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GOVERNOR TO VISIT CANADA
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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL VISIT CANADA FROM NOVEMBER 11 TO 14 TO MARK THE CLOSING OF FESTIVAL HONG KONG '92.

THE FESTIVAL, THE LARGEST OVERSEAS PROMOTION EVER ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, FEATURED OVER 150 EVENTS STAGED IN FIVE MAJOR CITIES ACROSS CANADA.

IT RECIPROCATES FESTIVAL CANADA WHICH WAS HELD IN HONG KONG LAST YEAR.

UPON HIS ARRIVAL ON REMEMBRANCE DAY (NOVEMBER 11) IN CANADA, MR PATTEN WILL LAY A WREATH AT THE CENOTAPH AT VICTORY SQUARE IN VANCOUVER TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE CANADIAN SOLDIERS WHO HELPED TO DEFEND HONG KONG DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR.

DURING HIS TWO-DAY STAY IN VANCOUVER, MR PATTEN WILL MEET WITH THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, THE HON DAVID LAM AND THE PREMIER OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, THE HON MICHAEL HARCOURT.

MR PATTEN WILL ALSO ATTEND A GALA DINNER, TOUR THE CHINATOWN, VISIT THE DR SUN YAT-SEN GARDEN AND THE CHINESE CULTURAL CENTRE IN VANCOUVER.

HE WILL DEPART FOR OTTAWA ON THURSDAY (NOVEMBER 12) AFTERNOON ON BOARD A CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT AND WILL STAY AT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT GUEST HOUSE IN OTTAWA.

AFTER MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER, THE RT HON BRIAN MULRONEY, ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 13) MORNING, MR PATTEN WILL PRESENT AN OFFICIAL GIFT FROM HONG KONG TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA: A TRADITIONAL 12-METRE DRAGON BOAT SPECIALLY MADE FOR THIS OCCASION.

THE DRAGON BOAT WILL BE PUT ON DISPLAY AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF CIVILIZATION IN OTTAWA.

THE HONG KONG-CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION AND OTTAWA-CARLETON BOARD OF TRADE WILL HOST A LUNCHEON FOR MR PATTEN, AND MR MULRONEY WILL HOST A DINNER FOR MR PATTEN ON FRIDAY.

MR PATTEN WILL ARRIVE IN TORONTO ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 14) MORNING AND MEET WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, MRS BARBARA MCDOUGALL.

AFTER ATTENDING A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY MRS MCDOUGALL IN CHINATOWN, MR PATTEN WILL MEET WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS AND HONG KONG STUDENTS AT A TEA RECEPTION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO.

THE GOVERNOR WILL DEPART FOR LONDON THAT EVENING FOR A DUTY VISIT AND WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON NOVEMBER 22.

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GOVT STATEMENT ON ELECTIONS
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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, THE INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR, MR MIKE HANSON, MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"MR PATTEN IS VERY PLEASED THAT A DEBATE IS NOW BEGINNING. HE WELCOMES ANY PROPOSALS FOR THE 1994 AND 1995 ELECTIONS WHICH MEET THE CRITERIA AGREED BY BRITISH AND CHINESE SIDES I.E. THEY MUST BE OPEN; THEY MUST BE FAIR; AND THEY MUST COMMAND THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT THAT PEOPLE MAKE THEIR PROPOSALS SPECIFIC. IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO DEBATE GENERALITIES. THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONALS FEDERATION'S PROPOSALS ARE VERY GENERAL AND THE GOVERNOR LOOKS FORWARD TO RECEIVING THEIR DETAILED RECOMMENDATIONS LATER. HE LAST MET THE BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONALS FEDERATION ON SEPTEMBER 9 AND HE LOOKS FORWARD TO MEETING THEM AGAIN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

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WHITE BILL ON TOWN PLANNING TO BE PUBLISHED
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A WHITE BILL ON THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE IS EXPECTED TO BE PUBLISHED FOR FURTHER PUBLIC CONSULTATION IN MID-1993.

THIS WAS SAID BY THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, THIS (MONDAY) EVENING AT A CONFERENCE ORGANISED BY THE CENTRE FOR REAL ESTATE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY.

IN ORDER TO MEET CHANGING SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CIRCUMSTANCES, A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE ORDINANCE HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT WITH A VIEW TO BRINGING IT UP-TO-DATE, HE SAID.

"PART OF THE AIM IS TO MAKE THE SYSTEM MORE OPEN AND FAIRER AND TO PROVIDE A HIGHER DEGREE OF CERTAINTY FOR DEVELOPERS.

"THE SYSTEM MUST, HOWEVER, BE AFFORDABLE BY THE COMMUNITY.

"IN VIEW OF THE COMPLEXITY AND THE TECHNICAL NATURE OF THE LEGISLATION, WE ARE NOW PREPARING DETAILED DRAFTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR A WHITE BILL TO BE PUBLISHED FOR FURTHER PUBLIC CONSULTATION IN MID-1993 IF ALL GOES WELL.

"THIS WILL ENABLE EVERYONE TO SEE WHAT THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF OUR PROPOSALS WOULD BE BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ON THEIR INTRODUCTION ARE MADE," MR EASON ADDED.

REFERRING TO LAND ADMINISTRATION, HE SAID LAST YEAR ABOUT $2 BILLION WAS PAID TO MEET LAND ACQUISITION AND CLEARANCE COSTS AND THE 1992 FIGURE WAS ESTIMATED TO BE OVER $3 BILLION.

/MR EASON .....

MR EASON SAID: "GOVERNMENT IS NO ORDINARY LANDLORD. WE HAVE TO ACQUIRE LAND FOR OUR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, TO DISPOSE OF LAND IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES TO MEET DEMAND FROM ALL SECTORS AND TO MANAGE GOVERNMENT LAND."

TURNING TO BUILDING CONTROL, MR EASON SAID THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN ENSURING SAFETY AND HEALTH IN RELATION TO THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND USE OF BUILDINGS.

"IT ESTABLISHES A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE BUILDING AUTHORITY AND BUILDERS AND OWNERS OF BUILDINGS, THROUGH WHICH THE AUTHORITY'S REQUIREMENTS ARE ENFORCED BY LAW," HE ADDED.

"THIS TASK IS VERY IMPORTANT," HE SAID.

"WHILE THE HOUSING AUTHORITY PROVIDES AND LOOKS AFTER 45 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION, THE GOVERNMENT SEEKS TO ENSURE THAT THE REMAINING 55 PER CENT OF THE HOUSING STOCK MEETS ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS OF HEALTH AND SAFETY."

MR EASON NOTED THAT MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE WERE OTHER FIELDS OF GOVERNMENT INTEREST.

"THUS, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE HAS TAKEN AN ACTIVE PART IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES AND HAS CARRIED OUT DISTRICT CLEARANCE PROGRAMMES INVOLVING UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS, DEFECTIVE CONCRETE, DANGEROUS SIGNS AND DEFECTIVE DRAINS," HE SAID.

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VOLUME AND PRICE MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN AUGUST

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 1% IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1992, AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 30%, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 21%. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 22% IN VOLUME.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES WITH THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES BEING DISCOUNTED.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH INCREASED BY 1%. IMPORT PRICES REMAINED VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

PRICE CHANGES ARE REFLECTED BY CHANGES IN UNIT VALUE INDEXES, WHICH ARE COMPILED BASED ON AVERAGE UNIT VALUES OR, FOR CERTAIN COMMODITIES, BASED ON SPECIFIC PRICE DATA.

/THE TERMS .....

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX, DEFINED AS THE RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX, INCREASED BY 1% IN THE FIRST EIGHT MONTHS OF 1992 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

COMPARING AUGUST 1992 WITH AUGUST 1991, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 1% WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 28%. THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 20%. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 18%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, RE-EXPORTS AND IMPORTS ALL ROSE BY 1%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING AUGUST 1992 WITH AUGUST 1991, COMMODITY GROUPS WHICH RECORDED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+31%); AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+23%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-42%); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-41%); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-22%); AND FOOTWEAR (-20%).

AS REGARDS DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES, THE COMMODITY GROUPS WHICH RECORDED SIGNIFICANT INCREASES INCLUDED FOOTWEAR (+6%); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+5%); CLOTHING (+4%); AND METAL MANUFACTURES (+4%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES OF TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD; ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS; AND RADIOS OF ALL KINDS DECLINED BY 4%, 4% AND 3% RESPECTIVELY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 9% IN AUGUST 1992 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1991.

SIGNIFICANT DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WHEAT AND FLOUR; SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL, VEGETABLE OIL AND LARD; AND VEGETABLES.

HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE INCREASE WAS RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 24%.

COMMODITY ITEMS WITH CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME INCLUDED PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; FOOTWEAR; AND CLOTHING. HOWEVER, A DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CAMERAS, FLASHLIGHT APPARATUS AND SUPPLIES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 9% IN AUGUST 1992 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1991.

/SIGNIFICANT INCREASES .....

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR CLAY AND REFRACTORY CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, BUILDING MATERIALS, AND SO ON, EXCEPT GLASS; LEATHER AND DRESSED FUR SKINS; BASE METALS (OTHER THAN IRON AND STEEL); WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK; AND PLASTIC MATERIALS.

HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW COTTON; MAN-MADE FIBRES; YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES; SILK FABRICS; AND INEDIBLE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 10% IN VOLUME IN AUGUST 1992 AS COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1991.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 32% IN AUGUST 1992 OVER AUGUST 1991.

NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY; TEXTILE MACHINERY; OTHER INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY (OTHER THAN TEXTILE MACHINERY AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY); AND OFFICE MACHINES.

THE IMPORT PRICES OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN AUGUST 1992 OVER AUGUST 1991 : CAPITAL GOODS (+3%); CONSUMER GOODS (+3%); FUELS (+2%); AND FOODSTUFFS (+1%). HOWEVER, THE IMPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 2%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS HAD GROWN SUBSTANTIALLY BY 51% IN AUGUST 1992 COMPARED WITH AUGUST 1991.

THAT OF CONSUMER GOODS; AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES REGISTERED INCREASES OF 28% AND 21% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS AND FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 9% AND 1% RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS, CONSUMER GOODS AND CAPITAL GOODS INCREASED BY 8%, 2% AND 1% RESPECTIVELY.

THE RE-EXPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES; AND FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 2% AND 1% RESPECTIVELY.

DETAILS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE AUGUST 1992 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS".

THE REPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SALE AROUND NOVEMBER 13 AT $6 PER COPY AT EITHER (I) THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; OR (II) THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

/ENQUIRIES REGARDING .....

ENQUIRIES REGARDING 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.: 582 4918).

TABLE 1 : CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP

	COMPARING AUG 1992 WITH AUG 1991			COMPARING JAN-AUG 1992 WITH JAN-AUG 1991		
COMMODITY GROUP	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	7	4	3	4	3	1
TEXTILE FABRICS	3	-1	4	2	1	1
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	-5	-4	-2	-6	-3	-3
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	-39	5	-42	-20	6	-24
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	-18	-3	-15	-36	-2	-35
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	18	-4	23	18	-5	24
FOOTWEAR	-15	6	-20	-25	3	-28
METAL MANUFACTURES	7	4	3	8	4	5
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	31	*	31	-4	-4	*
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	-8	1	-9	-10	-1	-10
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	-21	1	-22	*	2	-1
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	-40	2	-41	-35	1	-36
ALL COMMODITIES	2	1	1	2	1	1

* LESS THAN 0.5%

/TABLE 2 .....

TABLE 2 : CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING AUG 1992 WITH AUG 1991			COMPARING JAN-AUG 1992 WITH JAN-AUG 1991		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	-8	1	-9	10	1	8
CONSUMER GOODS	28	3	24	29	3	26
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	6	-2	9	13	-2	16
FUELS	-8	2	-10	4	-12	18
CAPITAL GOODS	36	3	32	36	2	33
ALL COMMODITIES	19	1	18	23	*	22

* LESS THAN 0.5%

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

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING AUG 1992 WITH AUG 1991			COMPARING JAN-AUG 1992 WITH JAN-AUG 1991		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	-2	-1	-1	6	1	4
CONSUMER GOODS	30	2	28	33	3	29
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	19	-2	21	22	-2	25
FUELS	-1	8	-9	5	-8	14
CAPITAL GOODS	51	1	51	50	1	49
ALL COMMODITIES	29	1	28	31	1	30

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TENDER FOR FIFTH ISSUE OF GOVERNMENT BONDS

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THE OFFICE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE TENDER FOR THE FIFTH ISSUE OF GOVERNMENT BONDS WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 16 FOR SETTLEMENT ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17.

AS WITH THE PREVIOUS FOUR ISSUES, AN AMOUNT OF HK$500 MILLION TWO-YEAR BONDS WILL BE ON OFFER.

IN ADDITION TO THAT, ANOTHER HK$100 MILLION WILL BE HELD AS RESERVE BY THE OFFICE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND FOR SUPPLY TO MARKET MAKERS THROUGH SECONDARY MARKET TRADING.

THE BONDS WILL MATURE ON THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17, 1994 AND WILL CARRY INTEREST AT THE RATE OF 4.625% PER ANNUM PAYABLE SEMI-ANNUALLY IN ARREARS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO TENDER FOR THE BONDS MAY DO SO THROUGH ANY OF THE MARKET MAKERS OR RECOGNISED DEALERS ON THE PUBLISHED LIST WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND AT 24TH FLOOR, ADMIRALTY CENTRE, TOWER II, 18 HARCOURT ROAD, HONG KONG (OR TELEPHONE 528 9110).

EACH TENDER MUST BE FOR AN AMOUNT OF HK$50,000 OR INTEGRAL MULTIPLES THEREOF.

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CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO HAVE NEW LOOK

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THE WEST WING OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (CGO) WILL UNDERGO A FACE-LIFT IN THE NEXT 15 MONTHS.

THE DIRECTOR OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES, MR PAUL CORSER, TODAY (MONDAY) SIGNED A $138 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE REFURBISHMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT.

THE WORKS WILL UPGRADE THE BUILDING SERVICES AND FINISHES AND BETTER ALLOCATE ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT OFFICES.

THE BUILDING AND SERVICES OF THE OFFICE BLOCK, WHICH WAS CONSTRUCTED IN THE 1950'S, ARE NEARING THE END OF THEIR ECONOMIC LIFE SPAN.

ON COMPLETION, THE UPPER FLOORS OF THE 13-STOREY BUILDING WILL PROVIDE PREMISES FOR A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT BRANCHES.

THE ARRANGEMENT, COVERING ALSO OFFICES NOW LOCATED IN LEASED PREMISES, WILL ACHIEVE SUBSTANTIAL RENTAL SAVINGS.

/TWO LOWER .....

TWO LOWER FLOORS OF THE BUILDING WILL BE USED AS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS' OFFICES.

WORKS INCLUDE THE REFURBISHMENT OF 15,300 SQUARE METRES OF OFFICE SPACE, COMMON AREAS, LOBBIES AND ANCILLARY AREAS, AS WELL AS THE RENEWAL OF FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM AND AIR-CONDITIONING SYSTEM TO MODERN STANDARDS.

THEY WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN FOUR PHASES WITH THE FIRST PHASE STARTING IMMEDIATELY.

THE PROJECT IS UNDER A "DESIGN-AND-BUILD" CONTRACT FORM UNDER WHICH THE CONTRACTOR IS PROVIDED WITH OUTLINE DESIGN BRIEF, PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND PARTICULAR SPECIFICATIONS.

THE CONTRACTOR HAS TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR UNDERTAKING A COMPLETE PACKAGE OF SERVICES THROUGH TO PHYSICAL COMPLETION OF THE WORKS, ALL UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

MR CORSER SAID HIS DEPARTMENT HAD PIONEERED THE USE OF THIS FORM OF CONTRACT FOR GOVERNMENT BUILDING PROJECTS WHICH WAS FOUND TO WORK WELL WITH FAST TRACK ITEMS.

SO FAR, MAJOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT PROJECTS COMPLETED USING THIS FORM INCLUDE THE TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, THE CIVIL ENGINEERING BUILDING, THE EXTENSION TO CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES MAIN WING, IMMIGRATION BUILDING AT MA TAU KOK ROAD AND TAI A CHAU DETENTION CENTRE. THE TOTAL VALUE AMOUNTS TO OVER $600 MILLION.

THE CONTRACT FOR THE CGO WEST WING REFURBISHMENT WAS AWARDED TO WOON LEE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED.

THE GOVERNMENT PROPERTY ADMINISTRATOR, MR IAN WOTHERSPOON AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, MRS LESSIE WEI, WITNESSED THE CONTRACT-SIGNING CEREMONY.

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CONTRACT FOR CHINA WATER PUMPING WORKS AWARDED

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) AWARDED A $68 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF PUMPSETS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT FOR THE TAI PO TAU 'D' PUMPING STATION.

THE NEW INSTALLATION IS PART OF A $2.1 BILLION PROJECT TO EXPAND THE FACILITIES FOR RECEIVING AND TRANSFERRING WATER SUPPLY FROM CHINA.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE EXPANSION BY THE END OF 1994, THE RECEPTION AND TRANSFER CAPACITY WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE EXISTING 620 MILLION CUBIC METRES A YEAR TO 1,100 MILLION CUBIC METRES A YEAR.

/THE TAI .....

THE TAI PO TAU 'D' PUMPING STATION, WHICH ULTIMATELY HOUSES 14 PUMPS WITH A TOTAL INSTALLED CAPACITY OF THREE MILLION CUBIC METRES A DAY, WILL BE THE LARGEST RAW WATER PUMPING STATION IN HONG KONG.

THE PRESENT CONTRACT INCLUDES THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF FIVE PUMPSETS AND PIPEWORK, FOUR BANDSCREENS AND ASSOCIATED SWITCHGEAR.

OTHER MAJOR ITEMS INCLUDE FOUR OVERHEAD TRAVELLING GANTRY CRANES, DEWATERING PUMPS AND STATION VENTILATION SYSTEM.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES/CHINA WATER, MR KO CHAN-GOCK AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF MITSUBISHI CORPORATION (HONG KONG) LIMITED.

THE PROJECT CONSULTANT IS BINNIE CONSULTANTS LTD.

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TRIPARTITE CO-OPERATION TO ENHANCE WORK SAFETY
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THE GOVERNMENT, EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES MUST WORK TOGETHER TO PROMOTE SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK, THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MRS KATHERINE FOK, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (OSH) WEEK '92, MRS FOK NOTED THAT OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH WAS RECEIVING INCREASING CONCERN IN HONG KONG.

"IT HAS BECOME MORE WIDELY ACCEPTED THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROMOTING A SAFE AND HEALTHY WORKING ENVIRONMENT FALLS NOT ONLY ON THE SHOULDERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT ALSO ON THOSE OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES," MRS FOK SAID.

"INDEED, THE GOVERNMENT ALWAYS SUPPORTS AND ENCOURAGES TRIPARTITE CO-OPERATION IN PROMOTING WORK SAFETY AND HEALTH," SHE SAID.

"THIS IS WHY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT JOINS HANDS WITH THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL (OSHC) TO ORGANISE THE SAFETY AND HEALTH WEEK THIS YEAR," MRS FOK SAID, STRESSING THAT SUCH CO-OPERATION WOULD CONTINUE.

SHE NOTED THAT THE SYMPOSIUM ON SAFETY AUDITING, WHICH MARKED THE OPENING OF THIS YEAR'S OSH WEEK, WAS A NEW CONCEPT OF SAFETY MANAGEMENT FOR SOME PEOPLE IN HONG KONG.

"IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING COMPLEXITY OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES AND GROWING DEMAND FOR HAZARD PREVENTION, THERE IS A NEED FOR MORE ACCURATE MEASUREMENT AND BETTER ASSESSMENT OF FORESEEABLE HAZARD AT WORK TO PREVENT INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE MORE EFFECTIVELY," SHE SAID.

"SAFETY AUDITING, A MODERN TECHNIQUE IN AUDITING THE PERFORMANCE OF A COMPANY'S SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAMME, HAS BEEN PRACTISED IN SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FOR MANY YEARS," MRS FOK SAID.

/"IT HAS .....

"IT HAS BEEN RECOGNISED BY MANY SAFETY MANAGERS AND PROFESSIONALS AS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE TOOLS IN EVALUATING AN UNDERTAKING'S SAFETY POLICIES AND IDENTIFYING NEEDS FOR SAFER PROCEDURES," SHE ADDED.

ORGANISED JOINTLY BY THE OSHC AND THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE OSH WEEK '92 WAS OFFICIATED BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CHEUNG KONG (HOLDINGS) LIMITED, MR LI KA-SHING; OSHC CHAIRMAN, PROFESSOR LEUNG PING-CHUNG; AND CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE CAMPAIGN ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR KWAN KON-WAH AND MR TSANG BUN.

PROFESSOR LEUNG, IN HIS OPENING SPEECH, POINTED OUT THAT TRIPARTITE CO-OPERATION WAS ESSENTIAL IN THE PREVENTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS WHICH WAS OF INCREASING IMPORTANCE IN MODERN SOCIETY.

HE NOTED THAT THE OSHC HAD BEEN WORKING HARD TO PROMOTE AND CO-ORDINATE TRIPARTITE EFFORTS AND CONVEY THE IMPORTANT MESSAGES OF WORK SAFETY SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1988.

"WE BELIEVE THAT WITH THIS MESSAGE ON SAFETY AND HEALTH DEEP ROOTED, WE WILL EVENTUALLY BRING ABOUT A NEW WORKING GENERATION WHICH INCLUDE BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES WHO TREAT SAFETY AS A NECESSITY AND A STYLE OF THEIR WORK," PROFESSOR LEUNG SAID.

"THIS CHANGE IN WORKING ATTITUDE WILL HELP TO ENSURE ALL PREVENTIVE MEASURES TAKEN TO MINIMISE ACCIDENT RATE AND TO PROMOTE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH," HE ADDED.

PROFESSOR LEUNG THANKED MR LI KA-SHING FOR HIS SUPPORT IN THIS YEAR'S OSH WEEK.

HE BELIEVED THAT AS A MAJOR DEVELOPER AND EMPLOYER IN HONG KONG, MR LI'S PATRONAGE WOULD DEFINITELY STIMULATE STRONGER CONCERN OVER OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH AMONG MEMBERS IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS.

THE SYMPOSIUM ON SAFETY AND HEALTH AUDITING SYSTEM, WHICH WAS HELD IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, ATTRACTED MORE THAN 480 PARTICIPANTS, MOSTLY MANAGERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK.

OVERSEAS EXPERTS, INCLUDING MR FRANK LINDSAY, DIRECTOR OF THE UK ACCIDENT PREVENTION ADVISORY UNIT, HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE; AND MR GOH CHYE-GUAN, A SAFETY AUDITOR IN SINGAPORE, GAVE TALKS ON THEIR EXPERIENCE IN MODERN TECHNIQUE TO ACHIEVE A SAFER AND HEALTHIER WORK ENVIRONMENT.

DURING THE OSH WEEK, THERE WILL BE A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY WHICH ARE SPONSORED BY THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CAMPAIGN INCLUDE FLOAT PARADES IN TSUEN WAN AND SHA TIN, AND A SPORTS MEET AT THE HAMMER HILL STADIUM TO EMPHASISE CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

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NEW ROAD TO AIRPORT BUILDING PLANNED

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CARRY OUT A PACKAGE OF ROADWORKS TO IMPROVE THE ROAD TRAFFIC IN THE VICINITY OF THE KAI TAK AIRPORT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT PLANS WERE FORGING AHEAD TO PROVIDE DIRECT ACCESS TO THE VEHICULAR RAMP TO THE DEPARTURE PODIUM OF THE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING AS WELL AS A CARRIAGEWAY FOR EASTBOUND TRAFFIC ALONG A SECTION OF CONCORDE ROAD.

THE PROPOSED WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CARRIAGEWAY LINKING UP ELECTRA DRIVE ROUNDABOUT WITH THE SERPENTINE SECTION OF CONCORDE ROAD AS WELL AS THE RE-ALIGNMENT AND WIDENING OF THE SECTION OF CONCORDE ROAD ADJACENT TO OIL COMPANY TANK FARM.

A BRIDGE WILL ALSO BE BUILT ACROSS THE KAI TAK NULLAH WHILE ASSOCIATED RECONSTRUCTION AND RESURFACING WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON THE EXISTING ROADS, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THESE WORKS ARE PROGRAMMED TO START IN MAY NEXT YEAR AND WILL COMPLETE IN 10 MONTHS.

A NOTICE OF THE PROJECT IS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN IN THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES DURING OFFICE HOURS:

* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY.

* DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON EAST, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, YAU MA TEI; AND

* KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE, 141-143 KAU PUI LUNG ROAD, FIRST FLOOR, KOWLOON CITY.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED WORKS MUST WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR, EAST WING, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG BEFORE JANUARY 5, 1993.

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10 STAND FOR LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FROM TRADE UNIONS 10 NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD.

OF THE CANDIDATES, FIVE WILL BE ELECTED TO THE BOARD FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM STARTING NEXT JANUARY.

THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 5 AT WAH YAN COLLEGE IN KOWLOON ON THE BASIS OF ONE-UNION, ONE-VOTE.

THE CANDIDATES ARE:

* MR LEUNG FU-WAH

HONG KONG AND KOWLOON RUBBER AND PLASTIC WORKERS GENERAL UNION

* MR CHEUNG KWOK-BUI, FELIX

HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANTS GENERAL UNION

* MS LI FUNG-YING

HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES' GENERAL UNION

* MR CHU MING

HONG KONG PROSTHETISTS AND ORTHOTISTS ASSOCIATION

* MS CHEUNG WAI-LIN

BRITISH ARMED FORCES CHINESE EMPLOYEES FREE UNION, HONG KONG

* MR LEUNG CHOK-FU

HONG KONG AND KOWLOON CLOCK AND WATCH TRADE WORKERS UNION

* MR CHEUNG PAK-CHI

CABLE AND WIRELESS (HK) LTD STAFF ASSOCIATION

* MR LEUNG TSZ-LEUNG

HONG KONG BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS GENERAL UNION

* MR LEUNG SHIU-CHUN

UNION OF HEADS OF AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS OF HONG KONG

/* CAPTAIN W .....

* CAPTAIN W B TUCKNOTT

HONG KONG AIRCREW OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

"LETTERS WERE SENT TO ALL 479 REGISTERED EMPLOYEES' TRADE UNIONS TODAY (MONDAY), INVITING THEM TO REGISTER AS ELECTORS IF THEY WISH TO VOTE IN THE ELECTION," THE BOARD'S SECRETARY, MRS TERESA LO, SAID.

"EACH ELECTOR MAY APPOINT UP TO TWO AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES, WHO MUST EITHER BE PAID-UP MEMBERS, OFFICERS OR PAID STAFF OF THE UNION, TO ATTEND THE ELECTION," MRS LO EXPLAINED.

COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS SHOULD REACH THE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, LABOUR DEPARTMENT, 15TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL BY NOON ON NOVEMBER 21 (SATURDAY).

"REGISTRATION FORMS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WOULD NOT BE ACCEPTED UNLESS THEY WERE POSTED ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 21," SHE SAID.

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TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS GET CASH AID

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) APPROVED $64,330 FROM THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE (TAVA) FUND TO THE DEPENDENTS OF A FACTORY WORKER KILLED IN A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT ON OCTOBER 26.

THE 21-YEAR-OLD WOMAN, WHO WAS KNOCKED DOWN BY A LORRY AT CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, WAS SURVIVED BY HER PARENTS AND FOUR SISTERS.

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT GRANTED $10,910 FROM THE FUND TO THREE OTHER VICTIMS WHO WERE INJURED IN THE ACCIDENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE TAVA SCHEME PROVIDED QUICK FINANCIAL HELP TO TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDENTS WITHOUT REGARD TO THE MEANS OF A FAMILY OR THE FAULT ELEMENT IN THE ACCIDENT.

BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE SCHEME WILL RETAIN THE RIGHT TO MAKE CLAIMS FOR LEGAL DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION FROM OTHER SOURCES IN THE USUAL WAY.

HOWEVER, THOSE WHO RECEIVE OTHER DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION RELATING TO THE SAME ACCIDENT ARE REQUIRED TO REPAY THE AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE ALREADY RECEIVED FROM THE SCHEME.

BUT IN ANY CASE, THE AMOUNT REPAID WILL NOT EXCEED THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGES OR COMPENSATION AWARDED, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SCHEME MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S TAVA SECTION IN ROOM 942, NINTH FLOOR, WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI OR ON TEL 892 5526.

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WORKSHOP ON SOILLESS CULTURE OF VEGETABLES

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ABOUT 100 FARMERS, UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND TEACHING STAFF ARE TAKING PART IN A WORKSHOP ON SOILLESS CULTURE OF VEGETABLES AND PROTECTED CROPPING FROM TODAY (MONDAY) TO NEXT TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 17).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT SAID THE WORKSHOP WAS AIMED AT ENHANCING THE KNOW-HOW OF FARMERS ON THE GROWING OF PROTECTED CROPS AND HYDROPONIC VEGETABLES.

APART FROM THE FARMERS, SOME 30 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND TEACHING STAFF MAY ALSO PRACTISE MODERN FARMING TECHNIQUES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE EIGHT-DAY WORKSHOP, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT AND THE KADOORIE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTRE (KARC) OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, COMPRISES SEVEN MORNING LECTURES AND SEVEN AFTERNOON PRACTICAL SESSIONS.

THE LECTURES WILL BE GIVEN BY DR KAO TE-CHEN, AN EXPERT FROM THE AGRICULTURE IMPROVMENT STATION OF TAI CHUNG DISTRICT, TAIWAN, AT KARC AT LAM KAM ROAD IN SHEK KONG.

AMONG THE TOPICS TO BE COVERED WILL BE: PROTECTED VEGETABLE CULTURE IN SUB-TROPICAL REGIONS, COMMERCIALISED HYDROPONIC SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD, DYNAMIC ROOT FLOATING SYSTEMS, NUTRIENT SOLUTION PREPARATION AND MANAGEMENT AS WELL AS MICRO-CLIMATE ON VEGETABLE GROWTH AND PEST/DISEASE OCCURRENCE.

THE LECTURES WILL BE FOLLOWED BY GROUP DISCUSSIONS.

THE AFTERNOON SESSIONS, TO BE HELD AT THE DEPARTMENT'S EXPERIMENTAL STATION IN TAI LUNG, LIN TONG MEI, WILL INCLUDE HYDRO-CULTURE VIDEO SHOWS AND OTHER PRACTICAL VEGETABLE CULTURES AND ANALYSIS, SEEDING AND SEEDLINGS TRANSPLANTATION, PREPARATION OF NUTRIENT SOLUTION AS WELL AS GREENHOUSE INSTALLATION.

A VISIT TO A MAJOR HYDRO-CULTURE FARM IN THE TERRITORY WILL ALSO BE ORGANISED IN THE MORNING OF NOVEMBER 14, A SATURDAY, TO ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO HAVE A BROADER VIEW ON THE NORMAL OPERATION OF THESE SET-UPS UNDER THE LOCAL CLIMATIC CONDITIONS AND OTHER LIMITATIONS.

THE WORKSHOP WAS LAUNCHED THIS (MONDAY) MORNING AT A CEREMONY BY THE DEPARTMENT'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (AGRICULTURE), MISS VERA SO AND THE KARC'S DIRECTOR, PROFESSOR DANIEL CHAN KWONG-ON.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 76.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 447.658 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 279.185 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 47.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	$ MILLION
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
REVERSAL OF LAF	NIL
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+1,800
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	3,300

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 112.8 *+0.1* 9.11.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.73 PCT
1 MONTH	2.91 PCT
3 MONTHS	3.25 PCT
6 MONTHS	3.45 PCT
12 MONTHS	4.04 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
12 MONTHS	2311	6.25	102.25	4.03
15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	101.30	4.48
18 MONTHS	2405	5.502	101.30	4.66
21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	99.30	4.85

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 14,783 MN

CLOSED 9 NOVEMBER 1992

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