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GOVERNOR MEETS U.S. PRESIDENT
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FOLLOWING ARE THE REMARKS BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, FOLLOWING HIS MEETING WITH U.S. PRESIDENT MR BILL CLINTON IN WASHINGTON, DC ON MONDAY (U.S. TIME):

GOVERNOR: GOOD MORNING.

QUESTION: HOW WAS YOUR MEETING, SIR?

GOVERNOR: I'VE HAD A VERY GOOD MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT, DURING WHICH I WAS ABLE TO SET OUT THE CASE THAT WE FEEL VERY STRONGLY FOR, MFN RENEWAL. I POINTED OUT THE VERY STRONG ECONOMIC AND TRADING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES, AND POINTED OUT THAT CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES WERE OUR TWO MOST IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNERS, AND THEREFORE THAT WE WOULD INEVITABLY BE AFFECTED BY ANY END OF MFN, OR SEVERE CONSTRAINT ON MFN.

THE PRESIDENT IS UNDERSTANDING. HE SHOWED A GREAT KNOWLEDGE OF HONG KONG AND ITS POSITION. HE'S VISITED, I THINK, HONG KONG A NUMBER OF TIMES IN THE PAST, APPRECIATES OUR PROBLEMS, AND LISTENED INTENTLY AND ASKED A NUMBER OF, AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT I'D BEEN SAYING.

QUESTION: DID HE SAY WHETHER --

GOVERNOR: IT WAS A VERY GOOD AND HELPFUL MEETING, AND I THINK UNLINED SOMETHING THAT I FEEL VERY STRONGLY, THAT ONE OF THE IMPORTANT FACTORS IN HONG KONG'S LONG-TERM PROSPERITY AND STABILITY IS A GOOD AND CLOSE AND UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

QUESTION: IS HE GOING TO PUT ANY MORE PRESSURE ON CHINA BEFORE RENEWING MFN?

GOVERNOR: I THINK THAT ON OCCASIONS LIKE THIS IT'S ALWAYS UNFORTUNATE IF ONE PARTY TO A MEETING EXPLAINS WHAT THE OTHER SIDE HAS BEEN SAYING. IT'S FOR THE WHITE HOUSE TO SAY WHAT THE POLICY OF THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN. ALL I WANT TO SAY IS THE PRESIDENT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN MORE COURTEOUS OR UNDERSTANDING THAN HE WAS IN OUR DISCUSSION, AND I WAS VERY GRATEFUL FOR HIS TIME.

QUESTION: DID YOU GET ANY IMPRESSION THAT THERE WILL BE SOME CONDITIONS, AND CAN HONG KONG LIVE WITH SOME MFN CONDITIONS?

/GOVERNOR: .....

GOVERNOR: I DIDN'T GET ANY IMPRESSION EITHER WAY. I THINK THAT THERE ARE, OBVIOUSLY, ARGUMENTS IN WASHINGTON ABOUT CONDITIONS OR EXPECTATIONS FOR THE FUTURE. I'LL BE IN A BETTER POSITION, I GUESS, TO MAKE AN ASSESSMENT OF WHERE I THINK POLICY IS LIKELY TO LEAD AFTER I'VE HAD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ADMINISTRATION. I'M SEEING THE TREASURY SECRETARY, AND I'M VISITING THE STATE DEPARTMENT THIS AFTERNOON, AND ALSO AFTER I'VE TALKED TO CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS, LIKE SENATOR MITCHELL AND SPEAKER FOLEY.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, THE U.S. FOREIGN POLICY ACT LAYS OUT SOME VERY SPECIFIC, CLEAR AREAS OF STRONG U.S. INTEREST IN HONG KONG. IS YOUR MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT TODAY THE BEGINNING OF A PROCESS OF TURNING SOME OF THOSE STATEMENTS OF POLICY INTO FAST AGREEMENTS?

GOVERNOR: NO, IT'S NOT PART OF ANY PROCESS FOLLOWING FROM THE MCCONNELL ACT, USEFUL AS THAT IS AS AN EXPLICIT RECOGNITION OF THE TRADING AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE MEETING WASN'T IN THE CONTEXT OF THE U.S.-HONG KONG ACT, BUT I THINK THE FACT THAT THE PRESIDENT, WHEN HE'S OBVIOUSLY GOT A LOT ELSE ON HIS AGENDA, GAVE ME SO MUCH OF HIS TIME, WITH THE VICE-PRESIDENT. I THINK THAT THE ACCESS THAT I'M GETTING AROUND WASHINGTON AS A WHOLE ARE REFLECTIONS OF THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES RECOGNISES ITS STRONG ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH HONG KONG AND CHINA, AND THAT THE UNITED STATES, WHILE KNOWING THAT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION IS A MATTER FOR BRITAIN AND CHINA, HAS THE SAME SORT OF INTEREST IN A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME AS THE REST OF THE WORLD.

QUESTION: IN YOUR OPINION, HAS CHINA GONE FAR ENOUGH ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO HAVE MFN EXTENDED?

GOVERNOR: I THINK THAT'S A MATTER WHICH THE ADMINISTRATION IS GOING TO HAVE TO JUDGE FOR ITSELF. I BELIEVE, AND BELIEVE VERY STRONGLY -- IT'S SOMETHING I SAID IN A SPEECH TO THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG A FEW WEEKS AGO, AND IT'S SOMETHING I INTEND SAYING IN SPEECHES HERE AS WELL -- I BELIEVE THAT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND FREE TRADE ARE TWO OF THE BEST WAYS OF SECURING PROGRESS AND SECURING AN IMPROVEMENT, NOT JUST IN PEOPLE'S STANDARD OF LIVING, BUT IN THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE AS WELL.

I FEEL THAT FREE TRADE CASTS LIGHT INTO DARK CORNERS, AND THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS WHILE I'LL BE ARGUING FOR IT, BOTH AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE AND AS A MATTER OF UTILITARIAN IMPORTANCE FOR HONG KONG'S ECONOMY.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, DID THE PRESIDENT SUPPORT YOUR POLITICAL PROPOSAL?

/GOVERNOR: .....

GOVERNOR: YOU HEARD WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID DURING THE PHOTO CALL BEFORE OUR DISCUSSION. I REPEAT, THAT THE PRESIDENT RECOGNISES THAT THE PROPOSALS THAT WE'RE DISCUSSING WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS AT THE MOMENT ARE A MATTER PRINCIPALLY TO BE RESOLVED BETWEEN THE SOVEREIGN POWERS, BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA, AND THE LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF HONG KONG. BUT HE ALSO, LIKE THE REST OF THE WORLD, WANTS TO SEE THOSE MATTERS RESOLVED SUCCESSFULLY.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, THE LEVI STRAUSS CORPORATION ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT IT WAS GOING TO PULL OUT, STOP INVESTING FURTHER, AND THAT IT WAS GOING TO BEGIN THE GRADUAL WITHDRAWAL OF ITS INVESTMENTS IN CHINA BECAUSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. ARE YOU DISTRESSED BY THIS, AND PERHAPS SEE IT AS THE BEGINNING OF A TREND?

GOVERNOR: I THINK THAT'S A MATTER FOR CHINESE OFFICIALS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF AND TO DEAL WITH, AND I WOULDN'T WANT TO APPEAR TO ACT AS A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PRC.

QUESTION: BUT SURELY, IF AMERICAN COMPANIES OF THAT SIZE START PULLING OUT, SIR, IT COULD BE THE START OF A PROBLEM FOR HONG KONG.

GOVERNOR: I'M SURE THAT IT'S A POINT THAT CHINA WILL WANT TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF, AND I'M SURE IT'S A POINT THAT BUSINESS LEADERS IN HONG KONG WILL WANT TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF.

QUESTION: IN ADDITION TO ASKING FOR UNCONDITIONAL MFN RENEWAL, AND IF YOU CAN ASSUME THAT THAT'S NOT GOING TO BE POSSIBLE, DO YOU HAVE LIKE A FALL BACK POSITION IN THAT THE CONDITIONS SHOULD BE AS MILD AS POSSIBLE, THAT THEY CAN BE MET BY THE CHINESE, OR THAT HONG KONG CAN LIVE WITH, AT LEAST? WOULD YOU HAVE ARGUED THAT POINT AS WELL?

GOVERNOR: WHAT I WAS STATING TODAY WAS MY BROAD INTEREST IN MFN RENEWAL, AND I NEVER THINK IT'S SENSIBLE TO ASSUME THAT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO ACHIEVE YOUR MAIN OBJECTIVE. IF IT WAS THE CASE THAT MFN WAS ONLY RENEWED WITH CONDITIONS, OF COURSE I WOULD HOPE THAT THOSE CONDITIONS DIDN'T HAVE TOO SEVERE AN IMPACT ON THE HONG KONG ECONOMY. AND I WOULD ALSO HOPE THAT THOSE EXPECTATIONS OR CONDITIONS ACHIEVED THEIR OBJECTIVE. BUT YOU CAN'T EXPECT ME TO DO OTHER THAN MAKE A PITCH FOR MFN RENEWAL, FULL STOP.

LAST QUESTION.

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE) TO NANCY PELOSI TONIGHT, SIR? WILL YOU SEE HER?

/GOVERNOR: .....

GOVERNOR: WHEN I SEE BOTH SENATOR MITCHELL AND NANCY PELOSI, I'LL BE PUTTING THE SAME ARGUMENTS AS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE THAT I'VE PUT THIS MORNING. I'LL ALSO, OF COURSE, BE POINTING OUT SOME OF YOUR PARTICULAR PROBLEMS WITH THE LEGISLATION THAT SENATOR MITCHELL AND NANCY PELOSI HAVE PUT THEIR NAMES TO. I THOUGHT THERE WAS AN INTERESTING EDITORIAL IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL WHICH DREW ATTENTION TO SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WITH THAT LEGISLATION. WHAT, FOR EXAMPLE, DO YOU CALL A BIKE THAT'S MANUFACTURED IN CHINA? IS THAT A PUBLIC SECTOR ARTIFACT, OR IS IT SOMETHING MANUFACTURED IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR? THESE ARE THE SORT OF PROBLEMS WHICH I THINK THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION THROWS UP. LAST ONE.

QUESTION: DID YOU FIND THE PRESIDENT'S ENDORSEMENT OF YOUR POLITICAL REFORM PROPOSALS USEFUL AND HELPFUL?

GOVERNOR: I THINK THE PRESIDENT HAS, AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, EVERY TIME HE'S REFERRED TO THEM, GONE OUT OF HIS WAYS TO RECOGNISE THAT THE DISCUSSIONS THAT ARE TAKING PLACE AT THE MOMENT TO TRY TO RESOLVE SOME OF OUR PROBLEMS ABOUT THE 1994 AND 1995 ELECTIONS ARE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SOVEREIGN POWERS, AND THE RESOLUTION WILL BE A MATTER FOR CHINA AND BRITAIN. THAT SAID, BECAUSE HONG KONG IS SUCH A PRICELESS INTERNATIONAL ASSET, IT'S HARDLY SURPRISING THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT ELECTED OFFICIAL IN THE WORLD SHOULD BE INTERESTED IN THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS. IT'S ALSO HARDLY SURPRISING THAT THE LEADER OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST DEMOCRACY SHOULD REGARD MORE DEMOCRACY RATHER THAN LESS DEMOCRACY AS AN ACCEPTABLE OUTCOME FOR OUR DISCUSSIONS IN HONG KONG.

SO I DON'T THINK THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION IS SURPRISING, BUT HIS INTEREST IN HONG KONG, HIS CONCERN TO SEE A STRONG ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REGION AND THE UNITED STATES, HIS COMMITMENT TO THAT ARE ALL THINGS WHICH ARE EXTREMELY WELCOME, AND I THINK THAT THE FACT THAT HE SPENT SO MUCH TIME THIS MORNING DISCUSSING MFN AND HONG KONG IS THE BEST POSSIBLE INDICATION OF HIS OWN PERSONAL CONCERN AND INTEREST. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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INQUIRY INTO BRIDGE ACCIDENT

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THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR ALLAN PYRKE, TONIGHT (MONDAY) ORDERED A LOCAL MARINE INQUIRY INTO AN ACCIDENT IN WHICH A BARGE HIT THE TSING YI SOUTH BRIDGE.

A REPORT ON THE INQUIRY WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR IN TWO WEEKS' TIME.

MR PYRKE ORDERED THE INQUIRY FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT WITH SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT.

THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED AT ABOUT 5.30 PM TODAY WHEN THE BARGE WAS BEING TOWED NORTHWARDS UNDER THE TSING YI SOUTH BRIDGE.

THE EAST ARCH OF THE TSING YI SOUTH BRIDGE WILL BE CLOSED TO MARINE TRAFFIC TONIGHT AND A PATROL LAUNCH OF THE MARINE DEPARTMENT WILL BE AT THE SCENE TO ASSIST OWNERS AND MASTERS OF VESSELS USING THE WEST ARCH.

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CAR NO. 1 BELONGS TO POLICE FORCE

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IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE THIS MORNING, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE STATED THAT CAR NO. 1 DOES NOT BELONG TO HIM PERSONALLY.

TRADITIONALLY AND HISTORICALLY, IT BELONGS TO THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE WHICH HAS A PROUD RECORD AND IS VITAL TO THE STABILITY OF HONG KONG.

CAR NO. 1 IS SYNONYMOUS WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE FORCE WHICH NOW COMPRISES SOME 38,000 REGULAR, AUXILIARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICERS.

THE COMMISSIONER IS DETERMINED TO MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE FINE TRADITION, MORALE AND EFFICIENCY OF THE FORCE. ANYTHING TO THE CONTRARY WILL BE STRONGLY RESISTED.

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EXERCISE TO TEST CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR DAYA BAY NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONDUCT AN EXERCISE NEXT WEEK TO TEST HONG KONG'S CONTINGENCY PLAN TO DEAL WITH ACCIDENTS AT THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR POWER STATION.

THE EXERCISE, INVOLVING 38 DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES, WILL BE HELD ON MAY 13 AND 14 WITH A WARM-UP EXERCISE ON MAY 6.

"WE WILL BE CONDUCTING A COMMAND POST EXERCISE TO TEST COMMUNICATION AND DECISION-MAKING. THERE WILL BE NO PHYSICAL MOVEMENT ON THE GROUND AND THE EXERCISE WILL NOT INVOLVE ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SECURITY BRANCH SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE EXERCISE WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE ONE CONDUCTED IN NOVEMBER 1990.

"IT WILL INVOLVE TWO EXPERTS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY WHO WILL ASSIST AN EXERCISE PLANNING TEAM IN THE SECURITY BRANCH TO CONDUCT AND EVALUATE THE EXERCISE," HE SAID.

"THE 1990 EXERCISE SHOWED THAT WE ARE CAPABLE OF COPING WITH EVEN THE MOST REMOTE CHANCE OF AN ACCIDENT AT THE DAYA BAY NUCLEAR POWER STATION.

"THE PRESENT EXERCISE IS PART OF OUR ONGOING EFFORTS TO FAMILIARISE DEPARTMENTS WITH THE CONTINGENCY PLAN TO IDENTIFY AREAS IN WHICH THE PLAN MAY BE FURTHER IMPROVED," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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POLICE INTERCEPT THREE VIETNAMESE

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THREE VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS - ONE MAN AND TWO WOMEN - WERE INTERCEPTED BY THE MARINE POLICE AT YUNG LONG WAN ON MAY 1, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

THEY ARE THE FIRST GROUP OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TO ARRIVE SINCE OCTOBER 1992 AND THE FIRST TO ARRIVE BY BOAT SINCE DECEMBER 1991.

THE TRIO ARE NOW BEING DETAINED ON GREEN ISLAND WHERE THEY WILL BE PROCESSED IN THE USUAL WAY.

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SECOND REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENT WHITE PAPER
READY THIS SUMMER
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THE GOVERNMENT IS DRAFTING THE SECOND REVIEW OF THE 1989 WHITE PAPER ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

THIS WAS REVEALED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY COOPER WHEN HE RECEIVED A SUBMISSION FROM FRIENDS OF THE EARTH ON CONSERVATION ISSUES.

MR COOPER SAID THE SUBMISSION WAS TIMELY AS IT WOULD ENABLE THE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH'S VIEW TO BE CONSIDERED WHEN DRAFTING THE WHITE PAPER REVIEW.

THE REVIEW WILL ASSESS THE PROGRESS OF GOVERNMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME SO FAR AND EXAMINE OPTIONS FOR NEW INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, INCLUDING CONSERVATION MEASURES.

THE SECOND WHITE PAPER REVIEW WILL BE PUBLISHED LATER THIS SUMMER AFTER CONSULTATION WITH VARIOUS GROUPS AND AFTER IT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR FEBRUARY
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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, ESTIMATED AT $12.4 BILLION, INCREASED BY 10% WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES OVER THE PERIOD, TOTAL RETAIL SALES ROSE BY 6% IN VOLUME TERMS.

TAKING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1993 TOGETHER, TOTAL RETAIL SALES ALSO ROSE BY 10% IN VALUE AND 6% IN VOLUME OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

HOWEVER, RETAIL SALES OF SOME COMMODITIES TEND TO BE MORE VOLATILE IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY, AFFECTED BY THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FESTIVAL.

IT IS THEREFORE MORE APPROPRIATE TO COMPARE THE SALES FIGURES OF INDIVIDUAL OUTLET TYPES IN THE TWO MONTHS TAKEN TOGETHER.

THE INCREASE IN TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1993 WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO GROWTH IN SPENDING ON CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS (OTHER THAN MOTOR CARS), JEWELLERY AND CLOTHING.

/SALES OF .....

SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED THE LARGEST YEAR-ON-YEAR INCREASE, BY 21% IN VALUE AND 19% IN VOLUME, WHILE SALES OF CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR WENT UP BY 24% IN VALUE AND 14% IN VOLUME.

SALES OF JEWELLERY AND WATCHES INCREASED BY 10% IN VALUE AND 13% IN VOLUME, MAINLY OWING TO A CONTINUED HIGH LEVEL OF SPENDING ON JEWELLERY BY TOURISTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM CHINA.

MEANWHILE, MODERATE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES (BY 11% IN VALUE AND 3% IN VOLUME); SALES OF FUELS (BY 8% AND 4%); SALES IN SUPERMARKETS (BY 7% IN VALUE BUT PRACTICALLY NO CHANGE IN VOLUME); SALES OF OTHER FOODSTUFFS (7% AND 1%); AND SALES OF MOTOR CARS (6% IN VALUE BUT VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE IN VOLUME).

THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES IS DERIVED FROM THE VALUE OF RETAIL SALES AFTER ADJUSTING FOR PRICE CHANGES. THE RELEVANT COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ARE USED AS DEFLATORS.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE FEBRUARY 1993 RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT $2 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1258.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR JANUARY 1993 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR FEBRUARY 1993.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDICES OF RETAIL SALES IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1993 FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS AND BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET, WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF THE FEBRUARY 1993 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR JANUARY 1993 AND FEBRUARY 1992, AS WELL AS COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO FEBRUARY OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, ARE ALSO GIVEN.

/TABLE 1 : .....

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for February 1993 (Provisional Figure) = HK$12,409.6 million

for January 1993 (Revised Figure) = HK$15,748.0 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDICES OF RETAIL SALES FOR JANUARY 1993 AND FEBRUARY 1993

(Monthly average of Oct. 89 - Sept. 90 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	January 1993	February 1993	February 1993 compared with January 1993		February 1993 compared with February 1992		Jan-Feb 1993 compared with Jan-Feb 1992	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS									
	Value	167.7	132.1	-35.5	-21.2	+11.5	+9.5	+13.9	+10.2
	Volume	144.9	114.1	-30.8	-21.2	+6.4	+5.9	+6.9	+5.6
(B) BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco (other than supermarkets)	Value	133.5	111.0	-22.5	-16.9	+11.2	+11.2	+7.5	+6.5
	Volume	103.9	88.0	-15.9	-15.3	+7.0	+8.6	+0.5	+0.5
Supermarkets	Value	160.2	111.3	-49.0	-30.6	-17.1	-13.3	+9.0	+7.1
	Volume	128.0	87.4	-40.6	-31.7	-20.7	-19.1	+0.2	+0.1
Fuels	Value	139.8	117.6	-22.2	-15.9	+10.5	+9.8	+9.4	+7.9
	Volume	105.9	89.1	-16.8	-15.9	+5.0	+6.0	+4.0	+4.2
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	246.6	135.7	-110.9	-45.0	+12.2	+9.8	+36.5	+23.6
	Volume	204.0	113.2	-90.8	-44.5	+2.4	+2.2	+19.9	+14.4
Consumer durable goods *	Value	160.2	168.2	+8.0	+5.0	+35.0	+26.3	+18.5	+12.7
	Volume	143.1	145.7	+2.5	+1.8	+25.5	+21.2	+12.1	+9.1
- Motor vehicles and parts	Value	165.2	234.3	+69.1	+41.8	+54.1	+30.0	+11.6	+6.2
	Volume	135.8	189.7	+54.0	+39.8	+34.6	+22.3	-0.1	#
- Consumer durable goods other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	156.5	120.3	-36.2	-23.1	+21.3	+21.5	+23.5	+20.5
	Volume	148.5	113.8	-34.7	-23.4	+18.9	+19.9	+20.8	+18.9
Department stores	Value	188.3	123.6	-64.7	-34.3	+4.3	+3.6	+15.0	+10.7
	Volume	158.4	104.2	-54.2	-34.2	-3.0	-2.8	+4.3	+3.4
Jewellery, watches and clocks, and valuable gifts	Value	149.6	124.8	-24.8	-16.6	+10.6	+9.2	+11.9	+9.5
	Volume	158.8	133.0	-25.8	-16.2	+18.7	+16.3	+17.1	+13.3
Other consumer goods not elsewhere classified	Value	158.3	138.2	-20.1	-12.7	+10.3	+8.1	+1.3	+0.9
	Volume	133.8	115.4	-18.5	-13.8	+1.1	+0.9	-7.4	-5.6

NOTE : * This covers both "Motor vehicles and parts" and "Consumer durable goods other than motor vehicles and parts".
# denotes a figure within ±0.05

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ACTIVITY CENTRES PROVIDE EXTENSIVE SERVICES
FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS
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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT ACCORDING TO THE 1987 REHABILITATION PROGRAMME PLAN REVIEW, THE THREE EXISTING ACTIVITY CENTRES FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS HAD DEVELOPED SOCIAL CLUBS TO PROVIDE A FULLER RANGE OF REHABILITATION SERVICES FROM 1988/89.

THEY FORM A VITAL PART OF THE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME FOR THE EX-MENTALLY ILL.

AN ACTIVITY CENTRE COMPRISES A DAY CENTRE AND A SOCIAL CLUB.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID SOCIAL CLUBS WERE MAINLY INTENDED FOR THOSE DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS WHO WERE ENGAGED IN DAY TRAINING, EMPLOYMENT, EITHER OPEN OR SHELTERED, DURING THE DAY FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN RECREATION PROGRAMMES.

"NORMAL SOCIAL LIFE IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN THEIR REHABILITATION AND THE DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS CAN MEANINGFULLY UTILISE THEIR LEISURE HOURS AND DEVELOP INTER-PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP SKILLS," HE ADDED.

EACH SOCIAL CLUB OF AN ACTIVITY CENTRE FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE 200 PLACES, INCLUDING THOSE ATTENDING THE DAY CENTRE.

THERE ARE THREE SUCH ACTIVITY CENTRES IN THE TERRITORY - THE LAI KWAN ACTIVITY CENTRE IN WAN CHAI, AMITY DAY CENTRE IN YAU MA TEI AND TUEN MUN ACTIVITY CENTRE.

"WHEN THE REPROVISIONING OF THE AMITY DAY CENTRE AT CHA KWO LING STARTS OPERATION LATER THIS YEAR. IT WILL ALSO HAVE SOCIAL CLUB MEMBERSHIP," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID ACTIVITIES SUCH AS INTEREST GROUPS, SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES TO MEET THE DIFFERENT NEEDS OF THE MEMBERS WOULD BE ORGANISED ON A SELECTED NUMBER OF EVENINGS ON WEEKDAYS AND WEEKENDS TO HELP THE EX-MENTALLY ILL TO BE INTEGRATED INTO THE COMMUNITY.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 53.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 312.821 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 278.730 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	945
REVERSAL OF LAF	+1,205
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,150
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-90
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,060

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 111.8 *+0.0* 3.5.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.50 PCT
1 MONTH	2.71 PCT
3 MONTHS	2.76 PCT
6 MONTHS	2.88 PCT
12 MONTHS	3.10 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
13 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.41	3.15
16 MONTHS	2408	4.375	101.38	3.30
19 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.72	3.49
22 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.83	3.71

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 6,020 MN

CLOSED 3 MAY 1993

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