



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1991

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GOVERNOR VISITS GENERAL POST OFFICE

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (THURSDAY) TOURED THE GENERAL POST OFFICE IN CENTRAL AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE POST OFFICE.

HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, AND HIS SENIOR STAFF ON THE VISIT.

SIR DAVID NOTED WITH INTEREST THE OPERATION OF THE NEWLY COMMISSIONED MECHANISED LETTER SORTING SYSTEM, WHICH IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD TO USE OPTICAL CHARACTER RECOGNITION AND VIDEO CODING TECHNOLOGY TO SORT MAIL ITEMS DIRECTLY WITHOUT USING POSTCODES. THE EQUIPMENT CAN HANDLE 30,000 ITEMS AN HOUR.

"THE POST OFFICE IS ONE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S OLDEST DEPARTMENTS BUT IT IS RIGHT UP TO DATE WITH ITS USE OF THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE ALSO MET MEMBERS OF THE POST OFFICE STAFF AND COMMENDED THEM ON THE RELIABILITY OF THE POSTAL SERVICE IN HONG KONG.

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AIRPORT TALKS ARE CONTINUING: CS

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE TALKS ON THE NEW AIRPORT IN PEKING WERE CONTINUING, AND THEY WERE EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE TOMORROW.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE HONG KONG SPORTS INSTITUTE IN SHA TIN, SIR DAVID SAID: "IT'S OBVIOUSLY TOO EARLY TO SAY WHAT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, SOME IS BEING MADE.

"THERE IS STILL SOME MAJOR ISSUES ON THE TABLE. WHAT THE OUTCOME WILL BE ARE REMAINED TO BE SEEN. WE ARE, OBVIOUSLY, KEEN TO GET CHINESE SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT AND WE WILL KEEP WORKING THROUGH THE TALKS TO TRY AND ACHIEVE THAT.

"BUT IN THE PERIOD UP TO 1997, IN THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, IT'S ALSO VERY IMPORTANT THAT HONG KONG HAS AN EFFECTIVE GOVERNMENT. CLEARLY, THAT IS ESSENTIAL IF WE ARE GOING TO BUILD THE AIRPORT IN AN ECONOMICAL AND EFFICIENT WAY," SIR DAVID SAID.

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HK SPORTS INSTITUTE VITAL FOR SPORT: CS

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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG SPORTS INSTITUTE IS A VERY IMPORTANT STEP FOR SPORT IN HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG SPORTS INSTITUTE, SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS THE TECHNICAL ARM FOR LOCAL SPORT.

HE SAID IT WOULD BE ABLE TO HELP ATHLETES AND COACHES IN PLANNING TRAINING PROGRAMS IN A MORE CO-ORDINATED AND SOPHISTICATED WAY.

"I AM CONFIDENT THE HONG KONG SPORTS INSTITUTE WILL PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SPORTS SERVICES TO ASSIST HIGH-PERFORMANCE ATHLETES, COACHES AND TECHNICAL OFFICIALS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE.

"THERE ARE OF COURSE NO GUARANTEES OF SUCCESS, BUT WITH BETTER ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL COACHING, HIGH STANDARD FACILITIES, SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL SUPPORT, THE CHANCES OF SUCCESS ARE MUCH ENHANCED," HE SAID.

WHILE THE JUBILEE SPORTS CENTRE SERVED HONG KONG WELL IN THE 1980'S, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE HONG KONG SPORTS INSTITUTE WOULD HELP THE TERRITORY GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH IN FUTURE.

"AS THE SPORTS INSTITUTE CONTINUES TO DEVELOP IN THE AREAS OF ATHLETE TRAINING, COACH EDUCATION AND SPORTS SCIENCE, SPORTS MEDICINE SUPPORT, I AM SURE IT WILL BECOME AN INSTITUTE OF WHICH HONG KONG WILL BE PROUD," SIR DAVID ADDED.

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PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN JANUARY

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 13%, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 36% IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 27% IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 43% IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES, HAVING DISCOUNTED THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH ROSE BY 2%, WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 3%.

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AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX) DECREASED BY 1%.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE AVAILABLE.

CARE SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN INTERPRETING THE CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IN ANY INDIVIDUAL MONTH IN ISOLATION, IN VIEW OF THE FLUCTUATIONS THAT MAY OCCUR FROM MONTH TO MONTH.

IN PARTICULAR, THE TRADE FIGURES FOR JANUARY THIS YEAR ARE LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS WHICH OCCURRED IN LATE JANUARY LAST YEAR, BUT IN MID-FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

COMPARING THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1991 WITH THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1990, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 8% AND 32% RESPECTIVELY.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 22%. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS GREW BY 32%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 1% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY. IMPORT PRICES INCREASED BY 3%.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1991 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1990, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 1% AND 19% RESPECTIVELY, SO THAT THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 11%. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 14%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 1% AND 3% RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 2%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP FOR JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990.

THESE INCLUDED ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+85%); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+27%); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+23%); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+16%); TEXTILE FABRICS (+12%); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+10%); AND METAL MANUFACTURES (+7%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-37%); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-25%); FOOTWEAR (-16%); AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-10%).

THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990.

THESE INCLUDED FOOTWEAR (+5%); METAL MANUFACTURES (+5%); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+3%); CLOTHING (+3%); TEXTILE FABRICS (+2%).

THOSE OF WATCHES AND CLOCKS; DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES ALL INCREASED BY 1%.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED IN METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-3%); ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-2%); AND TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-1%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 12% IN VOLUME IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990.

IN PARTICULAR, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WHEAT AND FLOUR; FISH AND FISH PREPARATIONS; AND CEREALS AND CEREAL PREPARATIONS (OTHER THAN RICE, WHEAT AND FLOUR). DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF LIVE POULTRY; SWINE; FRUIT; AND VEGETABLES.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 40%.

COMMODITY ITEMS WITH CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME INCLUDED HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; FOOTWEAR; AND RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 47% IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990. THE MORE SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR MAN-MADE FIBRES; AND IRON AND STEEL.

DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK; AND CLAY AND REFRACTORY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, BUILDING MATERIALS, AND SO ON, EXCEPT GLASS.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 61% IN VOLUME IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 53% IN JANUARY 1991 OVER JANUARY 1990.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT; ELECTRICAL MACHINERY; AND OFFICE MACHINES.

HOWEVER, A DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY.

COMPARING JANUARY 1991 WITH JANUARY 1990, THE IMPORT PRICES OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED: FUELS (+34%); CAPITAL GOODS (+4%); FOODSTUFFS (+4%); CONSUMER GOODS (+3%); AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES (+1%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING JANUARY 1991 WITH JANUARY 1990, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS; RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES; CONSUMER GOODS; AND FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 41%, 40%, 35% AND 15% RESPECTIVELY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 5%.

THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN JANUARY 1991 AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY 1990: FUELS (+47%); CONSUMER GOODS (+3%); FOODSTUFFS (+3%); AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES (+1%).

THE RE-EXPORT PRICES OF CAPITAL GOODS WERE VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE JANUARY 1991 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" WHICH WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND APRIL 15 AT \$4 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO.: 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 823 4918).

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP

COMPARING JANUARY 1991  
WITH JANUARY 1990

COMMODITY GROUP	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	3	3	*
TEXTILE FABRICS	15	2	12
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	16	*	16
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	-38	-1	-37
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	-23	3	-25

/ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS .....

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ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	82	-2	85
FOOTWEAR	-11	5	-16
METAL MANUFACTURES	12	5	7
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	19	-3	23
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	11	1	10
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	-9	1	-10
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	28	1	27
ALL COMMODITIES	15	2	13

\* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

COMPARING JANUARY 1991  
WITH JANUARY 1990

END-USE CATEGORY	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	17	4	12
CONSUMER GOODS	45	3	40
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	48	1	47
FUELS	115	34	61
CAPITAL GOODS	59	4	53
ALL COMMODITIES	48	3	43

/TABLE 3 .....

TABLE 3: CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

COMPARING JANUARY 1991  
WITH JANUARY 1990

END-USE CATEGORY	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	18	3	15
CONSUMER GOODS	39	3	35
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	42	1	40
FUELS	39	47	-5
CAPITAL GOODS	41	*	41
ALL COMMODITIES	40	2	36

\* LESS THAN 0.5%

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## BILLS TO REMOVE ANOMALIES IN ELECTION PROCEDURES

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TWO BILLS SEEKING TO REMOVE ANOMALIES IN THE PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE ELECTION OF A DISTRICT BOARD'S REPRESENTATIVE TO EITHER OF THE TWO COUNCILS WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT SECTION 19 OF THE URBAN COUNCIL ORDINANCE BARRED A MEMBER OF THE URBAN COUNCIL FROM VOTING ON ANY MATTER IN WHICH HE OR SHE HAD A PECUNIARY INTEREST.

"IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, THIS PROVISION EFFECTIVELY PROHIBITS THE CANDIDATES FROM VOTING IN THE ELECTION BECAUSE BOTH POSITIONS ATTRACT A SPECIAL HONORARIUM," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SECTION 21 OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ORDINANCE HAS THE SAME EFFECT.

/THE URBAN .....

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THE URBAN COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, WHICH WOULD BE GAZETTED TOMORROW, SOUGHT TO REMOVE THE ABOVE ANOMALIES BY PROVIDING THAT THE RECEIPT OF, THE RIGHT TO RECEIVE OR THE POSSIBILITY OF RECEIVING AN ALLOWANCE, SPECIAL ALLOWANCE, OR HONORARIUM SHALL NOT BE TREATED AS A PECUNIARY INTEREST.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO NOTED THAT THE VOTING PROCEDURE PRESCRIBED IN THE FIFTH SCHEDULE TO THE URBAN COUNCIL ORDINANCE AND THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO THE REGIONAL COUNCIL ORDINANCE REQUIRED A SECRET BALLOT TO BE CONDUCTED EVEN WHEN THERE WAS ONLY ONE CANDIDATE.

THIS PROCEDURE APPLIED TO THE ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AS WELL AS THE ELECTION BY A DISTRICT BOARD OF A REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER TO SIT ON EITHER OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS.

THE TWO BILLS PROVIDED THAT WHERE THERE WAS ONLY ONE CANDIDATE NOMINATED FOR ELECTION AS CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN OR REPRESENTATIVE MEMBER, THAT CANDIDATE SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE ELECTED WITHOUT HAVING TO HOLD A SECRET BALLOT.

THE BILLS ARE EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 24.

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#### NEW OFFICE TO PROTECT LEGALLY DISABLED PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO CREATE AN OFFICE OF OFFICIAL SOLICITOR TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS IN LITIGATION OF PERSONS UNDER LEGAL DISABILITY. THEY INCLUDE PEOPLE SUCH AS MINORS AND THOSE OF UNSOUND MIND WHO ARE UNABLE TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO LAWYERS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT SOME OF THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES USUALLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE OFFICE OF OFFICIAL SOLICITOR WERE UNDERTAKEN AT PRESENT BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, AS WELL AS BY THE CROWN SOLICITOR AND THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

"THE INTENTION IS TO RATIONALISE THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS SO THAT THE WORK WILL BECOME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A SINGLE PUBLIC OFFICER, MAKING THE OFFICE CLEARLY IDENTIFIABLE AND MORE ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC," HE SAID.

THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE OFFICIAL SOLICITOR BILL 1991 WHICH IS EXPECTED TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 24.

THE BILL PROVIDES FOR THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID TO BE APPOINTED AS THE OFFICIAL SOLICITOR.

/"THE LEGAL .....

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"THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT OFFERS A SUITABLE HOME FOR A NUMBER OF THE DUTIES OF THE OFFICIAL SOLICITOR WHICH HAVE A LEGAL WELFARE NATURE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"AS SOME OF THE WORK IS ALREADY HANDLED AND PAID FOR BY THE LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT, PARTICULARLY IN MATRIMONIAL CASES WHERE SEPARATE REPRESENTATION OF THE CHILDREN MAY BE REQUIRED, IT HAS THE EXPERIENCE AS WELL AS EXISTING RESOURCES TO TAKE ON THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICIAL SOLICITOR," HE EXPLAINED.

IN ADDITION TO TAKING OVER THE WORK OF OFFICIAL SOLICITOR CURRENTLY UNDERTAKEN BY A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS, THE DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AID WILL ALSO ASSUME THE DUTIES OF JUDICIAL TRUSTEE AND OFFICIAL TRUSTEE WHICH ARE AT PRESENT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL.

"THE OFFICIAL SOLICITOR ACTS WHERE THERE IS NO ONE ELSE AVAILABLE OR WILLING TO ACT, AND ONLY WHEN APPOINTED BY THE COURT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"HOWEVER, HE WILL NOT BE PRECLUDED FROM DRAWING A CASE TO THE COURT'S ATTENTION OR SEEKING THE COURT'S DIRECTION IF HE THINKS IT NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE," HE ADDED.

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#### EDWARD HO REAPPOINTED TO DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD COUNCIL

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THE GOVERNOR HAS REAPPOINTED LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR EDWARD HO SING-TIN AS A MEMBER OF THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD COUNCIL.

MR HO, WHOSE TERM OF SERVICE WILL LAST FROM APRIL 1, 1991 TO MARCH 31, 1992, WAS FIRST APPOINTED TO THE COUNCIL IN 1989.

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#### NEW APPROACHES FOR CHILD CARE SERVICES REQUIRED

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CHILD CARE SERVICES WILL HAVE TO BE EXPANDED AND NEW APPROACHES ADOPTED TO MEET CHANGING NEEDS, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M.D. CARTLAND, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

DURING HIS VISIT TO A NUMBER OF NON-GOVERNMENT CHILD CARE SERVICES ORGANISATIONS IN KOWLOON THIS MORNING, MR CARTLAND SAID WITH THE PREVALENCE OF NUCLEAR FAMILIES AND AN INCREASING NUMBER OF MOTHERS IN EMPLOYMENT, THERE WAS A BIGGER DEMAND FOR DAY CARE FACILITIES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN WHO COULD NOT BE CARED FOR BY THEIR PARENTS DURING THE DAY.

/"ONE OF .....

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"ONE OF THE OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF CHILD WELFARE SERVICES IS TO SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN FAMILIES SO THAT THEY MAY PROVIDE A SUITABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR CHILDREN.

"ANOTHER OBJECTIVE IS TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THOSE DISADVANTAGED AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT ADEQUATELY LOOKED AFTER BY THEIR FAMILIES," MR CARTLAND SAID.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE SWD'S DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER FOR YAU MA TEI/TSIM SHA TSUI AND MONG KOK, MRS CECILIA TONG, THE DIRECTOR STARTED HIS VISIT BY TOURING DAY NURSERIES, A DAY CRECHE AND RESIDENTIAL CRECHE OPERATED BY THE HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN PORTLAND STREET.

THE PARTY THEN WENT TO KWAN FONG CHILD CARE CENTRE WHICH WAS SET UP IN KWONG WAH HOSPITAL.

THE CENTRE IS OPERATED BY THE TUNG WAH GROUP OF HOSPITALS TO PROVIDE CHILD CARE SERVICE ON AN HOURLY BASIS FOR THE HOSPITAL'S PATIENTS.

MR CARTLAND ALSO TOURED AN EARLY EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE AND A SPECIAL CHILD CARE CENTRE OPERATED BY HEEP HONG SOCIETY FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN. HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE SERIES OF PROGRAMMES DESIGNED TO TRAIN DISABLED CHILDREN.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR SPONSORING FIREWORKS DISPLAY  
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THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED ORGANISATIONS WISHING TO SPONSOR THE 1992 LUNAR NEW YEAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY TO SUBMIT EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO THE GOVERNMENT BEFORE MAY 8.

SINCE 1982, FIREWORKS DISPLAYS HAVE BEEN HELD OVER THE VICTORIA HARBOUR IN THE EVENING OF THE SECOND DAY OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR AS THE FOCAL POINT OF SPRING FESTIVAL CELEBRATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE AT LEAST NINE MONTHS BEFORE THE DATE PROPOSED FOR THE DISPLAY.

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE RCB HEADQUARTERS AT ELEVENTH FLOOR, HARBOUR CENTRE, 25 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI. FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 574 0409 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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BUSINESS COMMUNITY'S VIEWS TO BE SOUGHT ON ARTS SPONSORSHIP

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, DR WANG GUNGWU, TODAY (THURSDAY) WELCOMED THE PUBLICATION OF A PROPOSED STRATEGY FOR PROMOTING BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS.

THE STRATEGY WAS COMMISSIONED BY THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR A.K. CHUI, AND UNDERTAKEN BY DIRECTOR OF BRITAIN'S ASSOCIATION FOR BUSINESS SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS, MR COLIN TWEEDY.

DR WANG SAID THE DRAFT STRATEGY CALLED FOR THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COUNCIL TO JOIN WITH BUSINESS ORGANISATIONS AND ARTS GROUPS IN A CO-ORDINATED EFFORT TO INCREASE ARTS SPONSORSHIP.

MEASURES PROPOSED INCLUDED CHANGES TO THE COUNCIL'S MATCHING GRANT SCHEME, TRAINING FOR ARTS GROUPS IN SPONSORSHIP AND FUND-RAISING TECHNIQUES AND MARKET RESEARCH ON THE SIZE AND NATURE OF THE AUDIENCE FOR ARTS EVENTS.

DR WANG SAID IF SPONSORSHIP OF THE ARTS WAS TO INCREASE SIGNIFICANTLY, IT WOULD BE CRUCIAL TO PERSUADE THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY THAT ARTS SPONSORSHIP COULD CONTRIBUTE TO A COMPANY'S MARKETING AND CORPORATE RELATIONS OBJECTIVES.

THE RECENTLY FORMED FOUNDATION OF BUSINESSES IN SUPPORT OF THE ARTS COULD PLAY A KEY ROLE IN THIS PROCESS.

THE COUNCIL DECIDED AT ITS MEETING TODAY TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF BUSINESS AND THE ARTS ON THE PROPOSED STRATEGY, BEFORE CONSIDERING WHAT ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN AT ITS NEXT MEETING IN JUNE.

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FILM CENSORSHIP FEES TO BE REVISED

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FILM CENSORSHIP FEES WILL BE REVISED FROM JULY 1.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE NEW RATE OF \$50 PER MINUTE OF RUNNING TIME OR PART THEREOF IN ORDER TO RECOVER THE FULL COST OF FILM CENSORSHIP.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE CURRENT RATE OF \$35 PER MINUTE OF RUNNING TIME OR PART THEREOF WAS FIXED IN NOVEMBER, 1988 WHEN THE FILM CENSORSHIP ORDINANCE CAME INTO OPERATION.

"IT WAS THEN INTENDED THAT THE FULL COST OF FILM CENSORSHIP WOULD BE RECOVERED AT A LATER STAGE.

"A RECENT COSTING EXERCISE REVEALED THAT, TO RECOVER THE FULL COST, THE FEE SHOULD BE REVISED TO \$50 PER MINUTE OF RUNNING TIME OR PART THEREOF," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/"THE REVISION .....

"THE REVISION WOULD MEAN, IN DOLLAR TERMS, AN INCREASE FROM THE PRESENT \$3,150 TO \$4,500 FOR A 90-MINUTE FEATURE FILM. THE AMOUNT IS RELATIVELY SMALL COMPARED WITH THE OPERATING COSTS OF THE FILM INDUSTRY," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO EMPHASISED THAT CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS AND FILM CLUBS WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED AS THERE WERE PROVISIONS UNDER THE FILM CENSORSHIP REGULATIONS FOR THEM TO SEEK FEE EXEMPTION.

"IN PRACTICE, FILMS PRESENTED DURING FILM FESTIVALS AND BY CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE PAYMENT OF A CENSORSHIP FEE," HE ADDED.

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#### GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY ANNOUNCED

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID STARTING THIS WEEK, THE GRADING WILL BE ANNOUNCED BIWEEKLY DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT E. COLI DATA OBTAINED BY THE EPD IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME.

AS WITH LAST YEAR, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH WHICH HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A VERY LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

/GRADE "1" .....

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GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.

GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "4" GRADE OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, THE REOPENING OF A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "3" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, TWO BATHING BEACHES, NAMELY CASTLE PEAK AND OLD CAFETERIA, HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM IN THE WATER AT THESE TWO BEACHES.

IN ADDITION, ROCKY BAY BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. THESE THREE BEACHES ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING LIST.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG AS AT TODAY ARE LISTED BELOW:

/BEACH .....

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BEACH

PRESENT GRADING

-----  
(AS AT 11.4.91)

HONG KONG SOUTH

BIG WAVE BAY	2
CHUNG HOM KOK	1
DEEP WATER BAY	1
HAIRPIN	1
MIDDLE BAY	1
REPULSE BAY	1
SHEK O	1
SOUTH BAY	1
ST STEPHEN'S	1
TURTLE COVE	1
STANLEY MAIN	2
ROCKY BAY	X
TO TEI WAN*	1

TUEN MUN DISTRICT

OLD CAFETERIA	X
NEW CAFETERIA	3
CASTLE PEAK	X
KADOORIE	3
BUTTERFLY	2

SAI KUNG DISTRICT

CAMPERS	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	1
HAP MUN BAY	1
KIU TSUI	1
PAK SHA CHAU	1
SILVERSTRAND	3
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	1

ISLANDS DISTRICT

CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	2
DISCOVERY BAY*	1
HUNG SHING YEH	1
KWUN YAM WAN	1
TONG FUK	1
LO SO SHING	1
PUI O	1
SILVERMINE BAY	1
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	1
TUNG O*	1

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT

ANGLERS'	2
APPROACH	3
CASAM	2
GEMINI	3
HOI MEI WAN	3
LIDO	2
TING KAU	4
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	1

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.  
\* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES.

IN ADDITION TO THIS REGULAR REPORTING SYSTEM, AN ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL THE BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE PREPARED BY THE EPD AFTER EACH BATHING SEASON.

THIS WILL ADVISE THE BEACH MANAGEMENT AUTHORITIES ON THE SUITABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL BEACHES FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.

THE ANNUAL REPORT ENTITLED "BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG, 1990", FOR THE BATHING SEASON OF 1990, IS AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$30 PER COPY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, MR PAUL HOLMES, ON TEL. 835 1234.

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CYC MEMBERS ASK TO HELP CONVEY ANTI-SMOKING MESSAGE  
\* \* \* \* \*

COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB MEMBERS (CYC) WERE ASKED TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE BY NOT SMOKING AND TO ENCOURAGE THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS TO KICK THE SMOKING HABIT.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR WONG SIK-WAH, MADE THIS APPEAL AT THE INAUGURAL CEREMONY OF CYC ANTI-SMOKING PROGRAMMES TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE SAID A RANGE OF ANTI-SMOKING ACTIVITIES WILL BE ORGANISED THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY IN THE COMING MONTHS.

/THESE WILL .....

THESE WILL INCLUDE PAINTING, SINGING AND POSTER DESIGN CONTESTS, AN EDUCATIONAL CAMP, EXHIBITIONS, A PROCESSION, A CARNIVAL AND A SEMINAR FOR TEACHERS.

OVER THE YEARS, MR WONG SAID, CYC MEMBERS HAVE HELPED GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS AND VOLUNTARY AGENCIES PROMOTE A NUMBER OF MEANINGFUL ACTIVITIES.

THE CURRENT ANTI-SMOKING PROGRAMMES ARE ORGANISED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE HONG KONG COUNCIL ON SMOKING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE, AND SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WERE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MRS RITA FAN, HK COUNCIL ON SMOKING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DR RONALD LEUNG, AND ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB INFORMATION SECRETARY MR DAVID YAU.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF CHASE MANHATTAN FINANCIAL SERVICES (HONG KONG) LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AS AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (THURSDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
\* \* \* \* \*

HKEF

	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	10.4.91	480
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	11.4.91	+78
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-78
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 111.5 *+0.5* 11.4.91		

/HONG KONG .....

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
91-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEI

ISSUE NUMBER	MATURING ON	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION	
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Q115	10.7.91	390	+90
Q103	17.4.91	689.5	-209.5
Q104	24.4.91	685	-205
Q105	1.5.91	670	-190
Q106	8.5.91	523.5	-43.5
Q107	15.5.91	591	-111
Q108	22.5.91	500	-20
Q109	29.5.91	440	+40
Q110	5.6.91	350	+130
Q111	12.6.91	510	-30
Q112	19.6.91	540	-60
Q113	26.6.91	550	-70
Q114	3.7.91	470	+10

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
182-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEJ

ISSUE NUMBER	MATURING ON	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION	
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H001	1.5.91	181	+79
H002	15.5.91	240	+20
H003	29.5.91	240	+20
H004	12.6.91	250	+10
H005	26.6.91	230	+30
H101	10.7.91	133	+127
H156	24.7.91	130	+130
H157	7.8.91	198	+62
H158	21.8.91	100	+160
H159	4.9.91	10	+250
H160	18.9.91	160	+100
H161	2.10.91	110	+150

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
364-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEK

ISSUE NUMBER	MATURING ON	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION	
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Y187	26.2.92	180	+80
Y188	25.3.92	190	+70

AVERAGE DAILY TRANSFER FOR WEEK ENDING 4.4.91 WAS 8,026 MN

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