



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
TAC ENDORSES CMB FARE INCREASE	1
TAXI LICENCE LAW TO BE AMENDED	2
FEWER TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS IN FIRST QUARTER 1994	2
ESTATE AGENTS REPORT BEING FINALISED	3
MONETARY STATISTICS FOR APRIL	4
PRIMARY 1 CENTRAL ALLOCATION RESULTS OUT ON SATURDAY	7
TRIPARTITE COALITION PROMOTES BIOTECHNOLOGY	8
APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR TEACHER EDUCATION COURSES	10
TAXI DRIVERS REMINDED TO DISPLAY IDENTITY PLATES	11
DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS FOR THREE METRO DISTRICTS COMPLETED	12
VMS REFUSE TO TAKE FOOD	13
SURVEY ON WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS FOR 1993	13
RS URGES STUDENTS TO REGISTER AS VOTERS	15
EASY TO BECOME A VOTER	15
AUCTION OF LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS	16
SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STUDIES	17
CLOSURE OF TUEN MUN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE SOUGHT	18
HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY TENDER RESULTS	18
HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS	19

TAC ENDORSES CMB FARE INCREASE

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TODAY (TUESDAY) ENDORSED THE ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION TO GIVE CHINA MOTOR BUS (CMB) A FARE INCREASE BY A WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF 9.8 PER CENT IN JULY - SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN THE 19.1 PER CENT SOUGHT BY THE COMPANY.

EXCLUDING THE INCREASE FOR CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES WHICH WAS INTRODUCED ON APRIL 1 TOGETHER WITH THE FARE RISE FOR KOWLOON MOTOR BUS, CMB'S FARES FOR HONG KONG ISLAND ROUTES WOULD ONLY GO UP BY A WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF 5.6 PER CENT.

THE PROPOSED FARE RISE WILL MEAN THAT ABOUT 96 PER CENT OF THE PASSENGERS ON 34 MAIN ROUTES ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL ONLY PAY 10 TO 20 CENTS MORE PER TRIP.

FARES FOR OTHER ROUTES OF LOWER FREQUENCY AND PATRONAGE WILL GO UP BY 20 TO 30 CENTS, WHILE FARES FOR 15 RECREATIONAL ROUTES WILL RISE BETWEEN 20 CENTS TO \$1.

IT IS ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT THE FARE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN AIR-CONDITIONED AND NON-AIR-CONDITIONED SERVICES SHOULD BE REDUCED FROM 46 PER CENT TO 41 PER CENT.

THE PROPOSED FARE RISE HAS A NEGLIGIBLE IMPACT ON THE CONSUMERS PRICE INDEX (A) - A MERE 0.03 PER CENT.

CMB HAS AGREED TO EXTEND ITS EXISTING ELDERLY CONCESSIONARY FARE SCHEME TO ALL ROUTES ON HONG KONG ISLAND ON A FULL DAY BASIS WHEN THE NEW FARES BECOME EFFECTIVE. BUT, THE CONCESSIONARY FARE WOULD NOT BE APPLICABLE TO CROSS-HARBOUR ROUTES.

THE ELDERLY CONCESSIONARY FARE SCHEME IS ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY AND IT IS LEFT TO THE INITIATIVE OF INDIVIDUAL TRANSPORT OPERATORS, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THEIR FINANCIAL POSITION.

IN CONSIDERING THE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION, MEMBERS NOTED THAT WITH HIGHER STAFF AND MAINTENANCE COST AND LITTLE PROSPECT FOR PATRONAGE INCREASE, CMB'S PROFIT WILL FALL TO A VERY LOW LEVEL IN 1994/95 IF FARES ON HONG KONG ISLAND ROUTES ARE TO REMAIN AT EXISTING LEVEL.

A MODEST FARE INCREASE WILL ENABLE CMB TO ACHIEVE A REASONABLE RETURN FOR IT TO CONTINUE ITS SERVICE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME AND TO REMAIN REASONABLY COMPETITIVE.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT SINCE THE REDUCTION OF 26 ROUTES IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, CMB HAD MADE SOME IMPROVEMENTS IN ITS PERFORMANCE, SUCH AS A HIGHER BUS TURNOUT RATE AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PASSENGERS LIAISON GROUPS.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO RECEIVED TODAY CMB'S FIVE-YEAR FORWARD PLAN AND NOTED THAT CMB WILL CONTINUE TO EXPAND ITS SERVICES.

TAXI LICENCE LAW TO BE AMENDED

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THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THAT LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS BE MADE TO IMPLEMENT SOME OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE TAXI POLICY REVIEW TO DISCOURAGE SPECULATION IN TAXI LICENCES.

TO ENABLE A 12-MONTH RESTRICTION BE IMPOSED ON THE TRANSFER OF NEW TAXI LICENCES, AN AMENDMENT BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JUNE 22 THIS YEAR.

THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1994 SEEKS TO GIVE THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT A GENERAL POWER TO IMPOSE A CONDITION ON A TAXI LICENCE, PREVENTING THE TRANSFER OF TAXI OWNERSHIP WITHIN A CERTAIN PERIOD.

UNDER THIS POWER, THE COMMISSIONER WILL SPECIFY A 12-MONTH RESTRICTION IN THE TAXI LICENCE TENDER DOCUMENTS AND IN THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS FOR TAXIS.

TO TIGHTEN THE PROCEDURES FOR THE TRANSFER OF TAXI LICENCES, THE ROAD TRAFFIC (REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES) (AMENDMENT) (NO.3) REGULATION WILL BE MADE TO REQUIRE BOTH THE BUYER AND SELLER OF A TAXI LICENCE TO REGISTER THE TRANSFER IN PERSON IN A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT LICENSING OFFICE WITHIN 72 HOURS OF THE TRANSFER.

THE AMENDMENT BILL WILL COME INTO FORCE AS SOON AS IT IS ENACTED. THE AMENDMENT REGULATION WILL BE GAZETTED ON FRIDAY (JUNE 3) AND IS EXPECTED TO TAKE EFFECT ON JULY 6 THIS YEAR.

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FEWER TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS IN FIRST QUARTER 1994

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THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED BY THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 1994 TO MARCH 31, 1994 DROPPED BY 4.2 PER CENT TO 3,292 AS COMPARED WITH 3,437 IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1993.

DURING THE PERIOD, THE MAJOR AREAS OF COMPLAINTS WERE RELATED TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT (61 PER CENT), ENFORCEMENT (17 PER CENT) AND ROAD TRAFFIC CONDITIONS (15 PER CENT).

THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT PUBLIC TRANSPORT DROPPED BY 4.6 PER CENT FROM 2,096 IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER TO 1,999.

THIS WAS ATTRIBUTABLE MAINLY TO FEWER COMPLAINTS AGAINST CITYBUS (DOWN 66.3 PER CENT FROM 193 TO 65 CASES), GREEN MINI-BUSES (DOWN 10.7 PER CENT FROM 215 TO 192) AND TAXI MALPRACTICES (DOWN 3.8 PER CENT FROM 898 TO 864).

HOWEVER, COMPLAINTS AGAINST KOWLOON MOTOR BUS ROSE FROM 336 TO 424 THIS QUARTER. OF THESE, TWO-THIRDS WERE RELATED TO ERRATIC SERVICES, CONDUCT AND PERFORMANCE OF DRIVERS AND INADEQUATE SERVICES. COMPLAINTS AGAINST CHINA MOTOR BUS ALSO ROSE SLIGHTLY FROM 185 TO 190.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST TRAFFIC REGULATION ENFORCEMENT DECREASED BY EIGHT PER CENT TO 567 CASES FROM 617 IN THE LAST QUARTER.

THEY WERE RELATED MAINLY TO REQUESTS FOR ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL PARKING AND MOTORISTS FAILING TO COMPLY WITH TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, ALL OF WHICH HAD BEEN REFERRED TO THE POLICE FOR ACTION.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE 170 COMPLAINTS ABOUT ROAD CONGESTION, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 28 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH 237 CASES IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

IN ADDITION, THERE WERE 149 COMPLAINTS ABOUT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND 135 SUGGESTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL TRAFFIC SIGNS AND AIDS, COMPARED WITH 143 AND 125 CASES RESPECTIVELY IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

ALL THESE COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS HAD BEEN REFERRED TO THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES FOR CONSIDERATIONS.

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ESTATE AGENTS REPORT BEING FINALISED

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THE WORKING GROUP ON REGULATION OF ESTATE AGENTS TODAY (TUESDAY) MET TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE RECOMMENDATIONS THEY HAD DELIBERATED IN PAST MEETINGS IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING ITS REPORT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE WORKING GROUP IS IN SUPPORT OF SETTING UP A SELF-FINANCING LICENSING AUTHORITY WITH LEGISLATIVE BACKING TO ADVANCE AND REGULATE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRADE.

THE APPROACH IS TO EMPOWER THE AUTHORITY TO SET LICENSING STANDARD AND TO PUT IN PLACE A SANCTION AND REDRESS SYSTEM TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM UNETHICAL AND ILLEGAL PRACTICE.

MEMBERS ALSO ENDORSED THE APPROACH TO ENHANCE THE IMPARTIALITY AND CREDIBILITY OF THE LICENSING AUTHORITY BY INVITING REPRESENTATIVES FROM A WIDE CROSS-SECTION IN THE COMMUNITY TO SERVE AS MEMBERS.

THEY HAVE ALSO RECOMMENDED THE SETTING UP OF AN INDEPENDENT APPEAL PANEL TO DEAL WITH APPEALS AGAINST THE AUTHORITY'S DECISIONS.

IN THEIR PREVIOUS MEETINGS, MEMBERS ALSO DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE OF SHORT-TERM MEASURES TO IMPROVE THE SERVICE OF THE TRADE.

THESE INCLUDE THE STANDARDISATION OF THE PROVISIONAL SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENT, AND THE FORM FOR INSPECTING A FLAT PUT UP FOR SALE VIA AN ESTATE AGENT.

THE WORKING GROUP IS ALSO IN SUPPORT OF THE TRADE ASSOCIATIONS DRAWING UP A CODE OF PRACTICE AND PRACTISING GUIDELINES FOR THE TRADE.

IT IS EXPECTED THE WORKING GROUP UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS (HOUSING POLICY), MR LEO KWAN, WILL SUBMIT ITS RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS' TIME.

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TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1994

- 4 -

MONETARY STATISTICS FOR APRIL

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STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY SHOWED THAT HK\$ M3 GREW MODERATELY BY 2.2% IN APRIL 1994, UP FROM 0.1% IN MARCH.

ITS YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE WAS 22.6%, HIGHER THAN THE LEVEL IN MARCH BUT CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN THOSE IN THE PREVIOUS MONTHS.

FOLLOWING A MARGINAL INCREASE OF 0.1% IN MARCH, THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS PICKED UP FURTHER BY 2.5% IN APRIL. YEAR-ON-YEAR, IT GREW BY 22.3%.

WITH THE NARROWING OF THE INTEREST RATE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS AND SWAP DEPOSITS AFTER THE INCREASE OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS DEPOSIT RATES IN LATE MARCH, THE SHARP GROWTH IN FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS RECORDED IN MARCH (+9.4%) MODERATED IN APRIL (+1.9%).

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS ROSE MODERATELY IN APRIL BY 1.0%. THE AMOUNT OF FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS IS MARGINALLY BELOW THE LEVEL ONE YEAR AGO. ITS PROPORTION IN TOTAL DEPOSITS FELL TO 48.9%, THE LOWEST LEVEL AMONGST THE LAST THREE MONTHS.

HK\$ M1 REGISTERED LITTLE CHANGE IN APRIL AS THE RISE IN HONG KONG DOLLAR DEMAND DEPOSITS (+2.5%) OFFSET THE FALL IN LEGAL TENDER NOTES AND COINS HELD BY THE PUBLIC (-3.9%).

THE REDUCTION IN PUBLIC'S CASH HOLDING WAS DUE TO THE HIGH COMPARISON BASE AT THE END OF MARCH BEFORE THE EASTER HOLIDAY BREAK. YEAR-ON-YEAR, IT GREW BY 15.3%.

THE BROADEST DEFINITION OF LOCAL MONEY SUPPLY, HK\$ M3 ROSE BY 2.2% DURING APRIL.

ITS ANNUAL GROWTH IN APRIL (+22.6%) WAS HIGHER THAN THAT IN MARCH (+19.5%), BUT IT HAS SLOWED DOWN CONSIDERABLY FROM THE GROWTH OF 25.2% TO 46.5% RECORDED BETWEEN NOVEMBER 1993 AND FEBRUARY 1994.

TOTAL M1 INCREASED BY 17.6% AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

BECAUSE OF THE SLUGGISH GROWTH IN FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS, TOTAL M2 AND M3 HAD SLOWER GROWTH THAN THEIR CORRESPONDING HONG KONG DOLLAR COUNTERPARTS.

THEIR RESPECTIVE ANNUAL GROWTH RATES WERE 11.2% AND 11.8%, IN LINE WITH THE OVERALL ECONOMIC GROWTH.

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 1.8% IN APRIL. AMONGST THESE LOANS, HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS INCREASED BY 1.6% DURING APRIL.

/THE YEAR-ON-YEAR

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1994

- 5 -

THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH WAS 18.7%, LOWER THAN THAT OF HONG KONG DOLLOR DEPOSITS.

THIS BROUGHT THE HONG KONG DOLLAR LOAN-TO-DEPOSIT RATIO DOWN TO 114.0% IN APRIL FROM 115.1% IN MARCH. FOREIGN CURRENCY LOANS INCREASED BY 1.9% DURING THE MONTH AND BY 12.3% OVER THE YEAR.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE RECORDED A SOLID GROWTH OF 3.9% IN APRIL, FOLLOWING A 2.2% INCREASE IN MARCH. ITS YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH WAS 14.4%.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG ROSE BY 1.4%, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 1.8% IN MARCH. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 18.4%.

ENQUIRIES ON THE MONETARY STATISTICS FOR APRIL MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS SECTION, HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY, ON TEL 878 1687.

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/TABLE 1 :

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - APR 1994

	Apr 1994	Earlier months (% change to Apr 1994)			(HK\$mn)
		Mar 1994	Jan 1994	Apr 1993	
Money Supply					
M1 - HK\$	171,499	171,558 (-0.0)	187,940 (-8.7)	148,781 (15.3)	
Foreign currency	21,555	19,051 (13.1)	20,280 (6.3)	15,436 (39.6)	
Total	193,054	190,609 (1.3)	208,219 (-7.3)	164,218 (17.6)	
M2 - HK\$*	972,233	950,529 (2.3)	1,026,621 (-5.3)	790,573 (23.0)	
Foreign currency*	842,402	835,787 (0.8)	854,466 (-1.4)	840,566 (0.2)	
Total	1,814,635	1,786,315 (1.6)	1,881,087 (-3.5)	1,631,139 (11.2)	
M3 - HK\$*	988,816	967,405 (2.2)	1,043,224 (-5.2)	806,388 (22.6)	
Foreign currency*	886,997	878,513 (1.0)	893,991 (-0.8)	870,906 (1.8)	
Total	1,875,813	1,845,918 (1.6)	1,937,215 (-3.2)	1,677,294 (11.8)	
Notes and coins in circulation	73,254	77,767 (-5.8)	78,950 (-7.2)	63,439 (15.5)	
of which held by public	65,187	67,804 (-3.9)	67,284 (-3.1)	55,300 (17.9)	
Total Deposits					
Total Demand deposits	127,868	122,805 (4.1)	140,935 (-9.3)	108,918 (17.4)	
Total Savings deposits	412,889	401,573 (2.8)	415,968 (-0.7)	376,004 (9.8)	
Total Time deposits with licensed banks	1,178,078	1,164,915 (1.1)	1,232,889 (-4.4)	1,073,448 (9.7)	
Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks	28,217	26,607 (6.1)	25,381 (11.2)	24,890 (13.4)	
Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies	17,680	17,720 (-0.2)	17,678 (0.0)	18,211 (-2.9)	
HK\$ deposits*	901,693	879,416 (2.5)	957,979 (-5.9)	737,123 (22.3)	
US\$ deposits*	434,884	418,942 (3.8)	433,237 (0.4)	419,309 (3.7)	
Other foreign currency deposits*	428,154	435,262 (-1.6)	441,637 (-3.1)	445,039 (-3.8)	
All deposits	1,764,731	1,733,620 (1.8)	1,832,852 (-3.7)	1,601,472 (10.2)	
Foreign currency swap deposits	81,742	80,209 (1.9)	72,526 (12.7)	61,171 (33.6)	
Total Loans and advances					
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	110,414	106,309 (3.9)	104,354 (5.8)	96,531 (14.4)	
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	11,179	10,624 (5.2)	11,532 (-3.1)	12,237 (-8.6)	
Other loans for use in H.K.	1,155,554	1,139,415 (1.4)	1,162,030 (-0.6)	975,635 (18.4)	
Other loans for use outside H.K.	1,751,508	1,719,082 (1.9)	1,651,850 (6.0)	1,559,887 (12.3)	
Other loans where the place of use is not known	45,129	43,946 (2.7)	43,007 (4.9)	43,272 (4.3)	
Loans in HK\$	1,028,202	1,011,843 (1.6)	1,047,056 (-1.8)	866,327 (18.7)	
Loans in foreign currencies	2,045,581	2,007,533 (1.9)	1,925,717 (6.2)	1,821,234 (12.3)	
Total loans and advances	3,073,783	3,019,376 (1.8)	2,972,773 (3.4)	2,687,562 (14.4)	

* Adjusted for foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

Note: 'Restricted licence banks' and 'deposit-taking companies' were known as 'licensed deposit-taking companies' and 'registered deposit-taking companies' respectively before 1 February 1990.

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1994

- 7 -

PRIMARY 1 CENTRAL ALLOCATION RESULTS OUT ON SATURDAY

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT RESULTS OF THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF PRIMARY ONE PLACES FOR SCHOOL ENTRY IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR WILL BE RELEASED ON SATURDAY (JUNE 4).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID A TOTAL OF 19,128 CHILDREN PARTICIPATING IN THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION WOULD BE ALLOCATED TO SCHOOLS OF THEIR PARENTS' FIRST THREE CHOICES.

"THIS REPRESENTS 59.8 PER CENT OF 31,982 CHILDREN TAKING PART IN THE CENTRAL ALLOCATION."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PARENTS SHOULD GO TO THE RELEVANT DISTRIBUTION-COLLECTION CENTRE IN THEIR DISTRICT ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY FROM 9.30 AM TO 12.30 PM OR 1.30 PM TO 4.30 PM TO COLLECT AN "ALLOCATION SLIP".

THE SLIP SHOWS THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SCHOOL TO WHICH THEIR CHILD HAS BEEN ALLOCATED, TOGETHER WITH THE DATES FOR REGISTRATION.

THEY SHOULD BRING ALONG THE PARENT'S COPY OF THE "APPLICATION FORM FOR ADMISSION TO PRIMARY ONE" OR THE "CHOICE OF SCHOOLS FORM" FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PARENTS ARE REQUESTED TO COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORMALITIES ON JUNE 8 (WEDNESDAY) OR JUNE 9 (THURSDAY).

REGISTRATION HOURS FOR AM SCHOOLS ARE FROM 9 AM TO NOON AND, FOR PM SCHOOLS, FROM 2 PM TO 5 PM. FOR WHOLE-DAY SCHOOLS, THE REGISTRATION HOURS ARE FROM 9 AM TO NOON AND FROM 2 PM TO 4 PM.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PARENTS WHO FOR SOME PERSONAL REASONS COULD NOT REGISTER THEIR CHILD MUST CONTACT THE SCHOOL DIRECT OR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT BEFOREHAND FOR ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

"PARENTS FAILING TO REGISTER THEIR CHILDREN WITH THE SCHOOL ON THE SPECIFIED DATES WITHOUT MAKING PRIOR ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE DEEMED TO HAVE GIVEN UP THE PLACE ALLOCATED," HE SAID.

"UPON REGISTRATION, THE ALLOCATION SLIP SHOULD BE SURRENDERED TO THE SCHOOL AND PARENTS MUST NOTE THAT ALL PLACES ALLOCATED ARE FINAL AND REQUESTS FOR RE-ALLOCATION WITHOUT VALID JUSTIFICATION WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED."

PARENTS WHO HAVE SPECIAL DIFFICULTIES, SUCH AS HAVING MOVED TO ANOTHER DISTRICT RESULTING IN THE ALLOCATED SCHOOL BEING TOO FAR FROM THEIR NEW HOME, ARE ADVISED TO PERSONALLY CALL ON THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT AT 269 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI, TO SEEK HELP.

THEY SHOULD BRING ALONG THE ORIGINAL AND COPIES OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTARY PROOF OF THE NEW ADDRESS, SUCH AS RENTAL RECEIPTS, TITLE DEED OF THE PROPERTY, RATES DEMAND NOTES, WATER BILLS OR ELECTRICITY BILLS BEARING THE NAME OF THE PARENT OR THE GUARDIAN OF THE CHILD.

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TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1994

- 8 -

"IF THEIR REQUEST IS JUSTIFIED, THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO FIND ANOTHER PLACE FOR THEIR CHILDREN IN A SCHOOL NEARER TO THEIR NEW HOME," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"SHOULD PARENTS FIND IT NECESSARY TO CHANGE SCHOOL FOR THEIR CHILD AFTER REGISTRATION, THEY ARE ADVISED TO OBTAIN ASSURANCE FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL BEFORE RETRIEVING THE ALLOCATION SLIP FROM THE ORIGINAL SCHOOL BECAUSE RETRIEVAL OF THE ALLOCATION SLIP MEANS CANCELLATION OF THE SCHOOL PLACE ALREADY ALLOCATED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE SECURED A DISCRETIONARY PLACE AND HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED WITH A SCHOOL LAST DECEMBER NEED NOT REPEAT THE REGISTRATION FORMALITIES, HE ADDED.

PARENTS WHO WISH TO OBTAIN GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION PROCEDURES MAY DIAL 891 0088 FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S 24-HOUR AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE ENQUIRY SERVICE.

THOSE WHO HAVE FURTHER ENQUIRIES ON THE PROCEDURES MAY CONTACT THE PRIMARY ONE ADMISSION UNIT ON 572 4383. OPERATION HOURS OF THE ENQUIRY SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO COVER THE PERIOD FROM 9 AM TO 12.30 PM AND 1.30 PM TO 4.30 PM ON BOTH SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (JUNE 4 AND 5).

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TRIPARTITE COALITION PROMOTES BIOTECHNOLOGY

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THE GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS HAVE FORMED A TRIPARTITE COALITION IN PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY IN HONG KONG THROUGH THE PROVISION OF QUALITY HUMAN RESOURCE AND INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT.

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR RAYMOND YOUNG, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT A CEREMONY TO LAUNCH THE 1994 BIOTECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME.

THE PILOT TRAINING SCHEME AIMS TO BETTER EQUIP HONG KONG'S TERTIARY STUDENTS IN THE DISCIPLINE OF BIOTECHNOLOGY BY WIDENING THEIR EXPOSURE THROUGH INDUSTRIAL ATTACHMENT LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS.

A TOTAL OF 11 COMPANIES HAVE UNDERTAKEN TO CO-SPONSOR 31 ATTACHMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FIELD OF BIOTECHNOLOGY THIS SUMMER. SO FAR, 16 OF THESE PLACES HAVE BEEN FILLED AND THE REMAINING ONES WILL BE FILLED IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

THE AREAS OF ACTIVITIES OFFERED INCLUDE MANUFACTURING, MARKETING AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

MR YOUNG SAID ANOTHER RECENT EFFORT MADE BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT TO ENHANCE THE GROWTH OF BIOTECHNOLOGY WAS THE COMPILATION OF A DIRECTORY OF BIOTECHNOLOGY IN HONG KONG.

/THIS DIRECTORY

THIS DIRECTORY WILL PROVIDE INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT'S VARIOUS SUPPORT PROGRAMMES ON BIOTECHNOLOGY, THE RESEARCH FACILITIES AND AREAS OF EXPERTISE OF THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND ITS RESEARCH INSTITUTES, SUCH AS THE BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE KADOORIE AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTRE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, HE SAID.

"THE DIRECTORY WILL BE A USEFUL REFERENCE GUIDE TO BOTH OVERSEAS AND LOCAL INVESTORS INTERESTED IN BIOTECHNOLOGY. THIS DIRECTORY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE THIRD OR FOURTH QUARTER OF THIS YEAR," HE ADDED.

MR YOUNG SAID THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAD BEEN ACTIVELY CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R & D) PROJECTS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY, AND IT WAS IMPORTANT TO ENSURE THAT THE RESULTS OF THOSE SUCCESSFULLY APPLIED R & D PROJECTS COULD BE UTILISED BY THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

"TO FACILITATE THE DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH OUTCOME, THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL BE ORGANISING A SEMINAR ON APPLIED R & D EFFORTS IN BIOTECHNOLOGY IN 1994/95. IT WILL PROVIDE A VENUE FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE BIOTECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY," HE SAID.

"THE RESPONSE FROM THE HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS HAS BEEN FAVOURABLE AND THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY RECEIVED AROUND 30 RESEARCH TOPICS FOR PRESENTATION AT THE PROPOSED SEMINAR.

"IN ADDITION, THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT IS ALSO PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY IN HONG KONG THROUGH THE APPLIED R & D SCHEME AND THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR INDUSTRIAL SUPPORT SCHEME," HE ADDED.

ONE OF THE PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE APPLIED R & D SCHEME, WHICH AIMS AT DEVELOPING A DEGRADABLE PACKING MATERIAL, WAS GRANTED A LOAN OF SLIGHTLY LESS THAN \$1 MILLION EARLIER THIS YEAR AND IS MAKING GOOD PROGRESS.

TWO OTHER BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING SUPPORT UNDER THE SCHEME ARE BEING ASSESSED.

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WAS A MEMBER OF THE BIOTECHNOLOGY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, MR LO YUK-LAM.

FIRSTLY, GIVEN THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA, THERE ARE VAST OPPORTUNITIES FOR HONG KONG TO CO-OPERATE WITH CHINA IN COMMERCIALISING THE LATTER'S RESEARCH OUTCOME IN BIOTECHNOLOGY, HE SAID.

"OUR BUSINESSMEN ARE WELL VERSED IN MARKET NEEDS AND HAVE WELL-ESTABLISHED INTERNATIONAL MARKETING NETWORK WHEREAS CHINA HAS EXCELLENT RESEARCH CAPABILITIES, NOT TO MENTION ITS GIGANTIC MARKET SIZE AND RESOURCEFUL MANPOWER. BY CO-OPERATING WITH CHINA IN COMMERCIALISING ITS BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH PROJECTS, BOTH PARTIES CAN BE BENEFITED.

"SECONDLY, WE HAVE STRONG LOCAL R & D EXPERTISE AND EXCELLENT INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT FROM HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY LOCALLY.

"MOREOVER, UNLIKE OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, MOST OF THE BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED BUSINESS DO NOT REQUIRE A LOT OF LAND, WHICH IS EXPENSIVE IN HONG KONG. RATHER, THEY WILL BE LOOKING FOR HIGH CALIBRE MANPOWER AND EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT, WHICH CAN BE PROVIDED BY HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

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APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR TEACHER EDUCATION COURSES

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THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION IS INVITING SECONDARY 5 AND 7 SCHOOL LEAVERS TO APPLY FOR THE TWO-YEAR AND THREE-YEAR FULL-TIME PRE-SERVICE TEACHER EDUCATION COURSES IN 1994/95.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INSTITUTE SAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RECOMMENDATION BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION IN ITS REPORT NO.5, HONG KONG'S FOUR COLLEGES OF EDUCATION AND THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION HAVE BEEN MERGED TO BECOME THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION, WHICH WILL START OPERATING TEACHER EDUCATION COURSES FROM SEPTEMBER 1994.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HOLDERS OF THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION OR EQUIVALENT COULD APPLY FOR ADMISSION TO THE THREE-YEAR COURSE WHILE THOSE HOLDING THE HONG KONG ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION CERTIFICATE OR EQUIVALENT COULD APPLY FOR THE TWO-YEAR COURSE.

APPLICATION FORMS AND GENERAL INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- * HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION HEAD OFFICE,
NINTH FLOOR, SUNNING PLAZA, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSWAY BAY;
- * EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS,
15TH FLOOR, WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI;
- * EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, KOWLOON SUB-OFFICE,
KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
SEVENTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD,
YAU MA TEI;
- * NORTHCOTE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
21 SASSOON ROAD,
POKFULAM;
- * GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
42 GASCOIGNE ROAD, KOWLOON;

/* SIR ROBERT

TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1994

- 11 -

* SIR ROBERT BLACK COLLEGE OF EDUCATION,
6 CALDECOTT ROAD, PIPER'S HILL; AND

* HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE,
373 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS 1 PM ON THURSDAY, JUNE 30.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 386 0442.

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TAXI DRIVERS REMINDED TO DISPLAY IDENTITY PLATES

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TAXI DRIVERS ARE REMINDED TO DISPLAY THEIR IDENTITY PLATES BEFORE ENFORCEMENT OF THE RELEVANT REGULATION ON JULY 1.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THE REQUIREMENT WAS TO ENCOURAGE TAXI DRIVERS TO EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE, AND HELP PASSENGERS LODGE COMPLAINTS.

THE REGULATION CAME INTO EFFECT ON APRIL 1. THE THREE-MONTH GRACE PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30.

"FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE ON CONVICTION TO A FINE OF \$2,000," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE IDENTITY PLATE WILL SHOW A DRIVER'S FULL NAME IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE AND A RECENT PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DRIVER.

IT HAS TO BE SLOTTED IN A HOLDER BEARING THE REGISTRATION MARK OF THE TAXI, AND MOUNTED ON THE DASHBOARD TO THE LEFT OF THE METER FLAG UNIT FACING THE FRONT-SEAT PASSENGERS.

THE IDENTITY PLATE AND THE HOLDER WILL BE PRODUCED BY THE TAXI OPERATORS OR ASSOCIATIONS ACCORDING TO THE SPECIFICATIONS SET BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT GAZETTED ON APRIL 8 THIS YEAR.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS PRINTED BLANK PLATES FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE DRIVERS. THEY CAN BE COLLECTED AT

- * ALL LICENSING OFFICES OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT;
- * THE PUBLIC VEHICLES SECTION OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, ROOM 27, MEZZANINE FLOOR, 2 MURRAY ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES OF ALL DISTRICT OFFICES.

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/12

DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS FOR THREE METRO DISTRICTS COMPLETED
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SENIOR GOVERNMENT PLANNERS TODAY (TUESDAY) BRIEFED THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S LANDS AND WORKS PANEL ON THE RECENTLY COMPLETED DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS FOR WEST KOWLOON, SOUTH EAST KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN/KWAI TSING.

THE BRIEFING WAS GIVEN BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS (LAND POLICY), MR CANICE MAK, AND THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT'S PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER (TERRITORIAL), DR TED PRYOR.

EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND OF THE PREPARATION OF THESE DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS, DR PRYOR SAID IN SEPTEMBER 1991, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD APPROVED METROPLAN AS A LAND USE-TRANSPORT-ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR RESTRUCTURING THE METRO AREA OF HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON, NEW KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN.

"MANY PARTS OF THE METRO AREA HAVE BECOME OBSOLETE AND METROPLAN ENVISAGES THAT SUCH DISTRICTS SHOULD BE RESTRUCTURED IN ASSOCIATION WITH DEVELOPMENTS ON NEW RECLAMATIONS IN WEST KOWLOON, HUNG HOM BAY, SOUTH EAST KOWLOON, CENTRAL - WAN CHAI, GREEN ISLAND, ALDRICH BAY AND TSUEN WAN BAY.

"DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS ARE, THEREFORE, BEING PRODUCED FOR EACH OF THE SEVEN METRO DISTRICTS TO TRANSLATE THE BROAD METROPLAN CONCEPTS INTO MORE SPECIFIC OUTLINE PROPOSALS WHICH CAN THEN BE USED AS A BASIS FOR DETAILED PLANNING AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION," HE SAID.

THE THREE DEVELOPMENT STATEMENTS PRESENTED TO LEGCO TODAY SERVE AS FRAMEWORKS TO GUIDE THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE THREE BROAD DISTRICTS UP TO 2001.

THEY DESCRIBE THE MAJOR LAND USES, TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND NEEDS TO BE RESOLVED IN THE RESPECTIVE METRO DISTRICTS.

THEY ALSO STATE THE SECTORAL PLANNING PROPOSALS IN RESPECT OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS, URBAN RENEWAL, TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENTS, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS, URBAN DESIGN, LANDSCAPE AND RECREATION.

MEANWHILE, THE STATEMENTS PROVIDE GUIDELINES IN RESPECT OF LAND USE TYPES, DEVELOPMENT INTENSITIES AND OTHER DEVELOPMENT PARAMETERS FOR AREAS FOR WHICH DETAILED LAYOUT OR REDEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS WILL NEED TO BE PREPARED.

"THESE STATEMENTS WILL, WHERE APPROPRIATE, SERVE AS A BASIS FOR PREPARING OR REVISING OUTLINE ZONING PLANS AND OTHER TOWN PLANS.

"THEY ALSO PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR DETAILED PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING FOR THE DESIGNATED DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT AREAS," DR PRYOR ADDED.

- 13 -

DISTRICT BOARDS WILL BE CONSULTED ON THE STATEMENTS IN THE COMING TWO MONTHS WHILE BRIEFINGS WITH OTHER RELEVANT BODIES, INCLUDING THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD AND THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE, WILL ALSO BE ARRANGED.

DR PRYOR ALSO TOLD THE PANEL THAT THE HONG KONG ISLAND WEST DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT WAS BEING PREPARED FOR COMPLETION BY NEXT FEBRUARY OR MARCH, AND PREPARATION OF THE CENTRAL AND EAST KOWLOON DEVELOPMENT STATEMENT WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN THIS DECEMBER FOR COMPLETION BY MARCH 1996.

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VMS REFUSE TO TAKE FOOD

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A TOTAL OF 3,585 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS (VMS) IN WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE (WHDC) AND 2,417 IN HIGH ISLAND DETENTION CENTRE (HIDC) REFUSED TO TAKE THE FOOD ISSUED BY THE MANAGEMENT TODAY (TUESDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT NOTED THAT BETWEEN MAY 1 AND MAY 29, A DAILY AVERAGE OF 423 VMS IN WHDC AND 151 IN HIDC HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE FOOD REFUSAL.

UP TO YESTERDAY, A TOTAL OF 545 VMS - 419 FROM WHDC AND 126 FROM HIDC - HAD BEEN SENT TO OUTSIDE HOSPITALS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT IN MAY, OF WHOM 61 HAD BEEN ADMITTED FOR OBSERVATION. AS AT TODAY, 11 OF THEM ARE STILL IN HOSPITAL.

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SURVEY ON WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES,
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS FOR 1993

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ABOUT 9,300 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE SURVEY OF WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS FOR 1993 NOW UNDER WAY.

THE ANNUAL SURVEY IS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME TO COMPILE STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF VARIOUS ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG.

IT AIMS TO OBTAIN UP-TO-DATE STATISTICAL DATA FOR EVALUATING THE CONTRIBUTION OF VARIOUS ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND FOR ASCERTAINING THEIR COST STRUCTURE, OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS AND SALES LEVELS.

THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN FORMULATING POLICIES AND MAKING DECISIONS.

/THE COMMISSIONER

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR FREDERICK HO, APPEALED TO THE MANAGERMENTS OF ALL SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS TO FULFIL THEIR LEGAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES BY RETURNING PROMPTLY THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES AND CO-OPERATING WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT DURING THE SURVEY.

HE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE.

"ONLY AGGREGATE INFORMATION THAT DOES NOT REVEAL DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE RELEASED," HE SAID.

MR HO POINTED OUT THAT AUDITED ACCOUNTS WERE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR THE SUPPLY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DATA REQUIRED IN THE SURVEY.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS FIGURES BASED ON PRELIMINARY ACCOUNTS OR ESTIMATES THAT ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THE RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRES, IF AUDITED ACCOUNTS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE.

THE SURVEY COVERS ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES RELATING TO WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, RESTAURANTS, HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES.

INFORMATION TO BE SOUGHT INCLUDES: TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, ORIGIN OF INVESTMENT, FLOOR AREA, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (WAGES, SALARIES AND OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS), OPERATING EXPENSES, TOTAL VALUE OF PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE, SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND STOCKS, AND OTHER RELATED INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESS OPERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS) ORDER 1984, WHICH WAS MADE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE AND ISSUED AS LEGAL NOTICE NO. 16 IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ON JANUARY 13, 1984.

QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO THE SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS.

THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE DEPARTMENT BY JULY 31.

IF REQUIRED, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND HELP THEM COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

THE OFFICERS WILL CARRY A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD AND A CERTIFICATE FOR CONDUCTING THE SURVEY WHILST ON DUTY, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION.

ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1278.

- 15 -

RS URGES STUDENTS TO REGISTER AS VOTERS

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MISS CHRISTINE CHOW, TODAY (TUESDAY) APPEALED TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF 18 TO REGISTER AS VOTERS.

SPEAKING TO NEW TERRITORIES SECONDARY STUDENTS AT AN AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MISS CHOW ALSO URGED THEM TO ENCOURAGE THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS TO ADD THEIR NAMES TO THE ELECTORAL ROLL.

SHE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT YOUNG PEOPLE COULD SHOW MORE CONCERN TO SOCIETY AND PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

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EASY TO BECOME A VOTER

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IT TAKES ONLY A FEW MINUTES FOR THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO FILL IN THE VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS AND BECOME VOTERS, THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR DAVID BROWNING, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A VOTER REGISTRATION PROMOTION ACTIVITY IN TAI WAI, MR BROWNING SAID THE FORM WAS EASY TO COMPLETE AND ONLY SIMPLE PARTICULARS WOULD BE REQUIRED.

THIS WOULD BE EVEN EASIER WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE TEMPORARY COMMUNITY ORGANISERS AND THE STAFF MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE, HE ADDED.

MR BROWNING SAID HE WAS GLAD TO NOTE THE NUMBER OF TEMPORARY COMMUNITY ORGANISERS IN HIS DISTRICT HAD SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED FROM 120 TO 200.

"I HOPE THE NEW FORCE WILL HELP ENHANCE THE PRESENT PUBLICITY DRIVE ON VOTER REGISTRATION," HE SAID.

THEY WILL BE DEPLOYED TO VARIOUS STRATEGIC LOCATIONS IN THE AREA, INCLUDING RAILWAY STATIONS, SHOPPING ARCADES AND BUS TERMINUS TO ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST PASSERS-BY TO REGISTER AS VOTERS.

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- 16 -

AUCTION OF LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL HOLD ANOTHER AUCTION OF LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS ON SATURDAY (JUNE 4) AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

A TOTAL OF 50 LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING AT 9.30 AM. THEY ARE:

FX877	FX138	FX611	AU638	FW3998
AS8805	CE269	FX880	FX654	FX987
*ER333	*BS83	*CC92	*FC2	*FU444
FX159	FX6681	FX5168	AW376	FY625
FY218	EE1638	FW338	FX921	FY3799
AA3680	BR238	AZ3222	BW3828	EM8122
FX463	FX113	FX968	FY6629	FY3298
*EC5	*HK4000	*9868	*FW989	*FU6767
FX890	BV8198	AW1319	FW267	FX4493
FY1289	FX1386	FX9188	FX8346	FX5682

IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION WHICH WILL START AT 2.30 PM, ANOTHER 50 LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR BIDDING. THEY ARE:

FX911	CT817	XX104	FY288	FY117
FX3328	FX663	AW375	FW3368	ER3088
*ER66	*EC300	*FC28	*AJ3	*AY656
FY413	FY510	FX311	CT955	FY7178
FY1928	FX668	HK588	FX2788	AU579
FY2111	FY1128	DP1968	FY148	FY9880
FY9088	AU866	FX638	FX152	FX2887
*8872	*EN99	*920	*CN1001	*CL9595
FX2663	FX1328	FX7003	FY2829	FY4493
AV3826	FY9912	FY6882	FY8038	FY2962

* SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE CAR REGISTRATION MARK WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A CAR REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION MUST BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AUCTION IF THE CAR REGISTRATION MARK IS TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF BODY CORPORATE.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION, AFTER DEDUCTION OF EXPENSES INCURRED, WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTIONS WILL BE THE 228TH AND 229TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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SCHOLARSHIPS FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STUDIES

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APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND THE MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND WILL BE OPEN FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE ASSISTANCE CAN BE IN THE FORM OF SCHOLARSHIP, GRANTS AND INTEREST-FREE LOANS FROM THE TWO FUNDS WHICH ARE ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEES SAID APPLICATION FORMS WOULD BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW FROM THE AFD HEADQUARTERS ON THE 12TH FLOOR OF CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, AND FROM VARIOUS DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICES.

"THE FUNDS WERE SET UP IN 1978 TO HELP PEOPLE WISHING TO SERVE THE LOCAL AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES INDUSTRIES OR RELATED TRADES ON COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES, AND ALSO THOSE EMPLOYED IN THE INDUSTRIES WISHING TO PURSUE FURTHER TRAINING.

"ANOTHER AIM OF THE FUNDS IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN OR DEPENDANTS OF FARMING AND FISHING FAMILIES TO COMPLETE THEIR TERTIARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLING," HE SAID.

APPLICATIONS FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDIES IN THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR WILL CLOSE ON JULY 16 WHILE THOSE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 17.

THE AWARDS WILL BE TENABLE AT ANY UNIVERSITY IN HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, CITY POLYTECHNIC, BAPTIST COLLEGE, ANY ACCEPTABLE OVERSEAS INSTITUTION AND ANY SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THE TERRITORY.

APPLICANTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SHOULD BE HONG KONG RESIDENTS UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE WHILE SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICANTS SHOULD BE STUDENTS IN FORMS FOUR TO SEVEN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPROVED COURSES FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION INCLUDE THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SCIENCE, MARINE SCIENCE AND BIOLOGY OR ANY APPLIED SCIENCE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO THE LOCAL AGRICULTURE OR FISHERIES AND RELATED TRADES.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE FUNDS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES CAN BE MADE ON 733 2249 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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- 18 -

CLOSURE OF TUEN MUN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IN TUEN MUN SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE OCCUPANTS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURE, BEING USED FOR OFFICE AND STORAGE PURPOSES, IS AN APPENDAGE ON THE EXTERNAL WALL OF AN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING IN 2 KIN FAT LANE, TUEN MUN.

A NOTICE ABOUT APPLYING FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON AUGUST 2, 1994 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (TUESDAY).

DEMOLITION WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	31 MAY 94
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q422
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 6,810 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 1,500 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	4.07 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	4.09 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 83 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	4.12 PCT

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 6 JUNE 1994 -

TENDER DATE	7 JUN 94	7 JUN 94
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q423	H466
ISSUE DATE	8 JUN 94	8 JUN 94
MATURITY DATE	7 SEPT 94	7 DEC 94
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 1,500+300 MN	HKD 800+160 MN

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TUESDAY, MAY 31, 1994

- 19 -

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,051	0930	-447
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,330	1000	-447
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	-347
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	-346	1200	-346
LAF TODAY	-375	1500	-346
		1600	-346
LAF RATE 2.50 BID/4.50 OFFER	TWI 124.8	*+0.0*	31.5.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.58	18 MONTHS	2511	4.15	97.85	5.77
1 MONTH	3.73	24 MONTHS	2605	6.35	100.41	6.22
3 MONTHS	4.07	29 MONTHS	3610	4.20	95.05	6.50
6 MONTHS	4.56	32 MONTHS	3701	4.60	95.23	6.69
12 MONTHS	5.22	35 MONTHS	3704	6.15	98.61	6.79
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 10,644 MN						
CLOSED 31 MAY 1994						

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