKET WAS THE PRICES BEING OBTAINED FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND AND THE IMPROVEMENT IN OCCUPANCY RATES FOR INDUSTRIAL PREMISES, MR POPE SAID.

THE HIGH PRICES OBTAINED FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND IN THE EARLY 1980'S DID HONG KONG NO GOOD AND DISCOURAGED GENUINE INDUSTRIALISTS.

LAND IN KOWLOON BAY INDUSTRIAL AREA WAS CURRENTLY SELLING AT ABOUT HALF THE PRICES OBTAINED IN 1980.

HOWEVER, THIS WAS A VAST IMPROVEMENT ON PRICES OBTAINED IN 1982 WHEN VALUES 1/10TH OF 1980 PRICES WERE REALISED.

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+THERE ARE CURRENTLY QUITE A NUMBER OF SITES BEING DEVELOPED IN KOWLOON BAY AND SIGNS THAT THIS AREA WILL SHORTLY BECOME A MUCH SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION FOR INDUSTRIALISTS WITH ITS CLOSE PROXIMITY TO A SKILLED WORKFORCE AND TO THE AIRPORT AND CONTAINER TERMINAL,+ HE SAID.

THERE WAS CURRENTLY A STRONG INDICATION THAT MANY OF THE INDUSTRIAL SITES WERE BEING PURCHASED BY END USERS, GENUINE INDUSTRIALISTS RATHER THAN PROPERTY DEVELOPERS.

PRICES OBTAINED FOR THREE INDUSTRIAL SITES SOLD AT A RECENT AUCTION, WHICH HE UNDERSTOOD WERE PURCHASED BY GENUINE INDUSTRIALIST, INDICATED A STEADY, CONFIDENT LONG-TERM INVESTMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS IN HONG KONG, DESPITE THE THREAT OF PROTECTIONISM AND THE DROP IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

MR POPE SAID PROPERTY VALUES HAD RALLIED AND, INDEED, INCREASED SOMEWHAT OVER THE YEAR OF THE OX AND THERE WERE SIGNS OF RENEWED CONFIDENCE AND LONG-TERM STABILITY.

+THE PROSPECTS FOR THE COMING YEAR OF THE TIGER ARE LOOKING GOOD,+ MR POPE SAID.

+I SINCERELY HOPE THAT PROPERTY DEVELOPERS AND FINANCE INSTITUTIONS, WHO ARE THE BACKBONE OF THE PROPERTY MARKET, HAVE LEARNED THEIR LESSONS FROM THE PROPERTY BOOM IN 1981 AND ITS SUBSEQUENT CRASH AND WILL CONTINUE WITH THE STEADY, RESPONSIBLE APPROACH THEY SHOWED THIS YEAR.

+SOOTHSAYERS HAVE PREDICTED THAT THE YEAR OF THE TIGER COMBINED WITH THE PASSING OF HALLEY'S COMET WOULD SEE A DIFFICULT YEAR FOR HONG KONG, BUT IT IS MY VIEW THAT THE PROPERTY MARKET IN HONG KONG HAS SHOWED TREMENDOUS STRENGTH AND MATURITY IN PULLING OUT OF THE BAD RECESSION AND I TRUST AND BELIEVE THIS WILL CONTINUE INTO THE YEAR OF THE TIGER,+ HE CONCLUDED.

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#### MONETARY STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER 1985

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BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW FASTER IN DECEMBER THAN IN NOVEMBER, ACCORDING TO MONETARY STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY).

THE GROWTH IN FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS CONTINUED TO BE FASTER THAN THAT IN HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS, REFLECTING AT LEAST IN PART A FURTHER INCREASE IN FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS, AS THE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN MONEY MARKET RATES AND THE HKAB DEPOSIT RATES WIDENED.

/MONEY SUPPLY .....

MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS INCREASED. EXCEPT FOR M1 (THE NARROWEST DEFINITION), THE TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY INCREASED FASTER THAN THE CORRESPONDING HONG KONG DOLLAR COMPONENTS.

LOANS AND ADVANCES FELL IN DECEMBER. LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG INCREASED MODERATELY FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE MONTH, AFTER HAVING FALLEN CONTINUOUSLY FOR SIX MONTHS; OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG RECORDED SOME DECLINE.

TWO TABLES WILL BE SENT BY FACSIMILE NETWORK, AND WILL BE BOXED SEPARATELY.

TABLE 1 SETS OUT SUMMARY FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1985 AND COMPARISONS WITH EARLIER MONTHS. TABLE 2 SETS OUT FIGURES FROM THE QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR.

#### DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS INCREASED FURTHER BY 1.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 0.4 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 3 PER CENT AND OVER THE YEAR THE GROWTH RATE WAS 9.8 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW RAPIDLY BY 3 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 2.8 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 8.5 PER CENT AND OVER THE YEAR THE GROWTH RATE WAS 35.2 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS ALSO INCREASED, BY 2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 1.8 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THESE DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 1.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, THE SAME AS THE UNADJUSTED GROWTH RATE, AND BY 3 PER CENT IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER; ADJUSTED FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW SLIGHTLY FASTER, AT 3.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER AND AT 9.3 PER CENT IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER.

DEPOSITS (ALL CURRENCIES) WITH BANKS INCREASED BY 2.1 PER CENT IN DECEMBER FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 1.6 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER; TOTAL DEPOSITS WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES GREW BY 2.2 PER CENT AFTER HAVING REMAINED UNCHANGED IN NOVEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, THE GROWTH OF TOTAL DEPOSITS WITH BANKS WAS 6.8 PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF DEPOSITS WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES WAS 2 PER CENT; OVER THE YEAR, THE RESPECTIVE GROWTH RATES WERE 24 PER CENT AND 13.1 PER CENT.

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS INCREASED. HK\$M1 (THE NARROWEST DEFINITION) ROSE BY 1.2 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 0.4 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 ROSE BY 1.5 PER CENT AND 1.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY; THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN NOVEMBER WERE 0.9 PER CENT AND 0.6 PER CENT. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, HK\$M1 GREW BY 1.1 PER CENT, HK\$M2 BY 3.9 PER CENT, AND HK\$M3 BY 3.3 PER CENT; OVER THE YEAR, THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES WERE 25.4 PER CENT, 12.8 PER CENT AND 12 PER CENT.

AFTER ADJUSTING FOR SWAP DEPOSITS, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 GREW marginally faster, AT 1.6 PER CENT AND 1.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN DECEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 3.7 PER CENT AND 3.2 PER CENT.

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS ROSE FURTHER IN DECEMBER. TOTAL M1 GREW BY 0.5 PER CENT, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 0.7 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 GREW BY 2.2 PER CENT AND 2.3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY; THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN NOVEMBER WERE 2 PER CENT AND 1.7 PER CENT. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, TOTAL M1 FELL BY 0.9 PER CENT, WHILE TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 GREW BY 6.5 PER CENT AND 5.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY; OVER THE YEAR, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 23 PER CENT, 24.2 PER CENT AND 22.6 PER CENT.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY 1.4 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, AGAINST AN INCREASE OF 1.8 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER THESE GREW BY 1.1 PER CENT AND OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS BY 4.5 PER CENT. LOANS DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS GREW BY 0.3 PER CENT AND LOANS DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES FELL BY 3 PER CENT IN DECEMBER. THE CORRESPONDING RATE OF GROWTH IN NOVEMBER WERE 1.5 PER CENT AND 2.1 PER CENT. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, THE FORMER GREW BY 1 PER CENT WHILE THE LATTER GREW BY 1.1 PER CENT.

WITHIN THE TOTAL, LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG ROSE BY 2 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 0.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, THESE LOANS GREW BY 1.3 PER CENT AND OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS, THEY FELL BY 5 PER CENT. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG FELL BY 1.5 PER CENT IN DECEMBER, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 2.3 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO DECEMBER, THEY GREW BY 0.5 PER CENT AND OVER THE TWELVE MONTHS BY 6.4 PER CENT.

QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY  
SECTOR

IN THE FOURTH QUARTER, LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED TO THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR FELL BY 3.4 PER CENT, OFFSETTING THE INCREASE RECORDED IN THE THIRD QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR THESE LOANS GREW BY 5 PER CENT. LOANS TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES ROSE BY 3.9 PER CENT, FOLLOWING A MARGINAL DECLINE OF 0.6 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR THESE LOANS GREW BY 4.6 PER CENT. PROBABLY BECAUSE OF IMPROVEMENT IN THE CASH FLOW POSITION OF SOME PROPERTY DEVELOPERS, LOANS TO THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SECTOR FELL FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE QUARTER, BY A SIGNIFICANT 8.3 PER CENT, FOLLOWING A DECLINE OF 4.1 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR THESE LOANS FELL BY 16.7 PER CENT. REFLECTING THE REVIVAL OF THE PROPERTY MARKET, LOANS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (OTHER THAN FLATS IN THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME) CONTINUED TO RISE STRONGLY, BY 5.2 PER CENT, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 7.2 PER CENT IN THE THIRD QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR THESE LOANS GREW BY 23.8 PER CENT.

LIQUIDITY RATIOS

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S. 18 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE) FOR ALL BANKS FELL TO 50.7 PER CENT IN DECEMBER FROM 51.6 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER. THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES (AS DEFINED IN S. 24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE) FELL TO 45.3 PER CENT IN DECEMBER FROM 46.3 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS AND LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 143 AND 35 RESPECTIVELY. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY 2 TO 278.

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - DECEMBER 1985

	(HK\$mm)			
	<u>Dec 1985</u>	Earlier months (% change to December 1985)		
		<u>Nov 1985</u>	<u>Sep 1985</u>	<u>Dec 1984</u>
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	41,806	41,293 (+1.2%)	41,363 (+ 1.1%)	33,351 (+25.4%)
Foreign currency	3,460	3,760 (-8.0%)	4,316 (-19.8%)	3,440 (+ 0.6%)
Total	45,266	45,054 (+0.5%)	45,679 (- 0.9%)	36,791 (+23.0%)
M2 - HK\$	194,641	191,746 (+1.5%)	187,396 (+ 3.9%)	172,547 (+12.8%)
Foreign currency	195,597	190,255 (+2.8%)	178,975 (+ 9.3%)	141,533 (+38.2%)
Total	390,239	382,001 (+2.2%)	366,371 (+ 6.5%)	314,081 (+24.2%)
M3 - HK\$	233,230	229,941 (+1.4%)	225,785 (+ 3.3%)	208,266 (+12.0%)
Foreign currency	242,730	235,162 (+3.2%)	223,756 (+ 8.5%)	180,035 (+34.8%)
Total	475,960	465,102 (+2.3%)	449,541 (+ 5.9%)	388,301 (+22.6%)
<u>Deposits</u>				
Demand deposits	28,409	28,494 (-0.3%)	29,074 (- 2.3%)	23,518 (+20.8%)
Savings deposits	98,765	98,063 (+0.7%)	96,407 (+ 2.4%)	81,150 (+21.7%)
Time deposits with banks	240,050	232,997 (+3.0%)	218,457 (+ 9.9%)	191,436 (+25.4%)
Time deposits with dtcs	81,744	80,015 (+2.2%)	80,161 (+ 2.0%)	72,283 (+13.1%)
All HK\$ deposits	212,132	209,703 (+1.2%)	205,857 (+ 3.0%)	193,190 (+ 9.8%)
All foreign currency deposits	236,837	229,866 (+3.0%)	218,243 (+ 8.5%)	175,198 (+35.2%)
Total	448,968	439,569 (+2.1%)	424,100 (+ 5.9%)	368,387 (+21.9%)
<u>Loans and advances</u>				
To finance Hong Kong's visible trade	30,855	30,259 (+2.0%)	30,459 (+ 1.3%)	32,467 (- 5.0%)
To finance merchandising trade not touching Hong Kong	3,738	3,860 (-3.2%)	4,917 (-24.0%)	4,448 (-16.0%)
Other loans for use in Hong Kong	234,943	238,559 (-1.5%)	233,882 (+ 0.5%)	220,905 (+ 6.4%)
Other loans for use outside Hong Kong	146,319	150,203 (-2.6%)	146,570 (- 0.2%)	142,790 (+ 2.5%)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	24,109	23,285 (+3.5%)	19,475 (+23.8%)	20,439 (+18.0%)
All loans in HK\$	222,929	222,369 (+0.3%)	220,692 (+ 1.0%)	206,930 (+ 7.7%)
All loans in foreign currencies	217,035	223,796 (-3.0%)	214,611 (+ 1.1%)	214,119 (+ 1.4%)
Total	439,964	446,165 (-1.4%)	435,303 (+ 1.1%)	421,049 (+ 4.5%)

TABLE 2 : QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR - DECEMBER 1985

	(HK\$mm)			
	<u>Dec 1985</u>	Earlier quarters (% change to December 1985)		
		<u>Sep 1985</u>	<u>Jun 1985</u>	<u>Dec 1984</u>
Manufacturing	19,726	20,419 (- 3.4%)	19,754 (- 0.1%)	18,793 (+ 5.0%)
Transport and transport equipment	19,744	22,267 (-11.3%)	21,504 (- 8.2%)	20,598 (- 4.1%)
Building, construction and property development	40,080	43,712 (- 8.3%)	45,578 (-12.1%)	48,115 (-16.7%)
Wholesale and retail trade	29,540	28,444 (+ 3.9%)	28,629 (+ 3.2%)	28,245 (+ 4.6%)
Financial concerns (other than banks and deposit-taking companies)	19,532	17,805 (+ 9.7%)	17,568 (+11.2%)	16,950 (+15.2%)
Individuals				
to purchase flats in the Home Ownership Scheme and Private Sector Participation Scheme	5,708	5,713 (- 0.1%)	5,095 (+12.0%)	3,911 (+45.9%)
to purchase other residential property	31,522	29,973 (+ 5.2%)	27,966 (+12.7%)	25,453 (+23.8%)
other purposes	22,989	21,918 (+ 4.9%)	20,443 (+12.5%)	20,065 (+14.6%)
Others	46,102	43,631 (+ 5.7%)	43,041 (+ 7.1%)	38,777 (+18.9%)
Total	234,943	233,882 (+ 0.5%)	229,577 (+ 2.3%)	220,905 (+ 6.4%)

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TRIAD PROBLEM DISCUSSED WITH UMELCO

\* \* \* \*

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY, THAT ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 THE UMELCO SECURITY PANEL MET WITH MR JEAFFRESON, SECRETARY FOR SECURITY AND MR LI KWAN-HA, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE/ OPERATIONS TO DISCUSS THE TRIAD PROBLEM.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UMELCO MEMBERS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT A REVIEW OF THE TRIAD PROBLEM, PRODUCED BY THE POLICE IN 1976, WHICH APPARENTLY UNDER-ESTIMATED THE PROBLEM AND THAT THEY HAD ASKED FOR GOVERNMENT TO EXPLAIN THE SITUATION.

AFTER THE MEETING, UMELCO MEMBERS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE DETAILED STATEMENT GIVEN AT THE MEETING.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IN 1976 THE POLICE PREPARED ON THEIR OWN INITIATIVE, AN ASSESSMENT OF THE TRIAD SITUATION. IT SET OUT TO DESCRIBE THE EXTENT OF TRIAD ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG AT THAT TIME. WHILE IT CONCLUDED THAT THE PROBLEM POSED BY TRIADS WAS VERY REAL, IT PRESENTED A CONFUSED PICTURE IN DESCRIBING THE DEGREE OF ORGANISATION THAT PROBABLY EXISTED IN SOME TRIAD SOCIETIES AND THE EXTENT OF CONTROL EXERTED BY THOSE ORGANISED TRIAD SOCIETIES OVER THEIR MEMBERS.

AT THAT TIME LOW KEY PUBLICITY WAS GIVEN TO THE SITUATION SO AS NOT TO GIVE UNDUE PUBLICITY TO THE TRIADS. WITH HINDSIGHT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THAT APPROACH WAS PROBABLY THE WRONG STRATEGY, IN THAT IT DID NOT ACHIEVE THE EXPECTED RESPONSE.

BUT, HE ADDED, THE REPORT HAD MADE A NUMBER OF CONSTRUCTIVE AND FAR-REACHING PROPOSALS. IT ALSO CONTAINED RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO THE OVERALL STRATEGY TO BE ADOPTED AGAINST TRIADS AND ORGANISED CRIME.

THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED : +THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDING THE POLICE ARE CONTINUING AND SUSTAINING THEIR ACTION AGAINST THESE GANGS. THE POLICE NOW HAS AN ENHANCED CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM WHICH HAS A FAR HIGHER CAPABILITY THAN BEFORE OF BEING ABLE ACCURATELY TO ASSESS THE SITUATION. NEW INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED AND INTRODUCED AND A NUMBER OF INROADS HAVE BEEN MADE.+

+ELSEWHERE, THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP ON GANGS HAVE BEEN VERY ACTIVE,+ HE SAID. +NOT ONLY HAVE VARIOUS PROBLEM AREAS, SUCH AS FISH MARKETS, SQUATTER AREAS AND DECORATION OF HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME FLATS, BEEN LOOKED AT IN DETAIL BUT OPTIONS FOR LEGISLATIVE CHANGES HAVE ALSO BEEN CONSIDERED AND ARE NOW BEING PUT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT APPRECIATES THE CONCERN EXPRESSED BY MEMBERS OF UMELCO AND THE INTEREST THEY HAVE SHOWN. THE GOVERNMENT REASSURES UMELCO AND THE PUBLIC OF THEIR TOTAL COMMITMENT TO THE FIGHT AGAINST TRIADS AND CRIMINALS INVOLVED IN ORGANISED CRIME.

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TRANSPORT PLAN FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY

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SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES NEXT MONDAY (FEBRUARY 10) EVENING, IN CONNECTION WITH THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY OVER VICTORIA HARBOUR AT 8 PM.

BUS, GREEN MINIBUS AND FERRY SERVICES WHICH FALL WITHIN THE CLOSED AREAS ON LAND OR IN THE HARBOUR WILL BE SUSPENDED OR DIVERTED.

THERE WILL BE STEPPED-UP SERVICES BY VARIOUS MODES OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO HELP MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO GO TO VIEW THE FIREWORKS.

THE DETAILS ARE:

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- \* MORE TRIPS WILL BE OPERATED ON CMB ROUTE 15 BETWEEN CENTRAL AND THE PEAK, WITH BUSES RUNNING AT TEN-MINUTE INTERVALS FROM 6 PM.
- \* ADDITIONAL TRAINS WILL ALSO BE DEPLOYED ON THE MTR, AND THE SERVICE WILL OPERATE EVERY THREE MINUTES BETWEEN 2 PM AND 10 PM.
- \* KCRC WILL OPERATE ADDITIONAL TRIPS BETWEEN KOWLOON AND SHEUNG SHUI AFTER THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY. THE TRAINS WILL DEPART FROM KOWLOON AT 8.44 PM, 8.55 PM AND 9.59 PM.
- \* HK TRAMWAYS WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SERVICES BETWEEN NORTH POINT AND WHITTY STREET AND BETWEEN CAUSEWAY BAY AND SHAU KEI WAN AFTER THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY.
- \* HYF AND STAR FERRY WILL OPERATE ADDITIONAL SERVICES.
- \* ADDITIONAL CROSS-HARBOUR BUS SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED.
- \* THE PEAK TRAM WILL EXTEND ITS SERVICES, DEPENDING ON PASSENGER DEMAND.

SUSPENDED SERVICES

- \* CMB ROUTE 780 ALONG THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 5.25 PM.
- \* KMB ROUTE 5A BETWEEN KOWLOON CITY AND STAR FERRY WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 6.05 PM, WHILE KMB ROUTE 208 BETWEEN BROADCAST DRIVE AND TSIM SHA TSUI EAST WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 5.30 PM.

/\* KOWLOON .....

- \* KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 1 FROM TSIM SHA TSUI MTR STATION TO TSIM SHA TSUI EAST WILL BE SUSPENDED DURING THE ROAD CLOSURE.
- \* HYF'S WAN CHAI TO JORDAN ROAD FERRY SERVICE WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 7.20 PM AND 8.40 PM. ITS WAN CHAI TO HUNG HOM ROUTE WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 7.15 PM AND 8.45 PM.

ROUTE DIVERSIONS

- \* A NUMBER OF SERVICES WILL BE DIVERTED AS A RESULT OF ROAD CLOSURE AND RE-ROUTEINGS IN CENTRAL, WAN CHAI, CAUSEWAY BAY AND TSIM SHA TSUI: KMB ROUTES 8, 11A, 21, 24 AND 40= KMB ROUTES 1, 1A, 1K, 2, 2C, 2K, 3, 3C, 4A, 5, 5C, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 9, 13, 26, 28, 68, 70, 71 AND 201= HONG KONG GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 1, 2, 3, 3A, 6, 7, 10, 11, 24M, 25, 25A AND 31= AND KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 6, 7, 8 AND 31M.

TERMINAL CHANGES

- \* THE TERMINAL POINT FOR HONG KONG GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 1, 2, 3 AND 3A WILL BE TEMPORARILY RELOCATED TO CONNAUGHT PLACE FROM 6 PM.
- \* KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 3 WILL TERMINATE AT LOCK ROAD FROM 6.30 PM.
- \* THE STAR FERRY BUS TERMINUS IN TSIM SHA TSUI WILL BE CLOSED FROM 6.30 PM. KMB ROUTES 1, 1A, 2, 6, 6A, 7, 9 AND 26 WILL THEN TERMINATE AT THE CANTON ROAD TEMPORARY TERMINUS BETWEEN KOWLOON PARK DRIVE AND PEKING ROAD. KMB ROUTES 5 AND 5C WILL TERMINATE AT THE BUS TERMINUS ON GRANVILLE ROAD IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST. KMB ROUTES 2C, 8, 28 AND 201 WILL TERMINATE AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST BUS TERMINUS ON SCIENCE MUSEUM ROAD.

SPECIAL ENTRY/EXIT ARRANGEMENTS AT TSIM SHA TSUI MTR STATION

- \* FROM 6 PM TO 8 PM, ALL ENTRANCES OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI MTR STATION WILL BE RESERVED FOR OUT-GOING PASSENGERS EXCEPT THE CAMERON ROAD ENTRANCE, WHICH WILL ONLY ADMIT IN-COMING PASSENGERS.

FROM 8 PM ONWARDS, ALL STATION ENTRANCES WILL BE RESERVED FOR IN-COMING PASSENGERS EXCEPT THE ONE AT CARNARVON ROAD, WHICH WILL BE FOR OUT-GOING PASSENGERS ONLY.

THE HUMPHREYS AVENUE ENTRANCE WILL BE CLOSED THROUGHOUT THE EVENING.

RSD PLANS FUN, GAMES FOR 2 000  
\* \* \* \*

OVER 2 000 PEOPLE ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN 48 RECREATION AND SPORTS PROGRAMMES TO BE ORGANISED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN THE TAI PO DISTRICT IN MARCH AND APRIL.

DISCLOSING THIS AT A MEETING OF THE TAI PO DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL TODAY, THE RSD'S DISTRICT LEISURE MANAGER (TAI PO), MR MARCUS LEE, SAID THE PROGRAMMES WILL INCLUDE TRAINING COURSES IN BADMINTON, WINDSURFING, CANOEING, DANCING AND FITNESS.

COMPETITIVE EVENTS WILL ALSO BE HELD FOR GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS.

ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE AT THE FU SHIN ESTATE, MR LEE SAID THE \$7.9 MILLION PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN MAY.

+THE MAJOR FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED IN THIS CENTRE INCLUDE ONE MULTI-PURPOSE HALL FOR TEAM SPORTS, TWO FUNCTION ROOMS, ONE OFFICE AND FIRST-AID ROOM, ONE DANCE ROOM, ONE FITNESS TRAINING ROOM, ONE VIEWING GALLERY AND BLEACHERS,+ MR LEE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE LATER DECIDED TO NAME THE NEW CENTRE +FU SHIN INDOOR RECREATION CENTRE+.

HE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO TOLD THAT FROM AUGUST 17 TO THE END OF LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 26 CULTURAL PROGRAMMES WERE PRESENTED AT THE TAI PO CIVIC CENTRE, ATTRACTING 9 748 PEOPLE.

THE RSD'S DISTRICT HYGIENE SUPERINTENDENT (TAI PO), MR CHAN CHAI-CHI, TOLD THE COMMITTEE THAT THE DISTRICT'S LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR WILL BE HELD FROM FEBRUARY 2 TO 9 AT THE TAI PO PLAYGROUND. THERE WILL BE 80 STALL SITES - 76 FOR WET GOODS AND FOUR FOR DRY GOODS.

+TO ADD TO THE FESTIVE ATMOSPHERE AND TO ATTRACT RESIDENTS OF TAI PO TO THE FAIR, A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE STAGED ON THE SITE BY THE TAI PO FESTIVAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON FEBRUARY 6 AT 8 PM, TOGETHER WITH A POTTED SPORTS PROGRAMME WITH EIGHT FUN STALLS TO ENTERTAIN CHILDREN ORGANISED BY THE RSD,+ MR CHAN SAID.

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RED PACKETS FOR 6 000 ELDERLY PEOPLE  
\* \* \* \*

RESIDENTS FROM 58 HOSTELS AND HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY TODAY (MONDAY) RECEIVED NEW YEAR +LAI-SEE+ (RED PACKETS) OF \$100 EACH FROM THE SHANGHAI FRATERNITY ASSOCIATION.

A SUM OF \$600 000 HAS BEEN ALLOCATED BY THE ASSOCIATION FOR DISTRIBUTION TO 6 000 ELDERLY PEOPLE.

/THE DISTRIBUTION .....

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THE DISTRIBUTION BEGAN AT THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE AGED QUAN CHUEN HOME FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE BRADBURY HOME FOR THE ELDERLY IN ABERDEEN WHERE ABOUT 390 RESIDENTS RECEIVED THEIR RED PACKETS THIS MORNING. OTHER RESIDENTS OF HOSTELS AND HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY ALSO RECEIVED LAI-SEE LATER ON.

SPEAKING AT THE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY, MRS EVELYN DOE, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, PRAISED THE ASSOCIATION FOR ITS CONCERN FOR THE ELDERLY AND NOTED THAT IT HAD SET AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE FOR OTHER INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL GROUPS.

HELPERS AT THE DISTRIBUTION INCLUDED MR ROBERT WANG, VICE-CHAIRMAN AND MR YAO LING-SUN, HONORARY ADVISER OF THE ASSOCIATION, MRS WANG, MRS YAO, AND MRS CARMELA ROSE TAN.

YESTERDAY, THE ASSOCIATION HAD DISTRIBUTED 100 BLANKETS TO SAINT MARY'S HOME.

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#### GROUP TO DISCUSS BILLIARD CLUBS

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE PROVISIONAL REGIONAL COUNCIL WILL MEET TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO DISCUSS WHETHER BILLIARD CLUBS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO CONTROL.

IT WILL ALSO EXAMINE THE CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON HAWKER CONTROL PREPARED BY A WORKING PARTY OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S MARKETS AND STREET TRADERS SELECT COMMITTEE, AND REFER ANY RELEVANT POINTS TO THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTION.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE A REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR PRIVATE SLAUGHTERHOUSE LICENCES AND THE MECHANISED CLEANSING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE RSD.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK AND GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDING, 2ND FLOOR, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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DRY WEATHER LEADS TO MORE FIRE CALLS  
\* \* \* \*

A MONTHLY RECORD OF 2 345 FIRE CALLS WERE RECEIVED THIS YEAR, REPRESENTING AN 84 PER CENT INCREASE OVER JANUARY 1985.

A FIRE SERVICES SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE DRY WEATHER WAS THE MAIN CAUSE FOR THE OVERALL RISE IN ALL TYPES OF FIRES, INCLUDING HILL FIRES WHICH OCCURRED OUTSIDE THE PLANTATION AREAS.

AS THE LUNAR NEW YEAR IS ROLLING IN, THE PUBLIC SHOULD TAKE EXTRA CAUTION AGAINST POSSIBLE FIRE HAZARDS CAUSED BY THE BURNING OF JOSS STICKS AND JOSS PAPER, THE SPOKESMAN WARNED.

THEY SHOULD NOT LEAVE THE BURNING TRIBUTE UNATTENDED- ALL FIRES HAVE TO BE EXTINGUISHED, HE SAID.

LAST YEAR A TOTAL OF 161 FIRES WERE CAUSED BY THE BURNING OF JOSS STICKS AND JOSS PAPER, HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT EXPERIENCED A BUSY START IN 1986, AS THE NUMBER OF CALLS FOR SPECIAL SERVICES HAD ALSO JUMPED 23 PER CENT FROM 667 IN JANUARY 1985 TO 821 FOR THE SAME MONTH THIS YEAR, WHILE THE NUMBER OF CALLS FOR AMBULANCE SERVICES ROSE 12 PER CENT FROM 27 712 TO 31 097.

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SHAM SHUI PO PLANS BIG YEAR-END FESTIVAL  
\* \* \* \* \*

A FIVE-WEEK FESTIVAL, THE LARGEST EVER PLANNED FOR SHAM SHUI PO, WILL BE HELD AT THE END OF THIS YEAR.

ANNOUNCING THE PLANS AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON, DISTRICT OFFICER, MR SYLVESTER TSE APPEALED TO DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE ACTIVITIES OF THEIR OWN TO THE PROGRAMME.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD FROM NOVEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 15 AND WILL STRESS DIVERSITY AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.

+THE AIM IS TO PROMOTE INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION IN ART, SPORT, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES BY PROVIDING HEALTHY AND FREE OR INEXPENSIVE ENTERTAINMENT FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS.

+WE HOPE THESE ACTIVITIES WILL HELP FOSTER DISTRICT IDENTITY AND A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG THE RESIDENTS, AND PROMOTE BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISTRICT,+ MR TSE SAID.

/THE FESTIVAL .....

THE FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MADE UP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES, COMMUNITY GROUPS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, WILL PLAN, COORDINATE AND ORGANISE ALL ACTIVITIES HELD BY RECOGNISED ORGANISATIONS WITHIN THE FESTIVAL PERIOD.

MR TSE ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE FOUR ART AND SPORT FESTIVALS HELD IN THE DISTRICT IN PREVIOUS YEARS HAD BEEN WELL RECEIVED AND HAD DRAWN THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

THE SHAM SHUI PO ARTS ASSOCIATION AND SPORTS ASSOCIATION, TOGETHER WITH THE SHAM SHUI PO COUNCIL FOR THE PROMOTION OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL SERVICE, WOULD CONTINUE TO FINANCE AND ORGANISE THE MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE FESTIVAL, WHILE THE DISTRICT BOARD WOULD BE THE MAIN SOURCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ALL FRINGE ACTIVITIES.

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PUBLIC WELCOME TO BOARD MEETING  
\* \* \* \* \*

PEOPLE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND DISTRICT AFFAIRS RELATING TO CULTURE AND SPORTS EVENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND A COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD ON WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 5) AT 9.30 AM.

THE BOARD'S CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE SHA TIN ARTS AND SPORTS FESTIVAL FOR '86-87 AT THE MEETING IN THE BOARD'S CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE 6TH FLOOR OF THE KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

IT WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED PERMANENT ARCHERY RANGE AT THE TUNG LO WAN HILL SERVICE RESERVOIR.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS FROM THE SHA TIN ARTS ASSOCIATION, SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE WORKING GROUP ON THE HISTORY OF SHA TIN.

THERE WILL BE PLACES IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM FOR ABOUT 10 MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND 25 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. PEOPLE WISHING TO ATTEND THE MEETING SHOULD CONTACT THE BOARD SECRETARIAT ON TEL: 0-6065440, AS LATE COMERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN WHEN THE PUBLIC GALLERY IS FULL.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING.

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### ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS REMOVED

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FIVE HUGE ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS IN MONG KOK HAVE BEEN REMOVED IN A CLEAN-UP OPERATION WHICH CONCLUDED A PROGRAMME TO RID THE AREA OF EYESORES AND TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT.

SPONSORED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT BOARD, THE OPERATION WAS PART OF A THREE-MONTH LONG ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT CAMPAIGN TO AROUSE RESIDENTS' CONCERN ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND CLEANLINESS.

A SURVEY HAD EARLIER BEEN CONDUCTED TO IDENTIFY ABANDONED SIGNBOARDS THAT POSE A RISK TO RESIDENTS. AS A RESULT, 28 SIGNBOARDS WERE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS BY THE BUILDING ORDINANCE OFFICE AND WERE THUS PROCESSED FOR REMOVAL BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THE FIVE SIGNBOARDS RECENTLY REMOVED ALTHOUGH FOUND NOT TO BE DANGEROUS, HAD BEEN ABANDONED FOR A LONG TIME, AND WERE DISMANTLED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE POLICE, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE.

+THE SUCCESS OF THE OPERATION WAS THE RESULT OF THE GOOD CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE PUBLIC, + A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE SAID.

+WE HOPE THIS OPERATION WILL ENCOURAGE MORE BUILDING OWNERS TO REPORT ABANDONED AND DANGEROUS SIGNBOARDS SO THAT WE CAN CO-ORDINATE EFFORTS TO HAVE THEM DISMANTLED AS SOON AS FUNDS AND RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE.

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### VICTORIA PARK LIGHTS UP TOMORROW

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THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVE LIGHTS IN VICTORIA PARK WILL BE SWITCHED ON FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) EVENING, AND WILL BE ON UNTIL FEBRUARY 23.

FUNDED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD AT \$35 000, THE LIGHTING DISPLAYS DEPICT THREE CHILDREN DOING A LION DANCE, WITH NEW YEAR GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

THE LIGHTS WILL BE ON DAILY FROM 6 PM TO 12 MIDNIGHT, AND FROM 6 PM UNTIL 6 AM ON LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE (FEBRUARY 8). BETWEEN FEBRUARY 9 TO 11, THE LIGHTS WILL BE ON FROM 6 PM TO 1 AM.

AN EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DISTRICT BOARD DECIDED TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE FESTIVE LIGHTS AND DECORATION AGAIN THIS YEAR, BECAUSE OF ITS SUCCESS LAST YEAR.

/+THIS WILL .....

+THIS WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS AND THE PUBLIC WHO VISIT THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FAIR AT VICTORIA PARK TO SHARE THE FESTIVE MOOD,+ HE SAID.

THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BOWEN LEUNG DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG AND THE CHIEF MANAGER OF LEISURE SERVICE, MR PETER RULL, WILL SWITCH ON THE LIGHTING DISPLAY AT A CEREMONY TOMORROW.

MEANWHILE, LAI-SEE PACKETS PRODUCED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE ARE AVAILABLE FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION AT THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SWITCH-ON CEREMONY FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT LUNAR NEW YEAR LIGHTING DECORATIONS AT 6 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) OUTSIDE THE SQUASH COURT (NEAR THE HING FAT STREET ENTRANCE) IN VICTORIA PARK.

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SALT WATER MAINS WORK  
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN HUNG HOM WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 AM ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6) TO 10 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY CHATHAM ROAD, WUHU STREET, WINSLOW STREET, PO LOI STREET AND DOCK STREET.

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SAFETY NEWSLETTER FOR ROAD USERS  
\* \* \* \* \*

A BRIEF CEREMONY WAS HELD TODAY AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE, MURRAY ROAD, TO MARK THE PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE ROAD SAFETY QUARTERLY, A NEWSLETTER PUBLISHED BY THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL.

THE BILINGUAL NEWSLETTER IS BEING DISTRIBUTED FREE TO THE PUBLIC TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY AWARENESS.

/TODAY THE .....

TODAY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (TRAFFIC), ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, MR J.C. CLEMENCE AND THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE ROAD SAFETY AND STANDARDS DIVISION, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, MR D.G. WILLDAY OFFICIALLY RECEIVED COPIES OF THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE ROAD SAFETY QUARTERLY FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SPONSORS - MR W.A. BEST JR., MANAGING DIRECTOR, CALTEX OIL HK LTD. AND MR K.P. YUE, MANAGING DIRECTOR, TONG SENG CO.LTD.

MR CLEMENCE THEN HANDED OVER THE FIRST COPY TO A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO WAS AT THAT TIME APPLYING FOR RENEWAL OF HIS DRIVING LICENCE.

+COPIES OF THE ROAD SAFETY QUARTERLY WILL BE SENT TO OTHER OUTLETS AND MADE AVAILABLE AT OTHER LICENSING OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES, THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS AND THE ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL SAID.

THE THEME OF THE FIRST ISSUE IS ON +HIGH-CAPACITY ROADS+.

THE MAIN ARTICLE DEALS WITH THE +TWO-SECOND RULE+, WHICH HELPS DRIVERS TO DETERMINE THE SAFE STOPPING DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO VEHICLES ON HIGH-CAPACITY ROADS.

ANOTHER ARTICLE, ON LANE DISCIPLINE, DESCRIBES THE CORRECT WAY TO JOIN, DRIVE ALONG AND LEAVE A HIGH-CAPACITY ROAD.

OTHER ARTICLES TELL ABOUT SOME SIMPLE CHECKS THAT WILL MAKE NIGHT DRIVING SAFER, AND WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF BREAKDOWNS.

THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL, CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE (OPERATIONS), CO-ORDINATES THE DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF ROAD SAFETY ACTIVITIES - INCLUDING ROAD BUILDING, TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLICITY.

FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE STANDING CONFERENCE ON ROAD SAFETY, SET UP IN SEPTEMBER 1973, THE COUNCIL ACQUIRED ITS PRESENT NAME AFTER A RE-CONSTITUTION IN JANUARY 1983.

SINCE THEN, THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL, BESIDES ACTING AS A CO-ORDINATOR OF EXECUTIVE ACTION, HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING PROPOSALS TO PREVENT TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND FOR PROVIDING ADVICE ON POLICIES TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE ROAD SAFETY COUNCIL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES FROM TRANSPORT BRANCH, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, TRANSPORT, EDUCATION, INFORMATION SERVICES, ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, BRITISH FORCES, HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG ROAD SAFETY ASSOCIATION, THE HONG KONG AUTOMOBILE ASSOCIATION, THE INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED MOTORISTS, AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE.

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LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY REMINDER  
\* \* \* \* \*

EMPLOYERS WERE REMINDED TODAY THAT THE DAY PRECEDING LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY AND THE SECOND AND THIRD DAYS OF THE NEW YEAR - FEBRUARY 8, 10 AND 11 - ARE STATUTORY HOLIDAYS.

HE CHIEF LABOUR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF LABOUR RELATIONS, MR CHOW TUNG-SHAN, EXPLAINED THAT SINCE LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY FALLS ON A SUNDAY THIS YEAR, THE DAY BEFORE HAS BEEN MADE A STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

ALL MANUAL EMPLOYEES, AND THOSE NON-MANUAL EMPLOYEES EARNING NOT MORE THAN \$9 500 A MONTH, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAYS. THEY MUST BE PAID FOR THE DAYS-OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STATUTORY HOLIDAYS.

HOLIDAY PAY, HOWEVER, SHALL NOT BE MADE IN LIEU OF THE GRANT OF A HOLIDAY.

+IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY-OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY,+ HE SAID.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO THE NEAREST BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURES  
\* \* \* \* \*

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (FEBRUARY 3, 1986) STOOD AT 62.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY, OR 366.896 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 404.266 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 69 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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URBAN COUNCIL'S CITY-WIDE CLEAN-UP GOES ON  
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THE URBAN COUNCIL'S YEAR-END CLEAN-UP OF ALL 11 URBAN DISTRICTS BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY CONTINUED TODAY WITH A BIG SWEEP LAUNCHED IN YAU MA TEI BY DR DENNY HUANG, CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE COMMITTEE.

JOINED BY UC MEMBER DR PHILIP KWOK, LOCAL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND OTHER VOLUNTEERS, DR HUANG HELPED TO CLEAR A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT OF DISCARDED JUNK.

/OTHER COUNCILLORS .....

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OTHER COUNCILLORS TOOK PART IN SEPARATE CEREMONIES AND CLEAN-UPS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS TO DRUM UP SUPPORT FOR THE EFFORT.

MR HILTON CHEONG-LEEN UC CHAIRMAN WAS IN WAN CHAI AND MISS MARIA TAM IN CENTRAL PERFORMING THE SAME FUNCTIONS.

LAST SATURDAY, UC VICE-CHAIRMAN MR H.M.G. FORSGATE TOOK PART IN A CEREMONY IN WESTERN WHILE MR HOWARD YOUNG LAUNCHED THE OPERATION IN EASTERN.

ON THE SAME DAY MRS ELSIE TU AND MR LAM CHAK-PIU APPEARED IN KWUN TONG WHILE MR JOSEPH CHAN DID THE HONOURS IN SOUTHERN.

GRACING A CEREMONY IN WONG TAI SIN WERE MISS CECILIA YEUNG AND MR AUGUSTINE CHUNG WHILE IN KOWLOON CITY MR LO KING-MAN OFFICIATED.

DR RONALD LEUNG AND MR RAYMOND CHOW LED THE KICK-OFF IN MONG KOK AND YESTERDAY (SUNDAY) MR FAN KAM-PING OFFICIATED IN SHAM SHUI PO.

THE YEAR-END CLEAN-UP WILL END AT THE CLOSE OF THE WORKING DAY ON SATURDAY. UNTIL THEN, 107 REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS IN THE URBAN AREA WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR EXTENDED HOURS.

HOUSECLEANERS MAY CALL THE LITTER HOTLINE - 5-95555 - TO FIND OUT THE LOCATION OF THEIR NEAREST REFUSE POINT.

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BY-CENSUS SET FOR EARLY MARCH  
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SOME 230 000 HOUSEHOLDS WILL RECEIVE A LETTER FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONDUCT A POPULATION BY-CENSUS BETWEEN MARCH 7 AND 16 TO COLLECT UP-TO-DATE DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA ON THE POPULATION FOR PLANNING AND ANALYSIS PURPOSES.

THE BY-CENSUS, CONDUCTED BETWEEN TWO FULL CENSUSES, WILL INVOLVE ONLY A SAMPLE OF THE POPULATION.

+ONE OUT OF EVERY SEVEN HOUSEHOLDS HAS BEEN RANDOMLY SELECTED FOR THE SAMPLE FOR THE 1986 BY-CENSUS. THE LETTERS INFORMING THOSE SELECTED WILL BE DELIVERED DURING THIS WEEK,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

A FURTHER LETTER WILL BE SENT TO THE HOUSEHOLDS INVOLVED, GIVING THEM THE ENUMERATOR'S NAME AND HIS CENSUS OFFICER'S CERTIFICATE NUMBER BEFORE THE OPERATION STARTS.

/+WE HOPE .....

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+WE HOPE THAT THE SELECTED HOUSEHOLDS WILL PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION AS DATA COLLECTED IS VITAL FOR GOVERNMENT PLANNING AND IS ALSO WIDELY USED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.+

THE SPOKESMAN GAVE ASSURANCE THAT ALL INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL AND WOULD BE DESTROYED AFTER DATA PROCESSING.

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ONE-HOUR TRAFFIC CHANGE FOR SWITCH ON  
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SAND MARTIN BRIDGE IN SHA TIN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FOR ONE HOUR - FROM 6 PM TO 7 PM - ON THURSDAY (FEBRUARY 6) TO FACILITATE THE SWITCHING ON OF LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVE LIGHTS.

VEHICLES INTENDING TO CROSS SHING MUN RIVER VIA SAND MARTIN BRIDGE AT THAT TIME, WILL BE DIVERTED VIA LION BRIDGE AND BANYAN BRIDGE.

AND A NUMBER OF KMB ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED DURING THE CLOSURE.

THEY ARE: ROUTE 48 BETWEEN WO CHE AND TSUEN WAN FERRY, ROUTE 69 BETWEEN CHOI YUEN AND YUEN CHAU KOK, ROUTE 70 BETWEEN SHEUNG SHUI AND JORDAN ROAD FERRY, ROUTE 72 BETWEEN TAI PO MARKET AND SHAM SHUI PO FERRY, ROUTE 81K BETWEEN SUN TIN WAI AND SUI WO COURT, AND ROUTE 281 BETWEEN BELAIR GARDENS AND SHA TIN CENTRAL.

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LIBRARIES TO CLOSE ON HOLIDAYS  
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THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN THE NON-URBAN AREA WILL BE CLOSED FROM SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 9) TO TUESDAY, THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

ALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES, EXCEPT THE SOUTH LAMMA AND THE TWO MOBILE ONES, WILL REMAIN OPEN ON LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE, SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 8).

THE OPENING HOURS FOR THE LIBRARIES AT CHEUNG CHAU, FANLING, NORTH KWAI CHUNG, SAI KUNG, SHA TIN, SHEUNG SHUI, SOUTH KWAI CHUNG, TAI O, TAI PO, TSUEN WAN, TUEN MUN (TAI HING), TUEN MUN (YAU OI) AND YUEN LONG WILL BE FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM. THE HOURS AT MUI WO AND PENG CHAU PUBLIC LIBRARIES WILL BE FROM 10 AM TO 1 PM.

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WORKS TO EASE CHINA-BOUND TRAFFIC  
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THE VEHICLE HOLDING AREA AT THE JUNCTION OF MAN KAM TO ROAD AND LIN MA HANG ROAD IN THE BORDER AREA IS TO BE EXTENDED TO REDUCE QUEUES OF CHINA-BOUND TRAFFIC ON MAN KAM TO ROAD DURING PEAK HOURS.

THE WORKS WILL INCLUDE FORMATION OF AN EARTH EMBANKMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF DRAINS AND PAVEMENTS.

THE ENTRANCE TO THE EXISTING VEHICLE HOLDING AREA WILL BE PERMANENTLY CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON COMPLETION OF A NEW ENTRANCE AT THE SOUTHERN END OF THE NEW HOLDING AREA, WHILE THE FOOTPATH AND CARRIAGEWAY NEAR THE EXISTING ENTRANCE WILL BE MODIFIED.

ANY OBJECTIONS SHOULD REACH THE SECRETARY FOR LANDS AND WORKS BEFORE APRIL 1.

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