



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1991

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FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1991

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GOVT TO GO TO FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR AIRPORT PROJECT FUNDS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, HOPEFULLY WITHIN TWO WEEKS, TO SEEK FUNDS FOR THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING AND THE AIRPORT PLATFORM, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER AN AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, SIR DAVID SAID THE GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT THE TENDER FOR THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING WOULD BE ISSUED ABOUT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN HOLDING MEETINGS WEEKLY SINCE THE AIRPORT PROJECT BEGAN.

"WE HAD ANOTHER USEFUL MEETING AND WE WILL BE CONTINUING WITH ALL THE PREPARATORY WORK TO GET AHEAD WITH THE AIRPORT IN GOOD TIME," HE SAID.

ON THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME PROJECTS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID: "WE'RE ALWAYS REFINING THE PROGRAMME BOTH IN TERMS OF TIME, SCOPE AND COST. AND WE DID SOME MORE OF THAT TODAY.

"WE WILL REPORT THE LATEST STAGE AND LATEST VIEW ON THAT WHEN WE GO TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS' TIME."

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FS - DESIGNATE CALLS ON UK OFFICIALS

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY (DESIGNATE), MR HAMISH MACLEOD, WHO IS SPENDING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY IN LONDON, HAS CALLED ON OFFICIALS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM TREASURY INCLUDING THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, MR NORMAN LAMONT, AND THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO THE TREASURY, MR FRANCIS MAUDE.

MR MACLEOD IS ON THE SECOND LEG OF HIS EUROPEAN TRIP AFTER THE VIENNA CONFERENCE. HIS PROGRAMME ALSO INCLUDES MEETINGS WITH THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, LORD CAITHNESS, AND OFFICIALS OF THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE.

HE WILL ALSO MEET LEADING MEMBERS OF THE BANKING AND BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

MR MACLEOD'S DUTY VISIT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM ENDS WITH A TWO-DAY PROGRAMME ORGANISED BY THE BANK OF ENGLAND. HE WILL START HIS FOUR-WEEK VACATION LEAVE NEXT WEEK.

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BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE HONG KONG LIMITED

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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR DAVID CARSE, HAS TODAY (FRIDAY) MADE A STATEMENT ON THE IMPLICATIONS FOR BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE HONG KONG LTD (BCCHK) OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE ARISEN ELSEWHERE IN THE BCC GROUP. HE HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE ORIGIN OF THESE PROBLEMS LIES OUTSIDE HONG KONG. THEY CAST NO DOUBTS ON THE HONG KONG BANKING SYSTEM WHICH REMAINS HEALTHY AND SOUND.

BCCHK IS AN ENTIRELY SEPARATE ENTITY FROM THOSE PARTS OF THE BCC GROUP WHERE THE PROBLEMS HAVE ARISEN AND SHOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY THESE PROBLEMS. THE COMMISSIONER HAS GIVEN HIS ASSURANCE THAT THE OPERATIONS OF BCCHK REMAIN SOUND AND VIABLE.

MR CARSE SAID: "THERE IS NO EVIDENCE HERE OF THE SUSPECTED FRAUD WHICH HAS LED TO THE DIFFICULTIES IN THE REST OF THE BCC GROUP. FOLLOWING THE AUDIT OF ITS 1990 ACCOUNTS, BCCHK HAS A SUBSTANTIAL CUSHION OF PROVISIONS AGAINST BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS AND THESE ARE STILL REGARDED AS ADEQUATE."

"AT PRESENT, BCCHK IS MEETING ALL THE COMMISSIONER'S PRUDENTIAL REQUIREMENTS, INCLUDING THOSE RELATING TO LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL ADEQUACY. BCCHK HAS ONLY MINOR DEALINGS WITH THE REST OF THE BCC GROUP."

THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING IS SEEKING TO MEET WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF ABU DHABI, WHICH IS THE ULTIMATE MAJORITY OWNER OF BCCHK, TO DISCUSS THE EXTENT AND NATURE OF ANY FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BCCHK, IF ANY SHOULD BE REQUIRED. THE OFFICE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND HAS ALSO INDICATED ITS WILLINGNESS TO PLACE FUNDS WITH BCCHK, SHOULD THIS PROVE NECESSARY, ON NORMAL COMMERCIAL TERMS.

IN THE MEANTIME, TO PROVIDE FURTHER ASSURANCE THAT THE INTERESTS OF DEPOSITORS ARE FULLY PROTECTED, THE COMMISSIONER HAS APPOINTED MR ALBERT CHEOK, THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, AND MR COLIN SELBY OF THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD TO ACT AS ADVISERS TO THE MANAGEMENT OF BCCHK IN THE PRUDENT CONDUCT OF ITS BUSINESS. THE COMMISSIONER HAS TAKEN THIS ACTION UNDER SECTION 52(1)(B) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

IT HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE SUPERVISORY AUTHORITIES IN LUXEMBOURG AND THE CAYMAN ISLANDS HAVE TAKEN ACTION TO SECURE CONTROL OF THE ASSETS OF, RESPECTIVELY, BCCI SA, A LUXEMBOURG-INCORPORATED BANK AND BCCI OVERSEAS LTD, A CAYMANS-INCORPORATED BANK. THESE BANKS ARE SISTER COMPANIES OF BCCHK, ALL THREE INSTITUTIONS BEING OWNED BY THE SAME LUXEMBOURG HOLDING COMPANY, BCCI HOLDINGS SA. THE BUSINESS OF BCCHK IS, HOWEVER, ENTIRELY SEPARATE FROM THAT OF ITS SISTER COMPANIES. BCCI HOLDINGS SA IS 77% OWNED BY THE ABU DHABI GOVERNMENT.

MR CHEOK IS ON SECONDMENT FROM THE RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA WHERE HE WAS THE CHIEF MANAGER, BANK SUPERVISION DEPARTMENT. MR SELBY IS CURRENTLY HEAD OF INTERNAL AUDIT AT THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LTD AND HAS BEEN WITH THE BANK FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS.

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RENT CONTROL TO BE EXTENDED FOR THREE MORE YEARS

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS ENDORSED THE EXTENSION OF THE LIFE OF PART II OF THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE FOR THREE YEARS TO DECEMBER 31, 1994.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THIS PART OF THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES SECURITY OF TENURE AND CONTROLS INCREASES IN RENTS OF CERTAIN POST-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES.

IT IS DUE TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 18, 1991 UNLESS EXTENDED BY A RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AS AT JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR, THERE WERE 43,000 SUCH TENANCIES BUT ADDED THAT THEIR NUMBER WAS DIMINISHING AT THE RATE OF ABOUT 5,000 A YEAR DUE TO REPOSSESSION, FRESH LETTINGS AT MARKET RENTS AND DEMOLITION FOR REDEVELOPMENT.

HE STRESSED THAT CAREFUL CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO IDENTIFYING A SUITABLE EXTENSION PERIOD FOR PART II.

"GIVEN THE CURRENT DISPARITY BETWEEN CONTROLLED AND MARKET RENTS AS WELL AS THE NEED TO AVOID ADVERSE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES, IT WAS NOT CONSIDERED FEASIBLE TO PHASE OUT RENT CONTROLS BEFORE 1994," HE ADDED.

HE SAID IT REMAINED THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO PHASE OUT RENT CONTROLS ON A GRADATED BASIS AND PROPOSALS WERE BEING FORMULATED TO ALLOW THE CONTROLS TO BE PROGRESSIVELY ADJUSTED OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS TO A POINT WHERE THEY MIGHT BE DISPENSED WITH.

TENTATIVELY, IT WAS PROPOSED TO ADJUST ON AN ANNUAL BASIS THE MINIMUM PERCENTAGE COMPONENT (THE MINIMUM RENT TO BE REACHED BY CONTROLLED TENANCIES) BY SOME 7.5 PERCENTAGE POINTS, HE EXPLAINED.

"THIS SHOULD ALLOW THE MINIMUM PERCENTAGE COMPONENT TO RISE TO WITHIN 10 PER CENT OF THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT BY THE END OF 1994.

"AT THIS STAGE THE CONTROLS SHOULD BE CAPABLE OF BEING DROPPED WITHOUT CAUSING HARDSHIP TO AFFECTED TENANTS.

"THE EFFECT ON INFLATION WOULD BE INSIGNIFICANT IN VIEW OF THE SMALL NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS INVOLVED," HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS ALSO PROPOSED TO PHASE OUT CONTROLS UNDER PART I OF THE ORDINANCE WHICH AFFECT ABOUT 940 PRE-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES.

HE DREW ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THOSE TENANCIES CEASING TO BE PROTECTED BY PARTS I AND II WOULD CONTINUE TO BE AFFORDED SECURITY OF TENURE UNDER PART IV OF THE ORDINANCE.

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"IN ADDITION, IT IS PROPOSED TO REVISE AND ENHANCE THE STATUTORY COMPENSATION PAYABLE TO TENANTS IN AFFECTED PREMISES WHO ARE DISPOSSESSED ON GROUNDS OF REDEVELOPMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE PROPOSALS WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION EARLY NEXT SESSION.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE PHILOSOPHY THAT IN THIS PARTICULAR AREA, SOCIAL CONSIDERATION MAY OUTWEIGH ECONOMIC FORCES," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, THE RESOLUTION TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF PART II IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 17.

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OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARDS DECLARED INVALID
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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT ALL OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARDS ISSUED BEFORE JULY 1, 1987 TO WOMEN BORN BETWEEN 1929 AND 1950 WILL BECOME INVALID FROM JULY 15.

A NOTICE TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE NEXT FRIDAY (JULY 12).

THIS IS THE 10TH BATCH OF IDENTITY CARDS DECLARED INVALID SINCE THIS NEW IDENTITY CARD RE-ISSUE SCHEME STARTED ON JULY 1, 1987.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID: "ONCE AN OLD CARD IS DECLARED INVALID, IT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR ANY PURPOSE.

"FOR EXAMPLE, WOMEN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP HOLDING AN INVALID OLD-TYPE IDENTITY CARD WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE IT FOR TRAVELLING ABROAD OR TO APPLY FOR A TRAVEL DOCUMENT."

THOSE WHO HAVE MISSED THEIR SPECIFIED CARD REPLACEMENT PERIODS DUE TO THEIR ABSENCE FROM HONG KONG OR ANY OTHER REASONS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY APPROACH ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES.

THESE CASES WILL BE LOOKED INTO THOROUGHLY AND DEALT WITH ON THEIR INDIVIDUAL MERITS.

THE SIZE OF THE NEW TYPE IDENTITY CARDS IS THE SAME AS THE OLD ONES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THERE ARE SOME DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE OLD CARDS AND THE NEW ONES.

THE MAIN DIFFERENCES ARE:

- * THE IDENTITY CARD NUMBER IS PRINTED ON THE TOP RIGHT CORNER OF THE OLD CARD, BUT ON THE BOTTOM RIGHT CORNER OF THE NEW CARD; AND
- * THE HONG KONG CREST AT THE BACK IS REPLACED BY THE MULTICOLOUR BACKGROUND PRINTING.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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CIVIC EDUCATION EXHIBITION ON LEGCO

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RESIDENTS CAN GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BY VISITING AN EXHIBITION WHICH BEGINS TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION, ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, WILL BE HELD AT THE EXHIBITION HALL, LOW BLOCK, CITY HALL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMITTEE SAID: "WITH THE THEME 'HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LEGCO?', THE SHOW EXHIBITION TO ENHANCE PUBLIC INTEREST AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW-MAKING BODY.

"THIS, WE HOPE, WILL ALSO ENCOURAGE THEM TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN THE FIRST DIRECT ELECTIONS TO LEGCO IN SEPTEMBER, WHICH IS PART OF CIVIC EDUCATION IN A BROAD SENSE," HE ADDED.

ASIDE FROM INTRODUCING LEGCO'S SET-UP, THE EXHIBITION WILL FEATURE DETAILS OF THE EIGHT WINNING PROJECTS UNDER THE OUTSTANDING CIVIC EDUCATION AWARDS.

THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN FROM 3 PM TO 8 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY), FROM 10 AM TO 8 PM ON SUNDAY (JULY 7), AND FROM 10 AM TO 5 PM ON MONDAY (JULY 8).

AN OPENING CEREMONY OF THE EXHIBITION AND PRIZE PRESENTATION OF THE OUTSTANDING CIVIC EDUCATION AWARDS WILL BE HELD AT THE VENUE AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW.

OFFICIATING WILL BE THE SENIOR LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR ALLEN LEE; THE COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN, DR DANIEL TSE; AND THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR ALBERT LAM.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CIVIC EDUCATION EXHIBITION TO BE HELD AT THE EXHIBITION HALL, LOW BLOCK, CITY HALL AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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TENDERS INVITED FOR CIVIL WORKS OF TRAFFIC CONTROL TV SYSTEM

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CIVIL WORKS OF THE CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM FOR THE HONG KONG AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SCHEME.

DETAILS OF THE TENDER ARE CONTAINED IN THE GAZETTE PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE HONG KONG AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM, COMMISSIONED IN MID-1989, PRESENTLY CONTROLLED ABOUT 200 TRAFFIC SIGNAL JUNCTIONS ALONG THE NORTH SHORE OF HONG KONG ISLAND.

AS PART OF THE PROJECT, AS WELL AS TO ACHIEVE FULL BENEFITS OF THE AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM, THE SPOKESMAN SAID A CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM WAS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE VISUAL OBSERVATION OF TRAFFIC SITUATIONS AT STRATEGIC INTERSECTIONS OF THE STREET NETWORK FROM KENNEDY TOWN TO SHAU KEI WAN ALONG THE NORTH SHORE.

"THE SYSTEM WILL INITIALLY CATER FOR ABOUT 29 CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS AND COULD BE EXPANDED TO CONTROL UP TO 40 CAMERAS IN FUTURE.

"ACTUAL REAL TIME SURVEILLANCE OF THE ROAD TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AT THE CONCERNED LOCATIONS WILL BE CONDUCTED BY STAFF OF THE HONG KONG SYSTEM FOLLOWING ITS INSTALLATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING TRAFFIC FLOW AND PEDESTRIAN ROAD CROSSING TIMES.

"THE OPERATION OF THE POLICE AND EMERGENCY VEHICLES WILL ALSO BENEFIT FROM THE IMPROVED TRAFFIC SITUATION," HE ADDED.

WORKS INVOLVING THE INSTALLATION OF HIGH MAST COLUMNS, THE CONSTRUCTION OF MAST FOUNDATIONS, AND THE ASSOCIATED DRAWPITS AND DUCTING WORKS, ARE EXPECTED TO START IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 11 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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NEW FRANCHISE FOR HATS

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THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HAS SIGNED A NEW FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH THE HONG KONG AIR TERMINAL SERVICES LTD (HATS) FOR THE PROVISION OF PASSENGER, BAGGAGE AND CARGO HANDLING AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE CURRENT FRANCHISE WHICH HATS HOLDS FOR THE LOADING AND OFF-LOADING OF PASSENGERS, BAGGAGE AND CARGO (EXCEPT IN THE AIR CARGO TERMINALS) EXPIRED ON JUNE 30 THIS YEAR.

"THE NEW FRANCHISE, WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 1996, HAS BEEN AWARDED ON THE BASIS OF SATISFACTORY PAST PERFORMANCE BY THE COMPANY AND IT COVERS OPERATIONS AT KAI TAK ONLY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1991

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APPEAL AGAINST TAX EVASION CONVICTION DISMISSED

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THE COURT OF APPEAL TODAY (FRIDAY) DISMISSED AN APPEAL BY A 51-YEAR-OLD BUSINESSMAN AGAINST CONVICTION OF TAX EVASION CHARGES.

ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE CONS, AND JUSTICES KEMPSTER AND POWER RULED THAT THE APPELLANT, KWOK HING-FOR KINGSFORD, HAD TO SERVE 30 DAYS MORE IN VIEW OF THE UNMERITORIOUS GROUND OF THE APPEAL.

THE COURT OF APPEAL DIRECTED THAT THERE WERE NO MERITORIOUS GROUND FOR THIS APPEAL AND UNDER SECTION 83W OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE, THE 30 DAYS OF PERIOD IN CUSTODY WHICH KWOK HAD SPENT SINCE FILING HIS APPEAL SHOULD NOT BE COUNTED TOWARDS THE SENTENCE.

KWOK WAS SENTENCED TO 12 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT AND FINED A TOTAL OF \$3.3 MILLION FOR TAX EVASION IN WANCHAI DISTRICT COURT ON FEBRUARY 5, 1991.

THE FINE WAS EQUIVALENT TO 200 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL TAX EVADED.

REPRESENTING THE CROWN WAS ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL, MR MICHAEL BLANCHFLOWER. APPEARING FOR THE APPELLANT WERE MR JEFFREY WATSON AND ALEXANDER LAU.

THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT TAX EVASION IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE. UPON CONVICTION, THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE IS THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF \$20,000 ON EACH CHARGE, IN ADDITION TO A FURTHER FINE EQUIVALENT TO THREE TIMES THE AMOUNT OF TAX UNDERCHARGED.

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REPORT ON 1989 SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS NOW ON SALE

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A STATISTICAL REPORT ENTITLED "1989 SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS" HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AND IS NOW ON SALE AT \$26 PER COPY.

IT IS ONE IN A SERIES OF REPORTS PUBLISHED ANNUALLY ON THE SURVEY.

THE REPORT CONTAINS A WIDE RANGE OF STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURAL AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES FOR THE YEAR 1989, BASED ON THE DATA COLLECTED FROM ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN THESE ACTIVITIES.

BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS REFER TO THE INDUSTRIES OF:

* BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION;

/* REAL ESTATE

* REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT, LEASING, BROKERAGE AND MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT SERVICES;

* ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PROJECT ENGINEERING SERVICES.

EXAMPLES OF THE STATISTICAL ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE REPORT ARE:

* NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES;

* GROSS OUTPUT, SERVICE INCOME AND OTHER INCOME;

* VALUE ADDED (A MEASURE OF CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT);

* PURCHASE OF GOODS AND MATERIALS;

* OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES;

* GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS.

APART FROM STATISTICS RELATING TO THE YEAR 1989, THE REPORT ALSO CONTAINS SOME SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1987 AND 1988 TO SHOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE INDUSTRIES IN RECENT YEARS.

THE STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR POLICY FORMULATION, DECISION MAKING, ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND MARKET RESEARCH.

COPIES OF THE REPORT MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL OR AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 839 3204.

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RE-APPOINTMENT TO FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT MR PETER WONG MAN-KONG HAS BEEN RE-APPOINTED TO THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE UP TO MARCH 31, 1993.

MR WONG, AN INDUSTRIALIST, HAS SERVED ON THE COMMITTEE SINCE AUGUST 3, 1989.

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SCHOOL DANCE TEAMS TO COMPETE IN SPAIN AND MACAU
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HONG KONG'S YOUNG DANCERS WILL BE COMPETING AGAINST THOSE FROM EUROPE, CANADA, ISRAEL, AND ASIA IN TWO INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS.

FIFTY STUDENTS FROM 12 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL TAKE PART IN THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DANCE FESTIVAL TO BE HELD IN MACAU FROM JULY 10 TO JULY 17.

ANOTHER DELEGATION OF 16 SCHOOLGIRLS FROM 13 SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL LEAVE FOR BARCELONA IN SPAIN ON JULY 17 TO VIE FOR HONOURS IN THE NINTH INTERNATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, TODAY (FRIDAY) PRESENTED FLAGS TO THE TWO DELEGATIONS AT A CEREMONY HELD BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL.

THE YOUNG DANCERS WERE SELECTED AFTER SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING TRAINING BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

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NEW RECREATIONAL FACILITIES FOR SAI WAN HO
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NEW RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WILL SOON BE PROVIDED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL IN AN OPEN SPACE ON SAI WAN HO RECLAMATION.

THESE INCLUDE FOUR TENNIS COURTS, A SITTING-OUT AREA WITH ARBOURS, A CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND WITH PLAY-EQUIPMENT AND SAFETY MATS, AND PLANTING AREAS.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THESE FACILITIES AS WELL AS A SINGLE-STOREY REINFORCED CONCRETE SERVICE BUILDING IN THE SAME AREA.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN OCTOBER AND TAKE ABOUT 12 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDER FORMS AND PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDER IS NOON ON JULY 26.

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TRANSPORT DEPT'S HK LICENSING OFFICE TO BE RENOVATED

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RENOVATION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT AT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S HONG KONG LICENSING OFFICE FROM MONDAY (JULY 8) TO CUSTOMISE ITS GENERAL LAYOUT AND TO IMPROVE OFFICE EFFICIENCY IN PROVIDING SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH RENOVATION PERIOD LICENSING SERVICES WOULD BE MAINTAINED IN FULL, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"HOWEVER, AS THE NUMBER OF COUNTERS WILL BE REDUCED DURING THE DIFFERENT PHASES OF RENOVATION, PROCESSING TIME MIGHT BE LONGER THAN USUAL.

"IT IS THEREFORE ADVISABLE TO SEND RENEWAL APPLICATIONS FOR VEHICLE AND DRIVING LICENCES BY POST UNLESS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PREFER TO APPLY IN PERSON AT THE DEPARTMENT'S OTHER LICENSING OFFICES IN KOWLOON, KWUN TONG AND SHA TIN," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID DRIVING TESTS SCHEDULED AT THE HONG KONG DRIVING TEST APPOINTMENT OFFICE WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BUT EFFORTS WOULD BE MADE TO REDUCE NOISE GENERATED FROM THE CONSTRUCTION WORK TO THE MINIMUM TO AVOID CAUSING TOO MUCH NUISANCE TO THE CANDIDATES.

WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE \$0.88 MILLION RENOVATION PROJECT BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER, THE LICENSING OFFICE'S LAYOUT WOULD BE IMPROVED, PARTICULARLY THE COUNTERS WHICH WERE DESIGNED IN THE EARLY 70'S.

"A MORE COMFORTABLE ENVIRONMENT AND MODERNISED COUNTER FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAKING APPLICATIONS AT THE OFFICE.

"A NEW COMPUTER SYSTEM WILL ALSO BE INSTALLED AND WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL IN LATE NOVEMBER TO FURTHER ENHANCE EFFICIENCY," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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YOUTH MUSIC CAMP TO START SOON

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THE HONG KONG YOUTH MUSIC CAMP WILL BE HELD THIS YEAR AT THE LEI YUE MUN PARK IN EASTERN DISTRICT FROM JULY 20 TO AUGUST 3.

ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE AND SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB, THE CAMP HAS BECOME AN ANNUAL EVENT SINCE 1980 TO PROVIDE INTENSIVE MUSIC TRAINING TO YOUNG MUSICIANS.

OVER 400 YOUNG MUSICAL TALENTS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE CAMP WHICH COMPRISES A SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, A CHINESE ORCHESTRA, THREE SYMPHONIC BANDS, TWO STRING ORCHESTRAS AND A CHOIR.

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DURING THE CAMP PERIOD, THE CAMPERS, INCLUDING 18 OVERSEAS YOUNG MUSICIANS, WILL RECEIVE INSTRUCTION AND GUIDANCE FROM GUEST MUSICIANS FROM HONG KONG, THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.

THEY WILL ALSO RECEIVE A VARIETY OF MUSIC TRAINING BY TAKING PART IN ORCHESTRAL AND SECTIONAL REHEARSALS, MASTERCLASSES AND DEMONSTRATION CONCERTS.

BESIDES MUSIC TRAINING, A WIDE RANGE OF RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING ARCHERY, SNOOKER, TENNIS, TELEMATCH, MUSIC QUIZ AS WELL AS FOLK DANCE WILL BE ARRANGED.

TO MARK THE CLOSE OF THE CAMP, A FINALE CONCERT WILL BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE CONCERT HALL ON AUGUST 3, BEGINNING AT 3 PM.

THE CAMP'S SENIOR SYMPHONIC BAND, STRING ORCHESTRA, CHOIR, CHINESE ORCHESTRA AND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA WILL PRESENT A SUPERB MUSIC PROGRAMME INCLUDING STRAUSS' "BLUE DANUBE WALTZ, OP.314", BIZET'S "SELECTION FROM L'ARLESIENNE SUITE NO. 2", HANDEL'S "CORONATION ANTHEM NO. 3" AND LIU WENJIN'S "THE GREAT WALL CAPRICCIO".

TICKETS AT \$20 AND \$30 EACH ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL URBIX OUTLETS. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 528 3257.

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

| | DATE ---- | \$ MILLION ----- |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON | 4.7.91 | 480 |
| EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON | 5.7.91 | +126 |
| EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING | | -126 |
| EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON | | NEUTRAL |
| TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 114.4 *+0.0* 5.7.91 | | |

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

| | 4.7.91 | 5.7.91 |
|-------------------------|----------|----------|
| MATURING IN 1 WEEK | 6.27 PCT | 6.43 PCT |
| 1 MONTH | 6.11 PCT | 6.37 PCT |
| 3 MONTHS | 6.07 PCT | 6.33 PCT |
| 6 MONTHS | 6.07 PCT | 6.34 PCT |
| 12 MONTHS | 6.42 PCT | 6.84 PCT |
| TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED | 7,530 MN | 5,330 MN |