



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1992

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1992

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GOVERNOR WILL CONTINUE TO WORK FOR HK'S PROSPERITY

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT WORKING FOR THE PROSPERITY IN THE LONG TERM AS WELL AS THE SHORT TERM OF HONG KONG AS A VERY SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY.

MR PATTEN WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE OPENING OF THE NEW HEAD OFFICE OF CONSUMER COUNCIL.

HE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL STRENGTH OF THE ECONOMY, WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, WOULD MAKE CERTAIN A CONTINUOUS PROSPERITY.

HE ALSO REITERATED THAT HE WAS WHOLLY COMMITTED, AND SO WAS THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, IN IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION.

AND ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION IS TO SUSTAIN THE STABILITY AND THE PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG, THAT MEANS BEING CONCERNED ABOUT THE WELFARE AND THE LIVING STANDARDS OF ORDINARY FAMILIES HERE IN HONG KONG, HE SAID.

TO ACHIEVE, HE SAID:

"ONE NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE, THE INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE OF LOCAL FIRMS, THE INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE OF FIRMS AND BANKS AND OTHERS FROM OUTSIDE.

"I WOULD NEVER AND WILL NEVER DO ANYTHING WHICH UNDERMINES THAT CONFIDENCE.

"I WOULD CERTAINLY NEVER ATTACK AN IMPORTANT HONG KONG EMPLOYER, AN EMPLOYER THAT LOOKS AFTER THE WELL-BEING AND LIVING STANDARDS OF MANY INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES AND MANY INDIVIDUALS."

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GOVT COMMITTED TO TACKLING HARBOUR POLLUTION

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (FRIDAY) OPENED THE NORTHWEST KOWLOON SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL SCHEME ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

THE \$1.3 BILLION SCHEME PROVIDES A DIRECT SERVICE TO OVER ONE MILLION PEOPLE IN THE VICINITY OF ONE OF THE WORST POLLUTED PARTS OF THE HARBOUR.

IT IS ALSO A KEY ITEM IN THE HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAMME FOR SEWERAGE THAT MR PATTEN ANNOUNCED IN HIS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ADDRESS ON OCTOBER 7.

MR PATTEN SAID THE BIGGEST ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE HAD TO TACKLE WAS HOW TO DEAL WITH WASTE AND SEWAGE.

/"THAT IS .....

"THAT IS GOING TO BE THE OBJECT OF HUGE INVESTMENT IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS," HE SAID.

IN THE HARBOUR AREA ALONE, THE TERRITORY NEEDS TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADEQUATE COLLECTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF THE 1.5 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF UNTREATED SEWAGE DUMPED INTO IT EVERYDAY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTRIBUTE NO LESS THAN \$3 BILLION TO ENABLE THE TERRITORY'S SEWERAGE PROGRAMME TO GET OFF THE GROUND.

MAJOR SEWAGE SCHEMES UNDERWAY INCLUDE THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES SEWERAGE AND DISPOSAL SCHEME; THE TOLO HARBOUR EFFLUENT EXPORT SCHEME; AND THE TSEUNG KWAN O SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL SCHEME.

IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSIONING OF THE \$1.3 BILLION CHEMICAL WASTE TREATMENT CENTRE IN TSING YI EARLY NEXT YEAR WILL PROVIDE A PROPER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITY FOR TOXIC CHEMICAL WHICH, UNTIL NOW, HAVE BEEN POURED DOWN THE DRAIN AND INTO THE HARBOUR, MR PATTEN SAID.

"ALL THE PROGRAMMES THAT WE ARE EMBARKING UPON AND ALL THE MONEY THAT WE ARE SPENDING WILL EVENTUALLY ALLOW OUR HARBOUR TO LIVE UP TO ITS NAME ONCE AGAIN, THE FRAGRANT HARBOUR," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT A BETTER SURROUNDINGS AND BETTER ENVIRONMENT CAN GO HAND-IN-HAND WITH SENSIBLE PLANNING, WITH THE USE OF THE MARKET FORCES, WITH PROPER REGULATION AND WITH SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT BY THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES, MR SIU CHUEN, SAID THE SCHEME WAS TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY OFF THE COAST OF NORTHWEST KOWLOON BY COLLECTING SEWAGE FROM TAI KOK TSUI, SHAM SHUI PO AND LAI CHI KOK DISTRICTS, INCLUDING THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION.

HE SAID THIS WOULD BE DONE BY PUMPING THE SEWAGE TO STONECUTTERS ISLAND FOR TREATMENT, PRIOR TO DISPOSAL TO DEEP WATER TO THE SOUTHWEST OF THE ISLAND VIA A SUBMARINE OUTFALL.

THE SCHEME COMPRISES THE CONSTRUCTION OF NINE KILOMETRES OF INTERCEPTOR SEWERS, TWO COARSE SCREENING PLANTS (ONE AT SHAM SHUI PO AND ONE AT CHEUNG SHA WAN), ONE CENTRALISED PUMPING STATION AT CHEUNG SHA WAN, TWIN PUMPING MAINS OF TWO METRES IN DIAMETER ACROSS THE HARBOUR, A TREATMENT WORKS ON STONECUTTERS ISLAND, AND A COASTAL SEWER AND SUBMARINE OUTFALL TO DISCHARGE THE TREATED EFFLUENT.

MR SIU SAID CONSTRUCTION OF THE SCHEME BEGAN IN NOVEMBER 1988.

THE FIRST FLOWS WERE RECEIVE IN AUGUST THIS YEAR AND THE WHOLE SCHEME HAS RECENTLY BECOME FULLY OPERATIONAL.

"IT IS INTENDED THAT THE FLOWS FROM THE SCHEME WILL EVENTUALLY BE CONNECTED TO THE DEEP TUNNEL SYSTEM PROPOSED IN THE STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME," HE ADDED.

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MEASURES TO REDUCE FLOODING RISK

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CONSTRUCT STORMWATER DRAINS IN TWO KOWLOON AREAS TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FLOODING BY RELIEVING TWO EXISTING OVERLOADED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS.

NOTICES OF INVITING TENDERS FOR THE WORKS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE FIRST WORKS CONTRACT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 240 METRES OF TWIN-PIPE DRAIN AND 40 METRES OF TWIN-CELL BOX CULVERT ALONG LOK SIN ROAD FROM SA PO ROAD TO CHOI HUNG ROAD NULLAH.

THE DRAIN WILL DIVERT THE STORMWATER COLLECTED IN KOWLOON WALLED CITY AND PART OF LOK FU ESTATE FROM THE EXISTING STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM TO CHOI HUNG ROAD NULLAH.

WHEN THE WORKS COMPLETED, THE RISK OF FLOODING IN KOWLOON CITY AREA WOULD BE REDUCED.

THE OTHER CONTRACT INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 1,150 METRES OF STORMWATER DRAIN FROM GASCOIGNE ROAD TO CANTON ROAD TO DIVERT THE STORMWATER COLLECTED IN KING'S PARK CATCHMENT AREA FROM THE EXISTING HUNG HOM DRAINAGE SYSTEM TO A NEW OUTFALL AT JORDAN ROAD FERRY PIER TO RELIEVE THE EXISTING OVERLOADED DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN HUNG HOM AREA.

THE WORKS WILL REDUCE THE RISK OF FLOODING IN HUNG HOM AREA.

WORKS OF THE CONTRACTS ARE SCHEDULED TO START IN APRIL NEXT YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN 22 TO 27 MONTHS.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON JANUARY 8, NEXT YEAR.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE NEW WORKS DIVISION, DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 44TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 3, 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG.

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QUEEN STREET DEVELOPMENT PLAN ON SHOW

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THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN FOR THE QUEEN STREET IN SHEUNG WAN IS NOW ON PUBLIC DISPLAY FOLLOWING APPROVAL BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

THE PLAN PROVIDES A FRAMEWORK OF REDEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT FOR THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (LDC) TO UNDERTAKE URBAN RENEWAL FOR THE AREA BOUNDED BY QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, PAN KWAI LANE, KO SHING STREET AND BONHAM STRAND WEST IN SHEUNG WAN.

IT COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 0.95 HECTARE.

THE AREA IS IN A POOR CONDITION WITH THREE- OR FOUR-STORY PRE-WAR BUILDINGS AND SIX-STORY POST-WAR TENEMENT BUILDINGS BEING USED FOR COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

/A SIGNIFICANT .....

A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF THE AREA IS GOVERNMENT LAND, PART OF WHICH IS USED AS TEMPORARY SITTING-OUT AREAS AND A TEMPORARY COOKED FOOD BAZAAR.

IT COVERS PART OF THE TRADITIONAL CHINESE HERBAL MEDICINE TRADING CENTRE IN SHEUNG WAN AND WESTERN DISTRICT.

SOME OF THE BUILDINGS ARE USED FOR STORAGE AND PROCESSING OF HERBAL MEDICINE. THEIR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES, ESPECIALLY LOADING AND UNLOADING, HAVE BEEN CAUSING ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEMS.

OTHER FACTORS, SUCH AS THE SMALL SIZE OF LOTS, FRAGMENTED OWNERSHIP AND THE LACK OF VEHICULAR ACCESS, HAVE COMPLICATED THE REDEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

ACCORDING TO THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN, THE AREA WILL BE DEVELOPED COMPREHENSIVELY TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT AND TO ENSURE MORE EFFICIENT USE OF LAND.

THE AREA, BEING ZONED AS A "COMPERHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA", WILL PROVIDE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE OF ABOUT 1,200 SQUARE METRES AT THE EASTERN PART.

THE REMAINDER WILL BE MAINLY FOR COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL USES WITH THE PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

THESE INCLUDE A CARE AND ATTENTION HOME, A MULTI-SERVICE ELDERLY CENTRE, A HOSTEL FOR SINGLE PERSONS, A HOSTEL FOR THE MODERATELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, A DAY NURSERY, A COOKED-FOOD CENTRE AND A PUBLIC TOILET.

THE MAJORITY OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE FACILITIES WILL BE HOUSED IN A PURPOSE-DESIGNED BUILDING WITHIN THE AREA.

THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN WAS FIRST PUT UP BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION IN MARCH LAST YEAR.

BEFORE ITS EXHIBITION, THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD WAS CONSULTED ON THE PLAN.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS RAISED NO OBJECTION TO THE PLAN, RECOGNISING THAT COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT WOULD PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND IMPROVEMENT TO THE GENERAL ENVIRONMENT.

THE LDC WILL ACQUIRE AFFECTED PROPERTIES THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PROPERTY OWNERS AND WILL INVITE THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE REDEVELOPMENT SCHEME.

THE PLAN CAN BE INSPECTED AT:

\* DISTRICT OFFICE (CENTRAL AND WESTERN), GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG; AND

\* DISTRICT PLANNING BRANCH, PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR,  
MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE APPROVED PLAN ARE ON SALE AT THE MAP AND PLAN  
SALES SECTIONS OF SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS  
DEPARTMENT ON 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND  
382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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OCTOBER FIGURES ON ORDERS, EMPLOYMENT  
AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS

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THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND FOR THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURERS  
INCREASED BY 1% IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR,  
ACCORDING TO A MONTHLY SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS  
DEPARTMENT.

ORDERS POSITION IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND THE  
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES IMPROVED MODERATELY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE WAS RECORDED IN THE  
TEXTILES INDUSTRY. SOME DECREASES WERE ALSO SEEN IN THE PLASTIC  
PRODUCTS AND WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES.

COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH, ORDERS FOR THE MANUFACTURERS  
SURVEYED SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

SLIGHT INCREASES WERE REPORTED BY THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC  
PRODUCTS AND THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES WHILE MILD  
DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE TEXTILES, PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND WEARING  
APPAREL INDUSTRIES.

THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER  
OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE  
REFERENCE MONTH.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE 200  
LARGEST MANUFACTURERS DECREASED BY 12% IN OCTOBER 1992 WHEN COMPARED  
WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

THIS DECLINE IS IN LINE WITH THE RECENT TREND OF RELOCATING  
PRODUCTION PROCESSES TO SOUTH CHINA.

COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS  
ENGAGED BY THE SURVEYED MANUFACTURERS DECREASED BY 2%.

IN OCTOBER 1992, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING  
COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED BY 16% IN MONEY TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH  
THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, BUT ONLY 1% WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING  
MONTH.

THE LARGE YEAR-ON-YEAR INCREASE WAS PARTLY DUE TO THE ISSUE OF SEVERANCE PAYMENTS BY SOME COMPANIES AS THEY RELOCATED THEIR PRODUCTION PROCESSES ACROSS THE BORDER.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE COMPANIES SURVEYED DECREASED MODERATELY IN OCTOBER 1992 WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, BUT INCREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THESE COMPANIES INCREASED MODERATELY OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR AND SLIGHTLY OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FIGURES FOR THIS INDUSTRY COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IN THE SERVICES SECTOR, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN OCTOBER 1992 OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, AND REMAINED ABOUT THE SAME WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THESE COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR BUT DECREASED MILDLY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURERS AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT AS THE SURVEY SAMPLE COVERED ONLY THE LARGE COMPANIES, THE SURVEY RESULTS MIGHT NOT BE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GENERAL SITUATION OF THE MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND THE SERVICE SECTORS.

NEVERTHELESS, THE SURVEY RESULTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF SHORT-TERM DEVELOPMENTS IN THOSE SECTORS, HE SAID.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR OCTOBER IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$4.50 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE OF THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 805 6441.

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Table 1 : Orders-on-hand in manufacturing industries

<u>Industry</u>	<u>Orders-on-hand</u>		
	<u>As at the end of</u>	<u>Change when compared with</u>	
	<u>October 1992</u>	<u>Sep. 92</u>	<u>Oct. 91</u>
	(months)	(%)	(%)
<u>All manufacturers surveyed</u>	4.42	*	+1
Wearing apparel	4.64	-2	-4
Textiles	2.04	-4	-13
Plastic products	2.46	-4	-5
Fabricated metal products	4.57	+1	+9
Electrical and electronic products	5.76	+2	+8
Others	3.95	*	-1

\* Changes within  $\pm 0.5\%$ 

Table 2 : Employment

<u>Industry/Services</u>	<u>Persons engaged as at the end of October 1992</u>	
	<u>Change when compared with</u>	
	<u>Sep. 92</u>	<u>Oct. 91</u>
	(%)	(%)
<u>All manufacturers surveyed</u>	-2	-12
Food and drinks	-1	*
Wearing apparel	-1	-16
Textiles	-5	-20
Plastic products	-4	-10
Fabricated metal products	*	-11
Electrical and electronic products	-3	-18
Others	*	*
<u>Construction #</u>	+1	-5
<u>Services</u>	*	+1
Banks	*	-2
Hotels	+1	*
Public utilities	*	+2
Others	+1	+4

\* Changes within  $\pm 0.5\%$ 

# Persons engaged cover company employees only; site workers employed by labour-only sub-contractors are not included.

**Table 3 : Per capita earnings**

Note : Due to the possible inclusion of irregular payments (e.g. backpay or special bonus), "per capita earnings" for a given month may be subject to rather volatile fluctuations from time to time. Therefore, it is particularly advisable, in studying per capita earnings statistics, not to take a given month's data in isolation, but to make reference to data over a longer period.

Per capita earnings

<u>Industry/Services</u>	<u>Average as in</u> <u>October 1992</u> (HK\$)	<u>Change when compared with</u>	
		<u>Sep. 92</u> (%)	<u>Oct. 91</u> (%)
<u>All manufacturers surveyed</u>	<u>8,158</u>	<u>+1</u>	<u>+16</u>
Food and drinks	8,538	+1	+12
Wearing apparel	6,050	+5	+12
Textiles	7,390	+2	+12
Plastic products	8,311	-11	+16
Fabricated metal products	7,740	-3	+12
Electrical and electronic products	8,592	+4	+20
Others	10,138	*	+16
 <u>Construction #</u>	 <u>11,125</u>	 <u>+2</u>	 <u>+7</u>
 <u>Services</u>	 <u>12,687</u>	 <u>-4</u>	 <u>+11</u>
Banks	11,748	+2	+13
Hotels	8,006	*	+11
Public utilities	12,974	-10	+8
Others	14,107	-1	+12

\* Changes within  $\pm 0.5\%$

# Per capita earnings cover company employees only; site workers employed by labour-only sub-contractors are not included.

Note to Tables 1-3 : Unlike "orders-on-hand" and "per capita earnings", which are average figures amongst the companies surveyed, the total number of persons engaged by the companies surveyed is not meaningful information on its own (because this is a panel survey) and is therefore not shown.

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JAPANESE BANK GRANTED LICENCE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE DAISHI BANK, LTD (DAISHI) HAD BEEN GRANTED A BANKING LICENCE TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN HONG KONG.

DAISHI IS THE 54TH LARGEST BANK IN JAPAN, AND RANKS 276TH IN THE WORLD IN TERMS OF CAPITAL.

BEFORE THE GRANTING OF THE LICENCE, THE BANK OPERATED A REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN HONG KONG. THE REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE WILL BE UPGRADED TO A BRANCH.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CONTINUING INTEREST OF FOREIGN BANKS IN ENTERING THE LOCAL MARKET REFLECTED HONG KONG'S CONTINUED IMPORTANCE AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THE LICENCE FOR DAISHI IS THE FIFTH BANKING LICENCE GRANTED THIS YEAR.

THERE ARE NOW 164 LICENSED BANKS IN HONG KONG, OF WHICH 134 ARE INCORPORATED OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY.

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PREQUALIFICATION INVITED FOR WEST KOWLOON SEWERAGE WORKS

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING PREQUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST PACKAGE OF THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION SEWERAGE WORKS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE WORKS WOULD COMPRISE THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO PUMPING STATIONS AND MORE THAN 1.4 KILOMETRES OF TRUNK SEWERS ON NEWLY RECLAIMED LAND.

"APART FROM PROVIDING THE NECESSARY SEWERAGE FACILITIES TO SERVE THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION DEVELOPMENT, THE COMPLETED WORKS WILL ALSO SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE WATER QUALITY IN WEST KOWLOON RECEPTION AREA BY RECEIVING POLLUTED FLOW DIVERTED FROM THE EXISTING STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM IN THE WEST KOWLOON HINTERLAND," HE SAID.

THE NOTICE INVITING PREQUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS HAS BEEN GAZETTED TODAY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE INVITATION WAS ONLY OPEN TO CONTRACTORS ON THE APPROVED CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS LIST I GROUP C FOR ROADS AND DRAINAGE OR ON THE LIST II.

THEY MAY OBTAIN THE PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS FROM THE PROJECT'S CONSULTANT, MOTT MACDONALD HONG KONG LIMITED, ON 12TH FLOOR, SUN HUNG KAI CENTRE, 30 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

/COMPLETED SUBMISSION .....

COMPLETED SUBMISSION SHOULD BE SENT TO THE PROJECT MANAGER, URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, 12TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, BEFORE NOON ON JANUARY 8.

AFTER THE PREQUALIFICATION EXERCISE, TENDERS FROM PREQUALIFIED CONTRACTORS WILL BE INVITED IN MARCH NEXT YEAR.

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FOUR SITES UP FOR AUCTION

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FOUR LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE IN A PUBLIC AUCTION ON JANUARY 12. DETAILS ARE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM IN THE THEATRE OF THE HONG KONG CITY HALL.

THE FIRST LOT IS ON COX'S ROAD, KOWLOON. WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,395 SQUARE METRES, IT IS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL USES.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING CONVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 5,270 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1996.

THE SECOND LOT IS AT THE JUNCTION OF SHUNG LING STREET AND YI LUN STREET, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON. IT HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 3,093 SQUARE METRES AND IS EARMARKED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWN, HOTEL AND PETROL-FILLING STATION) PURPOSES.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 30,000 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1996.

THE THIRD LOT IS IN AREA 29A, TAI LIN PAI ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES. WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 916 SQUARE METRES, IT IS DESIGNATED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 5, 220 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1996.

THE REMAINING LOT, IN TOWN PARK ROAD SOUTH, YUEN LONG, NEW TERRITORIES, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 10,500 SQUARE METRES AND IS EARMARKED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 18,900 SQUARE METRES HAS TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1997.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON. THE SALE PLANS ARE AVAILABLE IN THESE OFFICES.

CONDITIONS OF SALE ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING, TAI PO, NORTH, SAI KUNG AND ISLANDS.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1992

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NEW CHAIRMAN OF METRICATION COMMITTEE NAMED  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS APPOINTED MR KENNETH YUHUNG TONGSON AS CHAIRMAN OF THE METRICATION COMMITTEE FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR WITH EFFECT FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

THE APPOINTMENT NOTICE HAS BEEN GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

"MR TONGSON HAS A LONG RECORD OF PUBLIC SERVICE. HE HAS BEEN SERVING AS A MEMBER OF THE METRICATION COMMITTEE FOR ALMOST 10 YEARS.

"HIS DEVOTION TO, AND EXPERIENCE IN METRICATION MAKES HIM AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO THE COMMITTEE," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

ALSO APPOINTED TO THE COMMITTEE IS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE RETAIL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, MR JOSEPH PATRICK YAP.

HIS TERM OF APPOINTMENT WILL BE FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31.

"THE COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO FOCUS ITS PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES ON THE RETAIL TRADE SECTOR IN 1993," THE GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ADDED.

"WE LOOK FORWARD TO GREATER PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THESE ACTIVITIES.

"WE HOPE THAT THE INCLUSION OF THE RETAIL MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION IN THE COMMITTEE WILL BRING IT CLOSER TO THE RETAIL TRADE. THIS IS IMPORTANT AS RETAIL TRADE REMAINS THE COMMITTEE'S PRINCIPAL TARGET," HE SAID.

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FESTIVE ILLUMINATIONS FOR SHA TIN  
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THE FESTIVE LIGHTS IN SHA TIN DISTRICT WAS SWITCHED ON THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

FOLLOWING A CEREMONY OFFICIATED BY A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR CANICE MAK, THE WHOLE DISTRICT WAS LIT UP WITH MORE THAN 30,000 DECORATED LIGHT BULBS.

THE ILLUMINATIONS WERE PUT UP ALONG SHING MUN RIVER, ON THE THREE BRIDGES ACROSS THE RIVER, IN SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK, AND ALONG TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD.

LARGE GRAPHIC DECORATIONS CONVEYING GREETING MESSAGES WERE ALSO PUT UP ON THE SAND MARTIN AND BANYAN BRIDGES.

ANOTHER ATTRACTION WAS THE PUTTING UP OF MOVABLE MODEL FIGURES IN SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK, FEATURING A WHITE GOOSE, ANGELS AND RAINBOW - ALL IN COLOURFUL BULBS.

/THE CHAIRMAN .....

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FESTIVE LIGHTING ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MRS CHAN LO YIN-BING, SAID THE ILLUMINATIONS COST MORE THAN \$800,000. THE COST WAS MET BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND SEVERAL PRIVATE COMPANIES.

SHE HOPED THAT THE ILLUMINATIONS WOULD BRING A JOYFUL HOLIDAY TO RESIDENTS.

THE LIGHTS WILL BE SWITCHED ON DAILY FROM 6 PM TO MIDNIGHT FROM TODAY TO JANUARY 3, AND AGAIN FROM JANUARY 20 TO FEBRUARY 5. THEY WILL BE TURNED ON THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY.

ANOTHER SET OF GRAPHIC LIGHTING DESIGN WILL BE PUT UP DURING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR PERIOD.

A PHOTOGRAPH AND A DRAWING CONTEST ON THE LIGHTING DISPLAYS ARE NOW OPEN FOR ENTRIES.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR OF KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN.

THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES WILL BE FEBRUARY 8.

ENQUIRIES ON THE CONTEST CAN BE MADE ON TEL 604 8078 EXT 33.

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HOTEL LICENCE FEES TO GO UP  
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FEES FOR LICENCES AND CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION FOR HOTELS OR GUESTHOUSES WILL BE ADJUSTED FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN SAID UNDER THE HOTEL AND GUESTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION ORDINANCE, OPERATORS OF HOTELS OR GUESTHOUSES WERE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A LICENCE OR A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION.

"THE FEES FOR THE ISSUE OR RENEWAL OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE REVISED EVERY YEAR SO THAT THE FULL COSTS OF ADMINISTERING THE LICENSING SCHEME COULD BE RECOVERED IN THE LONG RUN," HE SAID.

THE NEW SCALE OF ANNUAL LICENCE FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

NUMBER OF ROOMS IN HOTEL/GUESTHOUSE	FEEES \$
1 - 10	3,400
11 - 20	6,200
21 - 30	10,100
31 - 40	13,400
41 - 50	17,400
51 AND ABOVE	20,700

THE FEE FOR A CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FOR A PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$500 TO \$600.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW CHARGES REPRESENTED A 12 PER CENT INCREASE.

THE ADJUSTMENTS, STATED IN THE HOTEL AND GUESTHOUSE ACCOMMODATION (FEES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1992, WAS GAZETTED TODAY.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE BY CONTACTING THE LICENSING OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 881 7034.

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KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD ON OVERSEAS VISIT

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A KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD DELEGATION DEPARTED FOR AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING ON AN 11-DAY STUDY TOUR.

LED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S CHAIRMAN, MR LAM HANG-FAI, AND ACCOMPANIED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WONG HON-HO, THE DELEGATION COMPRISED 19 MEMBERS AND THEIR RELATIVES.

THE OBJECTIVE OF THE TOUR IS TO STUDY THE OPERATION OF THE CITY COUNCILS, PLANNING AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH COUNCILLORS.

"WE WILL ALSO VISIT SOME OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITIES AND GROUPS THERE," MR LAM SAID.

THE PARTY WILL VISIT THE CITY COUNCILS IN SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN CANBERRA AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES THERE.

THEY WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON DECEMBER 28.

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SHEUNG SHUI FARM LAND TO BE RESUMED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO RESUME 10 LOTS OF PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LAND IN SHEUNG SHUI FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF RIVER TRAINING WORKS.

LOCATED IN AREA 30B, THE LOTS HAVE A TOTAL AREA OF 4,343.9 SQUARE METRES.

THE LAND WILL BE REVERTED TO THE GOVERNMENT THREE MONTHS AFTER THE RESUMPTION NOTICE IS POSTED ON THE LOTS.

DETAILS OF THE RESUMPTION HAVE BEEN GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

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WEST KOWLOON TO GET NEW FERRY PIER

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THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT IS INVITING CONTRACTORS TO APPLY FOR PREQUALIFICATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PASSENGER FERRY PIER AND ASSOCIATED ROADWORKS AT WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION SOUTHERN AREA.

WORKS INCLUDE A 2.5-HECTARE RECLAMATION AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PASSENGER FERRY PIER, A FERRY CONCOURSE, A 900-METRE-LONG ACCESS ROAD, AN UNDERGROUND SALT WATER PUMPHOUSE AND A 500-METRE-LONG TEMPORARY REVETMENT.

THE CONTRACT WORKS, WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO START IN JULY NEXT YEAR, HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE PORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT FOR THE URBAN AREA DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE PORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE WILL ALSO SUPERVISE THE CONSTRUCTION.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE WORKS BY MID-1995, THE EXISTING JORDAN ROAD PASSENGER FERRY PIER CAN BE REPROVISIONED TO MAKE WAY FOR RECLAMATION WORKS.

CONTRACTORS ON THE APPROVED CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS LIST I IN GROUP C FOR PORT WORKS OR ON THE APPROVED CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS LIST II FOR PORT WORKS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS FROM:

CHIEF ENGINEER/WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION,  
PORT DEVELOPMENT OFFICE,  
CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT,  
THIRD FLOOR, CIVIL ENGINEERING BUILDING,  
101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD,  
HO MAN TIN,  
KOWLOON.

TENDERS FOR THE CONTRACT ARE SCHEDULED TO BE INVITED NEXT APRIL FROM SELECTED CONTRACTORS ESTABLISHED BY THIS PREQUALIFICATION EXERCISE.

COMPLETED PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE NOON ON JANUARY 15.

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1992

- 15 -

URBAN COUNCIL COMPLEX FOR SHAM SHUI PO RESIDENTS  
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 12-STOREY URBAN COUNCIL MINI COMPLEX IN UN CHAU STREET, SHAM SHUI PO.

UPON COMPLETION, THE BUILDING WILL HOUSE A REFUSE COLLECTION POINT, TWO FLOORS OF LIBRARY, THREE FLOORS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FACILITIES AND FOUR FLOORS OF OFFICES.

WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO START NEXT MARCH FOR COMPLETION IN SEPTEMBER 1994.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON JANUARY 8 NEXT YEAR.

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

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NEW CARRIAGEWAY EASES CASTLE PEAK ROAD JAM  
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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED A \$32 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY ALONG THE WATERFRONT AREA ON CASTLE PEAK ROAD IN TSUEN WAN TO EASE TRAFFIC CONGESTION OUTSIDE BELVEDERE GARDEN PHASE II.

THE CONTRACT WAS SIGNED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE REGIONAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER/NEW TERRITORIES, MR CHEUNG TAI-YAN, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF PAUL Y CO LTD.

WORKS INVOLVED THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1.2-KILOMETRE CARRIAGEWAY, MAINLY OF DUAL TWO-LANE, ALONG THE WATERFRONT AREA OUTSIDE BELVEDERE GARDEN PHASE III TO ACT AS A BY-PASS TO THE EXISTING CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR MILESTONE 9-1/2.

AT THE EAST END, THE NEW ROAD WILL CONNECT TO HOI HING ROAD. AT THE WEST END, THE NEW ROAD WILL TAPER FROM A DUAL TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY INTO A SINGLE TWO-LANE CARRIAGEWAY AND WILL CONNECT TO THE EXISTING CASTLE PEAK ROAD NEAR MILESTONE 10.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE NEW ROAD, THE SECTION OF THE EXISTING CASTLE PEAK ROAD OUTSIDE BELVEDERE GARDEN PHASE II WILL BECOME A TWO-WAY LOCAL ACCESS ROAD.

THE SECTION OF THE EXISTING CASTLE PEAK ROAD OUTSIDE BLOSSOM TERRACE WILL BE CONVERTED INTO A ONE-WAY EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START AT THE END OF THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE 21 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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FA HUI PARK TO GET IMPROVEMENT  
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT WORKS AT FA HUI PARK IN KOWLOON.

THE WORKS, WHICH INVOLVE THE UPGRADING OF PLANTERS, ARBOUR, TOILET FACILITIES AND PAVING, ARE EXPECTED TO START NEXT MARCH FOR COMPLETION IN SIX MONTHS.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON JANUARY 15.

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

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

	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,000
REVERSAL OF LAF	+500
BALANCE AFTER REVERSL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+230
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,730
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 114.0 *-0.1* 18.12.1992	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS				HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS		
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.18 PCT	15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.51	5.10
1 MONTH	3.85 PCT	18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.33	5.32
3 MONTHS	4.03 PCT	21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.38	5.48
6 MONTHS	4.10 PCT	24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.41	5.59
12 MONTHS	4.73 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 2,730 MN

CLOSED 18 DECEMBER 1992

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