DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR PRESENTS INSIGNIA AND COMMENDATIONS TO 110

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, PRESENTED INSIGNIA AND COMMENDATIONS TO 110 PEOPLE AT A CEREMONY AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE TODAY (MONDAY).

OF THEM, 86 RECIPIENTS WERE DECORATED OR COMMENDED BY THE QUEEN FOR SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC, WHILE SIX WERE AWARDED THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS.

IN ADDITION, 18 MEMBERS OF THE ST JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION AND BRIGADE WHOSE COMMUNITY WORK HAS BEEN RECOGNISED BY THE QUEEN, THE SOVEREIGN HEAD OF THE MOST VENERABLE ORDER OF THE HOSPITAL OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM, WERE PRESENTED THEIR ST JOHN INSIGNIA BY THE GOVERNOR.

FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF RECIPIENTS:

CBE

MR DAVID ANTHONY GLEDHILL

OBE

MRS MIRIAM LAU KIN-YEE

DR EDWARD LEONG CHE-HUNG

MR LAURENCE LEUNG MING-YIN

MR FREDERIC SAMUEL MCCOSH

ISO

MISS CHEUNG MAN-YEE

DR COLIN CHARLES GREENFIELD

MR KWEI SEE-KAN

MR ANTHONY ROBERT SCOTT

/MBE .....

MBE

MR PETER CHAN FUK-SING

MR JOHN DUNN NAI-BUN

PROFESSOR DAVID WILLIAM GWILT

MR LAM SUI-FAN

MRS MARGARET LI WONG MAN-WAN

MR LO CHI-YUEN

MR GEORGE CHARLES MELEADY STRACHAN

HONORARY MBE

MR CHUNG WAI-MING

MR IRA DAN KAYE

MR TANG PONG

BEM

MISS CHOY CHIU-NGAN

MR CHUNG WOON-MING

MR FUNG KAI-CHUEN

MR KWOK KENG-KWAN

MR KWOK LAI-LEE

MR LI KWAN-YAU

MR LO CHUK-MING

MR NG PUI-LAM

MR POON KWOK-CHING

MRS TAM CHAN YIN-MING

MR HAROLD WONG HO-CHING

MRS WONG O'YOUNG CHING

MR WOO YUK-SHIU

MR WVAN MA-KAN

/BEM (MIL) .....

BEM (MIL)

SERGEANT PADAMBAHADUR RAI

SERGEANT SIMON PAUL WAGSTAFF

QPM

MR JOHN BRIAN GOULDSMITH

MR LAU TO-YEE

QFSM

MR PETER CHEUNG

ISM

MR LEUNG YUN-KAN

MR LI KAM

MR MA TAM-LOI

MR NG PUI

MR SUEN KAI-CHUEN

CPM

MR LAI KWOK-LEUNG

MR ALBERT KWOK CHO-KUEN

MR NG WAI-KIT

MR DAVID GORDON RONALD

MR GRAEME MCDONALD SUTHERLAND

MR ROY TAYLOR

MR JEFFREY ALAN RICHARDS

MR DAVID GODFREY WEAVER

MR ABDUR RAHMAN

MR TSUNG PUI-YU

MR MA CHAK-WA

MRS LI CHAN SIU-MUI

MR LAM KAM-LING

MR TSE CHI-YUEN

MR YAU WING-HONG

MR PIK YING-KEUNG

MR CHU PING-WAH

MR LEUNG SHIU-KWAN

MR CHIN KING-CHEUNG

QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

MR LAM KONG

MR TAM TING-KAI

MR TANG YAU-KEUNG

CHIEF PETTY OFFICER ANDREW RICHARD HARRISON

LEADING SEAMAN JOHN JAMIESON OBERG STODDART

QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR VALUABLE SERVICE IN THE AIR

FLIGHT LIEUTENANT FRANK JAMES PILKINGTON

FLIGHT SERGEANT EDWARD HO DICK-SANG

SERGEANT ROSS LAW SIU-HING

SERGEANT ELTON TANG SING-CHUNG

BADGE OF HONOUR

MR CHAN MOW-FAT

MR DAVID CHENG CHUNG-YIN

MR CHEUNG WAI-CHUNG

MR BERNARD FUNG SUN-KWAN

MR LAM HOI-HAM

MR ROGER LAU KWAN-MING

MR LEE CHI-FUNG

MADAM LEUNG FU-WING

MR NORMAN LO KAM-WAH

MR MIU KAM-TOA

REVEREND PETER NEWBERY

MR OR SHING-MOK

MR WONG WAN-CHUNG

MR YIU SIU-SING

MR YUEN SIU-FAI

GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS

MR IP LAU-CHUEN

MISS LAM MAN-SAI

MR TAM CHUNG-LAM

MR CHENG KWAI-FAT

MR HO WING-FU

MR SO KON-MING

ST JOHN

KNIGHT OF ST JOHN

DR GEORGE CHOA

COMMANDER SISTER

MISS SALLY AW SIAN

SERVING SISTER/BROTHER

MISS YU KWOK-YAN

MISS CHU KIT-BING

MISS WONG YUEN-YAU

MISS LAM PIK-YEE

MISS LI YIN-FUN

MR MO DICK-KEUNG

DR CHAN BING-FUN

MR RICHARD KO

MR NG WING-KEE

MR LYON LEE

MR AU KWOK-HUNG

MR TAM PO-YU

MR AU YEUNG CHUNG-FAT

MR HO HON-CHEUNG

MR LAU CHI-YUEN

MR YEOH TAI-WAI

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HK ATTRACTIVE FOR OVERSEAS INVESTMENT

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HONG KONG REMAINS AN ATTRACTIVE LOCATION FOR OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN MANUFACTURING, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR T H BARMA, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

MR BARMA WAS COMMENTING ON THE FINDINGS OF THE LATEST SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT ON OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO PRESENT THE SURVEY RESULTS, MR BARMA SAID THE TOTAL VALUE OF OVERSEAS INVESTMENT AT THE END OF 1991 WAS $34.4 BILLION, $3.5 BILLION (OR 11 PER CENT) HIGHER THAN IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR, AND MORE THAN THREE TIMES THE 1984 FIGURE OF $11.4 BILLION WHEN THE FIRST SUCH SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED.

MR BARMA NOTED THAT THE STOCK OF FIXED ASSETS, AT $21.1 BILLION, WAS FIVE PER CENT HIGHER THAN 1990.

"THIS SIGNIFIES THAT THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUING INCREASE IN NEW INVESTMENT AND REINVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES DESPITE THE FACT THAT SOME OVERSEAS COMPANIES RELOCATED PART OF THEIR OPERATIONS TO LOWER COST PRODUCTION CENTRES SUCH AS CHINA AND SOUTHEAST ASIA," HE SAID.

/MR BARMA .....

MR BARMA SAID JAPAN CONTINUED TO BE THE LEADING SOURCE OF INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, ACCOUNTING FOR 32 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL.

"THE UNITED STATES (28 PER CENT OF TOTAL) AND CHINA (11 PER CENT) WERE THE SECOND AND THIRD LARGEST OVERSEAS INVESTORS RESPECTIVELY. AUSTRALIA (6 PER CENT) JUMPED TO THE FOURTH PLACE FROM THE SEVENTH IN 1990," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID INVESTMENTS FROM THESE "BIG FOUR" HAD ALL INCREASED IN 1991 COMPARED WITH 1990 THOUGH THE RATE OF INCREASE VARIED FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY.

"THE ELECTRONICS, ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS, TEXTILES AND CLOTHING AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 60 PER CENT OF TOTAL INVESTMENT LAST YEAR," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN THE QUALITY OF SUCH INVESTMENT.

"WE BELIEVE THAT HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURERS MUST UPGRADE THEIR PRODUCTIVITY AND THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE, AND THE AIM OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S INWARD INVESTMENT PROMOTION PROGRAMME IS TO ENCOURAGE OVERSEAS INVESTORS TO INTRODUCE TO HONG KONG, THROUGH THEIR INVESTMENTS, NEW OR IMPROVED PRODUCTS, TECHNOLOGY, DESIGNS AND MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF THE 536 COMPANIES WITH AN OVERSEAS INTEREST WERE JOINT VENTURES WITH LOCAL PARTNERS, A FORM OF CO-OPERATION WHICH PROVIDED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.

"IN ABOUT THE SAME PROPORTION OF COMPANIES, STAFF HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED FROM THE OVERSEAS PARENT COMPANY TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE OR ASSISTANCE IN AREAS SUCH AS COMPANY MANAGEMENT, OPERATIONS, AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

"319 COMPANIES (60 PER CENT) REPORTED THAT THEY EITHER HAD LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS WITH THE OVERSEAS PARENT COMPANY, OR HAD RECEIVED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OR HELP IN ACQUIRING MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT FROM THEM.

"MOREOVER, 90 COMPANIES (17 PER CENT), ESPECIALLY THOSE IN THE ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, REPORTED THAT OVERSEAS INVESTORS HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE TRANSFER OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.

"CLEARLY, THEREFORE, OVERSEAS INVESTMENT PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ASSISTING THE LOCAL MANUFACTURING SECTOR TO UPGRADE ITS PRODUCTION CAPABILITIES AND THE QUALITY OF ITS PRODUCTS," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF OVERSEAS INVESTORS ON THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF HONG KONG AS A MANUFACTURING BASE.

/WHEN ASKED .....

WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON THE FAVOURABILITY OF A LIST OF 12 FACTORS WHICH, BY AND LARGE, MADE UP THE OVERALL INVESTMENT ENVIRONMENT OF HONG KONG AS A MANUFACTURING BASE, NINE OUT OF THE 12 FACTORS WERE CONSIDERED BY MORE THAN HALF OF THE RESPONDENTS TO BE FAVOURABLE.

"BANKING AND FINANCIAL FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE, HONG KONG'S REGIONAL LOCATION AND GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC POLICY WERE THE KEY FACTORS SEEN AS MOST FAVOURABLE.

"THE SURVEY ALSO CONFIRMED SEVERAL COMMONLY RECOGNISED FACTORS AS CAUSING CONCERN, SUCH AS LABOUR COST, AND THE COST OF FACTORY AND OFFICE SPACE," HE SAID.

MR BARMA ADDED THAT 60 PER CENT OF THE RESPONDENTS CONSIDERED THAT THE OVERALL MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT IN HONG KONG WAS FAVOURABLE.

"THIS IS ENCOURAGING. 169 COMPANIES - 32 PER CENT - ALSO INDICATED PLANS FOR EXPANSION IN HONG KONG."

WHEN ASKED WHAT SORT OF BUSINESS THEY WOULD EXPECT IN THE COMING FEW YEARS, THE MAJORITY OF THE COMPANIES, SOME 350 COMPANIES OR 66 PER CENT, EXPECTED BUSINESS IN 1992 TO BE SATISFACTORY TO GOOD.

A TOTAL OF 280 COMPANIES - 53 PER CENT - FELT THE SAME ABOUT BUSINESS PROSPECTS IN 1993.

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REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY REJECTED

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THE GOVERNOR TODAY (MONDAY) REJECTED THE REQUEST FROM THE STAFF SIDE OF THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL (SCSC) FOR A COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY TO REVIEW THE 1992 PAY ADJUSTMENT.

THE DECISION WAS CONVEYED IN A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, TO THE STAFF SIDE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCSC.

IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR, THE STAFF SIDE OF THE SCSC PUT FORTH A FORMAL REQUEST FOR A COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY TO ADJUDICATE ON CIVIL SERVANTS' DEMAND FOR A SUPPLEMENTARY PAY AWARD OF 3.52 PER CENT, PURPORTED TO BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE NET PAY TREND INDICATORS AND THE ACTUAL PAY AWARDS IN 1990 AND 1991.

IN HIS REPLY, SIR DAVID REITERATED THAT "IT IS A MATTER OF SETTLED PUBLIC POLICY THAT EACH PAY ADJUSTMENT IS A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT EXERCISE BASED ON CONSIDERATIONS PERTAINING TO THE PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES".

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT "IN DETERMINING THE SIZE OF EACH YEAR'S PAY ADJUSTMENT, THE RESULTS OF THE PAY TREND SURVEY TOGETHER WITH OTHER FACTORS SUCH AS INCREASES IN THE COST OF LIVING, THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY AND BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS ARE ALSO TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT".

/THE 1992 .....

THE 1992 PAY ADJUSTMENT FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE FULLY REFLECTED THE PAY TREND INDICATORS.

IN ADDITION, CIVIL SERVANTS IN THE MIDDLE AND LOWER PAY BANDS WERE GIVEN A HIGHER PAY AWARD TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF STAFF ASPIRATION AND THE RATE OF INFLATION IN THE PREVIOUS 12 MONTHS.

SINCE THE PAY ADJUSTMENT HAS BEEN DETERMINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ESTABLISHED POLICY, THE GOVERNOR HAS RULED THAT THERE IS NO CASE FOR REVIEW BY A COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

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ACTION PLANS FOR METROPLAN STRATEGY UNDER STUDY

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THE GOVERNMENT IS UNDERTAKING MORE DETAILED STUDIES TO TURN THE METROPLAN SELECTED STRATEGY INTO ACTION PLANS, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A CONFERENCE ON HIGH CONCENTRATION DEVELOPMENT, MR EASON SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO SEEK TO PROVIDE NEW DEVELOPMENT AREAS TO FACILITATE RESTRUCTURING OF THE OLDER CONGESTED URBAN DISTRICTS IN DRAWING UP THESE ACTION PLANS.

MR EASON SAID IN A PLACE LIKE HONG KONG WHERE HIGH CONCENTRATION DEVELOPMENT WAS UNAVOIDABLE, IT WAS NO EASY TASK TO STRIKE A BALANCE BETWEEN ECONOMICAL USE OF LAND AND A PROBLEM-FREE ENVIRONMENT.

HE SAID A MORE COMPREHENSIVE DENSITY CONTROL STRATEGY HAD BEEN FURTHER SUGGESTED IN THE METROPLAN STRATEGY SO THAT DEVELOPMENT DENSITIES COULD BE PLANNED TO ENSURE THAT THE CAPACITY OF TRANSPORT SYSTEMS, UTILITIES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR THE AMOUNT OF ACTIVITY GENERATED COULD FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY.

"THIS ALSO AIMS TO ACHIEVE A CONCENTRATION OF DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL NOT PRODUCE A HIGH LEVEL OF CONGESTION AND DETERIORATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS," HE SAID.

MR EASON ALSO OUTLINED THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR THE DENSITY CONTROL STRATEGY. THESE WERE:

* ACCEPT HIGH DENSITIES OF PEOPLE AND JOBS CLOSE TO HIGH CAPACITY TRANSPORT SYSTEMS;

* CONVERSELY, LIMIT DENSITIES IN AREAS NOT WELL SERVED BY HIGH CAPACITY TRANSPORT SYSTEMS;

* REDUCE DENSITIES IN HIGHLY CONGESTED DISTRICTS WHICH ARE EXPERIENCING WIDESPREAD ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPERATIONAL PROBLEMS; AND

* LIMIT DENSITIES IN AREAS WHERE THE VISUAL IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT IS A PRIME CONCERN.

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PIG FARMERS ASSURED OF VACCINE SUPPLY
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PIG FARMERS WERE TODAY (MONDAY) ASSURED THAT THE CURRENT SUPPLY OF VACCINE FOR ANIMAL FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) WAS SUFFICIENT AND THE RECENT OUTBREAK OF THE DISEASE WAS UNDER CONTROL.

IN A MEETING WITH PIG FARMERS, AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MISS VERA SO, TOLD THEM THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN MONITORING THE SITUATION.

VIRUS SAMPLES WERE SENT TO THE FMD WORLD REFERENCE LABORATORY FOR TYPING TO ASCERTAIN THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VACCINE USED BY LOCAL FARMERS.

SHE SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED CONFIRMATION FROM LOCAL VACCINE AGENTS THAT SOME 180,000 DOSES OF THE VACCINE WERE CURRENTLY AVAILABLE.

AS THE VACCINE HAS A SHORT SHELF LIFE OF ABOUT 10 MONTHS, THE SUPPLIERS EMPHASISED THAT ONLY ADVANCE FIRM ORDERS COULD AVOID UNNECESSARY DELAY OR INTERRUPTION OF SUPPLY.

FARMERS WERE ADVISED THAT THE VACCINE REQUIRED SOME 12 WEEKS FOR MANUFACTURING AND ANOTHER FOUR WEEKS FOR DELIVERY.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, THE DEPARTMENT AGREED TO SECURE VACCINE SUPPLY FOR FARMERS FOR USE IN THE FIRST FEW MONTHS OF NEXT YEAR AS A SHORT-TERM ASSISTANCE MEASURE.

IN THE LONG RUN, THE FEDERATION OF PIG RAISERS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES (FEDERATION), WHICH REPRESENTED MANY LOCAL PIG FARMERS, PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPORTING THE VACCINE DIRECT THEMSELVES.

ON THE CONTROL OF OUTBREAK OF THE DISEASE, MISS SO REITERATED THAT THERE WAS NO KNOWN CURES AND THE MOST EFFECTIVE CONTROL WAS PREVENTIVE VACCINATION ADMINISTERED BY PIG FARMERS THEMSELVES.

MISS SO EXPLAINED THAT SINCE THE DEPARTMENT STOPPED THE FREE VACCINATION SERVICE IN APRIL 1990, THE PIG FARMERS EXPERIENCED NO DIFFICULTY IN GETTING THE VACCINE.

AFTER LEARNING THAT SUPPLY MIGHT BE INTERRUPTED BECAUSE THE FRENCH MANUFACTURER RELOCATED THE PRODUCTION FACILITIES IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY CLARIFIED WITH THE MANUFACTURER AND WAS AFFIRMED THAT MORE THAN 200,000 DOSES WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN THE HONG KONG MARKET IN FEBRUARY.

"CLOSE LIAISON WAS ALSO MAINTAINED WITH OVERSEAS MANUFACTURERS CURRENTLY SUPPLYING THE VACCINE TO THE TERRITORY," MISS SO SAID.

IN EARLY OCTOBER, THE DEPARTMENT MET THE PIG FARMERS AGAIN TO DISCUSS THE SUPPLY PROBLEM OF THE VACCINE. THEN ENQUIRIES WERE MADE OF A NUMBER OF OVERSEAS COUNTRIES ON THE POSSIBILITY OF MANUFACTURING THE VACCINE IN HONG KONG WITH A VIEW TO EXPLORE ALTERNATIVE CHEAPER SUPPLIES OF VACCINE.

/A MEETING .....

A MEETING WAS HELD LAST WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 2) WITH AN EXPERT FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FMD, UNITED NATION'S FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANISATION, AIMING TO SECURE CHEAPER AND EFFECTIVE VACCINE FROM THAILAND.

IN A FURTHER STEP TO HELP THE LIVESTOCK KEEPERS, THE DEPARTMENT PROVIDED IN OCTOBER INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO THE FEDERATION ON HOW TO REGISTER AS A VACCINE IMPORTER.

"THIS IS A BETTER WAY TO SECURE CONSISTENT AND REGULAR SUPPLY OF THE VACCINE TO MEMBERS OF THE FEDERATION," SHE SAID.

"ALSO AS AN IMPORTER, THE PRICE WOULD BE FREE FROM CURRENCY FLUCTUATION WHEN PLACING ADVANCE ORDERS."

THE RETAIL PRICE OF THE VACCINE HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM $60 PER 20 DOSES IN 1983 TO THE CURRENT PRICE OF $98.

ON THE RECENT OUTBREAK OF THE DISEASE, MISS SO SAID FIELD STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT HAD VISITED 79 FARMS IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS.

THEY CONCLUDED THAT THE OUTBREAK WAS FAIRLY MILD EXCEPT IN INDIVIDUAL FARMS AT SAP PAT HEUNG AND SAN TIN AREAS. THE NORTH DISTRICT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN SPARED OF THE ATTACK.

SHE ADDED THAT THE DEATH RATE OF THE DISEASE WAS USUALLY LOW, PARTICULARLY IF AFFECTED PIGS WERE ISOLATED AND GIVEN PROPER HUSBANDRY CARE.

THE DEPARTMENT RECENTLY COMPLETED A SURVEY OF PIG FARMS. BASED ON THE SURVEY RESULTS AND THE REPORTS RECEIVED FROM FARMERS, IT WAS BELIEVED THAT SOME 30,000 PIGS WERE AFFECTED AND 4,200 PIGS HAD DIED.

IN ADDITION, 80 PER CENT OF THE FARMERS CONTACTED REPORTED THAT THEY EXPERIENCED NO OR LITTLE DIFFICULTIES IN BUYING THE VACCINE.

AS REGARDS THE FARMERS' REQUEST FOR MONITORING THE QUALITY AND VIABILITY OF THE VACCINE BY THE DEPARTMENT, MISS SO EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS NEITHER ADVISABLE NOR PRACTICAL SINCE THIS REQUIRED THE CULTURING OF LIVE VIRUSES FOR TESTING WHICH MIGHT THREATEN THE PIG INDUSTRY BY TRIGGERING OUTBREAKS OF THE DISEASE IN THE TERRITORY.

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CHRISTMAS - TIME TO REMEMBER LESS FORTUNATE CHILDREN

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CHRISTMAS IS A TIME TO REMEMBER CHILDREN, NOT JUST CHILDREN HERE IN HONG KONG, BUT THE MILLIONS OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD WHO ARE LESS FORTUNATE THAN THE CHILDREN HERE AND WHO ARE IN NEED, MRS PATTEN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 'FESTIVAL OF TREES 1992' ORGANISED BY THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND, SHE SAID MANY CHILDREN WERE HOMELESS, STARVING, LACKING OF BASIC HEALTH CARE AND PROPER SCHOOLING WHO COULD ONLY DREAM OF THE JOYS OF CHRISTMAS.

MRS PATTEN PRAISED SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND FOR ITS DEDICATION AND STRENUOUS EFFORTS IN HELPING NEEDY CHILDREN EVERYWHERE.

SHE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE VIGOUR AND ORGANISATIONAL ABILITY WHICH IT HAD SHOWN IN LAUNCHING RELIEF PROJECTS IN REMOTE REGIONS AROUND THE WORLD WHICH WERE AFFECTED BY NATURAL DISASTERS OF FAMINE.

SHE SAID: "THE FESTIVAL OF TREES IS AN EXCELLENT REMINDER DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON THAT MANY CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD NEED OUR HELP IN ORDER TO HAVE A CHANCE IN LIFE."

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CALL TO JOIN HANDS TO HELP DISABLED

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TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF FULL INTEGRATION INTO THE COMMUNITY, IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT FOR DISABLED PERSONS TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SOCIETY AND TO GAIN PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THEIR CAUSE, MRS PATTEN SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW HEADQUARTERS AND ACTIVITY CENTRE OF HONG KONG FEDERATION OF HANDICAPPED YOUTH TODAY (MONDAY), MRS PATTEN SAID AS USERS OF SERVICES, DISABLED PERSONS COULD CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY AND SIGNIFICANTLY TO THEIR OWN REHABILITATION.

"THEY UNDERSTAND THEIR NEEDS BEST.

"THEY CAN HELP GOVERNMENT FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT REHABILITATION PLANS.

"THEY CAN ALSO ADVISE GOVERNMENT AS TO HOW POLICIES COULD BE IMPROVED TO BEST MEET THEIR NEEDS," SHE SAID.

MRS PATTEN SAID DISABLED PERSONS IN HONG KONG HAD BEEN DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB IN THIS AREA.

APART FROM ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT ON REHABILITATION MATTERS, SELF-HELP ORGANISATIONS LIKE THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF HANDICAPPED YOUTH ALSO PROVIDE VALUABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

/"THEY CAN .....

"THEY CAN HELP DISABLED PERSONS TO DEVELOP CONFIDENCE, TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEMSELVES, TO ACQUIRE LEADERSHIP SKILLS, AND TO DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL, IN ORDER THAT THEY CAN PROGRESS FROM BEING PASSIVE RECIPIENTS OF SERVICES TO ACTIVE AND CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY," SHE SAID.

SHE STRESSED THAT SUCCESSFUL REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES ALSO REQUIRED THE ACTIVE SUPPORT OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

MRS PATTEN SAID INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS COULD PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISABLED PERSONS.

BUILDING DEVELOPERS COULD PROVIDE BETTER ACCESS FACILITIES.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC COULD ADOPT A MORE POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS DISABLED PERSONS AND ACCEPTED THEM AS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS.

"IT IS THROUGH THE CONCERTED EFFORT OF ALL OF US THAT THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR FELLOW DISABLED CITIZENS CAN BE IMPROVED.

"I APPEAL TO EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY TO JOIN HANDS AND WORK TOWARDS THIS GOAL," MRS PATTEN SAID.

MRS PATTEN ALSO EXPRESSED HER APPRECIATION OF THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF THE HONG KONG FEDERATION OF HANDICAPPED YOUTH AND ITS SUPPORTERS AND CONGRATULATED EVERYONE INVOLVED IN BRINGING THE BUILDING PROJECT TO FRUITION.

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150 EDUCATIONISTS TO ATTEND LANGUAGE CONFERENCE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY LANGUAGE EDUCATIONISTS WILL PRESENT PAPERS AT THE FOUR-DAY INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WHICH WILL START NEXT TUESDAY (DECEMBER 15) AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, WAN CHAI.

ABOUT 350 PARTICIPANTS FROM ABOUT 16 COUNTRIES WILL ATTEND THE EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

THE KEY ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED WILL INCLUDE:

* THE CONTENT OF MOTHER-TONGUE CHINESE TEACHING AND OF ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHING;

* LANGUAGE AND CONTENT IN TARGETS AND TARGET-RELATED ASSESSMENT;

* THE EFFECTIVE USE OF CHINESE AS A MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION;

* THE EFFECTIVE USE OF ENGLISH AS A MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION;

* BRIDGING COURSES;

* CHILDREN'S LITERATURE;

/*ASSESSMENT OF .....

* ASSESSMENT OF LANGUAGE AND CONTENT;

* THE CONTENT OF COURSES TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR USING ENGLISH IN THE WORKPLACE;

* LANGUAGE ENHANCEMENT AT TERTIARY LEVEL; AND

* THE CONTENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS

PLENARY SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE PROF BERNARD MOHAN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA; DR CHEN CHUNG-YU, THE DIRECTOR OF THE CHINESE LANGUAGE RESEARCH CENTRE OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE; PROF KATHERINE PERERA OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, ENGLAND; PROF CHEUNG YAT-SING, THE HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CHINESE AND TRANSLATION OF THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC; PROF YU BING-LONG OF THE FACULTY OF CHINESE, NANJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY, CHINA; AND PROF CHRISTOPHER EDELHOFF OF THE HESSISCHES INSTITUT FUR LEHRERFORTBILDUNG. GERMANY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID THE CONFERENCE WOULD COMPRISE PLENARY SESSIONS, PARALLEL SESSIONS, WORKSHOPS, PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND DISCUSSION GROUPS.

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WATER CUTS IN MONG KOK AND CAUSEWAY BAY

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN MONG KOK AND CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 9) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WASTE DETECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES INCLUDE THOSE AT YIM PO FONG STREET, DUNDAS STREET, SOY STREET, SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET, TUNG CHOI STREET, FA YUEN STREET, YIN CHONG STREET AND KWONG WA STREET IN MONG KOK.

IN CAUSEWAY BAY, THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THOSE PREMISES AT 121, 123 AND THE EVEN NUMBERS OF 32-180 TUNG LO WAN ROAD, 120 CAUSEWAY BAY, LAI YIN STREET, JONES STREET, WARREN STREET, BROWN STREET, ORMSBY STREET, WUN SHA STREET, SCHOOL STREET, KING STREET, SECOND LANE, SHEPHERD STREET, SUN CHUN STREET, ILLUMINATION TERRACE, LILY STREET, LIN FA KUNG STREET WEST, LIN FA KUNG STREET EAST AND LAI YIN LANE.

FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO THESE AREAS WILL BE CUT AT THE SAME TIME.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 64.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 374.913 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 225.092 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 38.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	$ MILLION
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,570
REVERSAL OF LAF	-70
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	NIL
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 114. *+0.0* 7.12.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.50 PCT
1 MONTH	4.08 PCT
3 MONTHS	4.31 PCT
6 MONTHS	4.52 PCT
12 MONTHS	5.07 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.18	5.41
18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.06	5.53
21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.18	5.59
24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.16	5.72

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 7,146MN

CLOSED 7 DECEMBER 1992

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