



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES  
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVT DECIDES TO PROCEED WITH AIRPORT SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT .....	1
AIRPORT SITE PREPARATION DECISION IS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION	2
ECONOMIC BASES ARE VERY GOOD: FS .....	3
HK SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH NETHERLANDS ON INVESTMENT PROTECTION	4
ORDERS, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER .....	5
HEALTH CHIEF PLEDGES BETTER PATIENT CARE .....	10
FUTURE LIES IN EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT .....	11
MORE NON-REFUGEES RETURN TO VIETNAM .....	13
PLANS TO PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY .....	13
IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY OUTLINED .....	14
THREE TYPES OF CHEMICAL WASTE COME UNDER CONTROL .....	16
MRS PATTEN GIVES CHILD SAFETY TIPS TO PARENTS .....	18
CONSTRUCTION WASTE DIVERSION SCHEME CONTINUES .....	19
LOCAL WORKERS' INTERESTS WELL PROTECTED .....	20
TWO RETRAINING COURSES OFFERED TO WORKERS .....	21
"SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN PERSPECTIVE" SYMPOSIUM .....	22
FESTIVE LIGHTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST .....	22
RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH MOVES TO WANCHAI TOWER III ....	23
1992 HK YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL .....	24
CHILDREN DRAWING CONTEST IN TSIM SHA TSUI .....	25
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	26

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 1 -

GOVT DECIDES TO PROCEED WITH AIRPORT SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT

\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO SEEK FINANCE COMMITTEE'S APPROVAL FOR FUNDS TO ENABLE THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (PAA) TO AWARD THE SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT AT CHEK LAP KOK BEFORE THE VALIDITY DATE OF THE \$9.041 BILLION TENDER FROM AIRPORT PLATFORM CONTRACTORS JOINT VENTURE EXPIRES AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

"WE HAVE TAKEN THIS DECISION IN ORDER TO FULFIL OUR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE SINO-BRITISH MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, WHICH MAKES THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETING THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE BY JUNE 1997," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

"OUR FIRST PRIORITY CONTINUES TO BE A COMMON UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CHINESE SIDE ON THE OVERALL FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE AIRPORT. BUT, PENDING SUCH AGREEMENT, WE ARE TAKING A STEP BY STEP APPROACH.

"THE VALIDITY OF THE TENDER EXPIRES ON NOVEMBER 30 AND ANY POSTPONEMENT OF THE CONTRACT AWARD BEYOND THAT DATE WOULD INCREASE COSTS AND MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO COMPLETE THE AIRPORT ON TARGET.

"IT IS THEREFORE SENSIBLE FOR THE PAA TO ACCEPT THE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE TENDER FROM AIRPORT PLATFORM CONTRACTORS JOINT VENTURE WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.

"THE CONTRACT IS DUE TO BE COMPLETED BY APRIL 1996 AND IT CREATES NO LIABILITIES FOR THE FUTURE SAR GOVERNMENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WE FIRST LOOKED INTO THIS OPTION IN JULY AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE CHINESE SIDE. AT THAT TIME WE DECIDED IT WOULD BE MORE PRUDENT TO WAIT AND TRY TO REACH OVERALL AGREEMENT WITH THE CHINESE BEFORE GOING AHEAD WITH THIS CONTRACT.

"NOW, FOUR MONTHS LATER, WE ARE FACED WITH THE PROSPECTS OF BOTH COST INCREASES, AND SERIOUS SLIPPAGES IN THE WORK, IF THE CONTRACT IS NOT LET.

"THE BALANCE OF ADVANTAGE HAS THEREFORE CHANGED AND WE ARE CONVINCED THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO AWARD THE CONTRACT, WHILE KEEPING UP OUR EFFORTS TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH THE CHINESE SIDE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THERE IS CLEARLY NO QUESTION OF US TAKING UNILATERAL ACTION OVER THIS CONTRACT, WHICH IS PART OF A PROJECT AGREED WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT IN THE MOU.

"SINCE THE CONTRACT IS TO BE DIRECTLY FINANCED BY THE GOVERNMENT, AND CREATES NO OBLIGATIONS FOR THE SAR GOVERNMENT, WE ARE CLEARLY OPERATING FULLY WITHIN THE MOU IN LETTING THE CONTRACT."

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE ASKED TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL ADVANCE TO THE PAA OF \$8.63 BILLION FROM THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND.

/THIS WOULD .....

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 2 -

THIS WOULD ENABLE THE PAA TO MEET THE FULL CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS AND ASSOCIATED EXPENSES FOR THE SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT, PLUS OTHER AIRPORT PLANNING AND OPERATING COSTS AND COMMITMENTS FOR THE PERIOD TO JUNE 1993 WITHOUT BORROWING.

TOGETHER WITH \$7.3 BILLION ALREADY APPROVED, THE GOVERNMENT'S TOTAL ADVANCE TO THE PAA WOULD COME TO \$15.96 BILLION.

"THE TOTAL ADVANCE TO THE PAA OF \$15.96 BILLION IS WITHIN THE \$16.6 BILLION EQUITY WHICH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT PROPOSED IN ITS ORIGINAL FINANCING PLAN TO INJECT INTO THE PAA.

"SINCE THE GOVERNMENT'S FORWARD BUDGETING HAS ALREADY ASSUMED THIS COMMITMENT OF EQUITY, THE GRANTING OF THIS ADDITIONAL ADVANCE WILL NOT HAVE ANY IMPACT ON THE GOVERNMENT'S SOCIAL SPENDING, ITS OTHER EXPENDITURE PROGRAMMES, NOR ITS FORECAST RESERVES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PAA ANNOUNCED ON JULY 31 THAT IT HAD SELECTED AIRPORT PLATFORM CONTRACTORS JOINT VENTURE TO CARRY OUT THE CONTRACT, WHICH INVOLVES FORMATION OF THE 1,248-HECTARE SITE.

THE CONSORTIUM SUBMITTED THE LOWEST TENDER ON A FIXED PRICE LUMP SUM BASIS, WITH A PRICE OF \$9.041 BILLION.

THE PROPOSED FUNDING WILL BE DISCUSSED WITH MEMBERS OF BOTH THE LEGCO AD HOC GROUP ON THE FINANCING OF THE ACP AND THE AIRPORT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE.

THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE JLG AIRPORT COMMITTEE HAS BEEN INFORMED OF THE DECISION.

- - - - 0 - - - -

AIRPORT SITE PREPARATION DECISION IS STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO SEEK FUNDS FOR THE AIRPORT SITE PREPARATION CONTRACTS IS SIMPLY TAKING ONE STEP FORWARD, NOT ONLY WITHIN THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, BUT ALSO DOES NOT CREATE OBLIGATIONS FOR THE POST-1997 GOVERNMENT.

NEITHER SHOULD IT BE READ AS A SYMBOLIC GO-IT-ALONE GESTURE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, WHEN SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT TODAY (THURSDAY).

"THIS IS NOT A GO-IT-ALONE ATTITUDE. THIS IS FULFILLING OUR COMMITMENT UNDER THE MEMORANDUM AND IT MEETS THE MAIN COMMENTS OF THE PRC. IN PARTICULAR, IT DOES NOT CREATE ANY OBLIGATIONS, ANY BORROWING OR ANY FRANCHISES, GOING BEYOND 1997," MR MACLEOD SAID.

THE SECRETARY SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS SIMPLY DEALING WITH THE NEXT DECISION THAT HAD TO BE TAKEN.

/"IT'S .....

"IT'S A STEP FORWARD," HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE SEEKING TO CARRY ON A DIALOGUE WITH CHINA.

"WE STILL PUT AS OUR TOP PRIORITY THE NEED TO REACH SOME SENSIBLE AGREEMENT WITH CHINA ON THE FUNDING OF THE AIRPORT," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PAY FOR THIS \$9 BILLION CONTRACT FROM THE GOVERNMENT'S RESERVES.

"THIS WILL STILL KEEP US WITHIN THE ORIGINAL FIGURE WHICH WE FORECAST OR ESTIMATED AS BEING NECESSARY TO PUMP INTO THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY."

HE BELIEVED THAT THIS WAS THE MOST UNCONFRONTATIONAL WAY OF PROCEEDING.

"I AM CERTAINLY HOPEFUL THAT THIS WILL BE WELCOMED - CERTAINLY WELCOMED IN HONG KONG - AS A FURTHER STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ECONOMIC BASES ARE VERY GOOD: FS  
\* \* \* \* \*

DESPITE SOME SHORT-TERM VOLATILITY OF THE STOCK MARKET, HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS ARE BASICALLY VERY GOOD, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY)

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, MR MACLEOD SAID: "WE HAVE BASICALLY A VERY GOOD ECONOMIC SITUATION AND WHATEVER TEMPORARY POLITICAL DEBATE THERE MAY BE, THAT REMAINS TRUE.

"SO I WILL JUST SAY THAT WE MUST KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE. INVESTORS SHOULD BE CALM.

MR MACLEOD STRESSED THAT PEOPLE SHOULD FOCUS NOT JUST ON THE VERY SHORT BUT ON THE MEDIUM AND LONG TERM WHERE THE PROSPECTS REMAIN EXTREMELY GOOD.

"WE ARE AT THE CENTRE OF THE FASTEST GROWING AREA IN THE WORLD. OUR FORECASTS FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH, I NOTICE, HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY CONSERVATIVE, IF ANYTHING.

"IF YOU LOOK AT THE RECENT ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FORECASTS - THEY'RE FORECASTING SIX PER CENT FOR HONG KONG THIS YEAR AND SIX PER CENT FOR NEXT YEAR. THEY'RE ALSO FORECASTING 12 PER CENT FOR CHINA," HE SAID.

MR MACLEOD NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH POLITICAL ISSUES WERE NOT RESOLVED, THE ECONOMY CONTINUED TO GROW, TRADE FIGURES STILL CAME OUT EXTREMELY WELL AND INVESTMENT WAS STILL COMING IN.

"SO WE'RE FORTUNATE TO BE SITTING ALONG A VERY ROBUST ECONOMY FUELED, OF COURSE, PARTLY BY A VERY HEALTHY ASIAN ECONOMY AND THE CHINESE ECONOMY.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 4 -

"SO THAT'S THE REALITY WITH WHICH COMPANIES HAVE TO DEAL, PROFITS WILL CONTINUE TO BE GOOD. AS I SAY, AS LONG AS PEOPLE KEEP THAT PERSPECTIVE, THAT WILL BE HELPFUL," HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT OUR INDEX HAD ALWAYS BEEN FAIRLY VOLATILE AND IT QUITE RECENTLY REACHED A RECORD HIGH, SO ONE WOULD EXPECT ANYWAY TO SEE SOME UPS AND DOWNS.

HE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS NOTHING TO BE TOO CONCERNED ABOUT, ADDING THAT WE SHOULD JUST KEEP OUR EYES FIXED ON THE ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS.

"AND THE ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS FOR HONG KONG REMAIN EXTREMELY GOOD, ACTUALLY FOR BOTH HONG KONG AND CHINA," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HK SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH NETHERLANDS ON INVESTMENT PROTECTION  
\* \* \* \* \*

AN AGREEMENT ON THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF INVESTMENTS WAS SIGNED BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE NETHERLANDS TODAY (THURSDAY).

THIS AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN IN FORCE AFTER JUNE 30, 1997.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT HONG KONG HAS SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH ANOTHER COUNTRY IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA OF INVESTMENT PROTECTION.

SUCH AGREEMENTS ARE BILATERAL INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS BINDING UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW WHICH AIM TO ENCOURAGE AND PROTECT, ON A RECIPROCAL BASIS, INVESTMENTS BY INVESTORS OF ONE CONTRACTING PARTY IN THE OTHER'S AREA.

THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED IN HONG KONG BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE NETHERLANDS MINISTER FOR FOREIGN TRADE, MS YVONNE VAN ROOY, ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NETHERLANDS.

SPEAKING AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY, MR CHAU SAID THE NETHERLANDS WAS ONE OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTANT INVESTMENT PARTNERS AND THE AGREEMENT WOULD BOOST NETHERLANDS INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG.

"THE AGREEMENT GUARANTEES FAIR TREATMENT FOR NETHERLANDS INVESTMENTS IN HONG KONG AND VICE VERSA, PROPER COMPENSATION IF INVESTMENTS ARE EXPROPRIATED AND THE FREE TRANSFER OF INVESTMENTS AND RETURNS.

"IT ALSO PROVIDES FOR INVESTMENT DISPUTES TO BE SETTLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRE-AGREED PROCEDURES," HE SAID.

THE AGREEMENT HAS BEEN CONSIDERED BY THE CHINESE SIDE IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP AND HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

/ONCE IT .....

ONCE IT ENTERS INTO FORCE, IT WILL REMAIN EFFECTIVE FOR 15 YEARS IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.

MR CHAU SAID WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP, THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WAS NEGOTIATING A NETWORK OF SIMILAR AGREEMENTS WITH ITS MAJOR INVESTMENT PARTNERS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

ORDERS, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FIGURES FOR SEPTEMBER

\* \* \* \* \*

THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND FOR THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURERS INCREASED BY 1% IN SEPTEMBER 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, MILD DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH, ORDERS FOR THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE. HOWEVER, THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY.

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 11% IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR 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 SEPTEMBER 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 TO CHINA.

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

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THESE COMPANIES INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, BUT ONLY 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 SERVICE SECTOR, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN SEPTEMBER 1992 OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, BUT REMAINED STABLE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THESE COMPANIES SURVEYED INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR BUT ONLY SLIGHTLY OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH.

IN THE PUBLIC UTILITIES SECTOR, A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER THE PRECEDING MONTH WAS RECORDED, BECAUSE OF THE ISSUE OF BONUSES BY SOME OF THE COMPANIES SURVEYED.

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 SEPTEMBER 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 I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$4.50 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 839 3202.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING THREE TABLES:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 7 -

TABLE 1 : ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	AS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1992	ORDERS-ON-HAND	
		CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
		AUG 92	SEPT 91
	(MONTHS)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED	4.42	*	+1
WEARING APPAREL	4.75	*	-2
TEXTILES	2.13	+1	-7
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	2.55	*	-4
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.52	*	+8
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.66	*	+7
OTHERS	3.95	*	-2

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

/TABLE 2 .....

TABLE 2 : EMPLOYMENT

PERSONS ENGAGED  
AS AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1992

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
	AUG 92	SEPT 91
	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED	-2	-11
FOOD AND DRINKS	*	+2
WEARING APPAREL	-2	-15
TEXTILES	-3	-15
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-10	-7
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	+1	-12
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-2	-16
OTHERS	*	*
CONSTRUCTION #	-1	-6
SERVICES	*	+1
BANKS	-1	-2
HOTELS	*	-1
PUBLIC UTILITIES	+1	+2
OTHERS	-1	+3

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 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.

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN SEPTEMBER 1992	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
		AUG 92	SEPT 91
	(HK\$)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED	8,051	+1	+16
FOOD AND DRINKS	8,483	+3	+9
WEARING APPAREL	5,771	-2	+11
TEXTILES	7,248	-1	+15
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	9,368	+20	+16
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	8,017	+2	+16
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	8,254	*	+19
OTHERS	10,119	+2	+15
CONSTRUCTION #	10,864	+1	+15
SERVICES	13,206	+1	+13
BANKS	11,557	*	+12
HOTELS	8,025	+1	+13
PUBLIC UTILITIES	14,437	+11	+13
OTHERS	14,197	-10	+12

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 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.

HEALTH CHIEF PLEDGES BETTER PATIENT CARE

\* \* \* \* \*

THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WILL BE LAUNCHING A PERFORMANCE PLEDGES PROGRAMME NEXT MONTH (DECEMBER) TO PROVIDE THE BEST SERVICES POSSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S H LEE, SAID.

ADDRESSING THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303 MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON, DR LEE SAID THE DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE PLEDGES PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS RECENT POLICY ADDRESS WOULD BE INTRODUCED AT THE GENERAL OUT-PATIENT (GOP) CLINICS.

"OUR DEPARTMENT IS AMONG THE SEVEN AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS CHOSEN FOR THE PROGRAMME AS WE HAVE MANY CONTACTS WITH THE PUBLIC AND THE GREATEST IMPACTS ON THEIR DAILY LIVES," DR LEE EXPLAINED.

"WE HAVE CHOSEN OUR GENERAL OUT-PATIENT SERVICES FOR THE PROGRAMME AS THEY PROVIDE PRIMARY MEDICAL AND HEALTH CARE TO ALL HONG KONG RESIDENTS, REPRESENTING MORE THAN FOUR MILLION ATTENDANCES A YEAR," HE ADDED.

DR LEE SAID: "THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS A CARING AND COMMUNICATING DEPARTMENT.

"WE HAVE ALREADY INTRODUCED IMPROVEMENT MEASURES AT OUR GOP CLINICS. THESE INCLUDED STANDARDISED MEDICAL RECORDS, DRUG LABELLING, ADVANCE APPOINTMENTS AND HEALTH EDUCATION."

"THE ABOVE FIT IN WITH THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS AND WE ARE GLAD TO TAKE PART IN THE PROGRAMME. WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE SERVICES AND LET THE PUBLIC KNOW OF OUR STANDARD OF SERVICE," HE ADDED.

DR LEE SAID PRELIMINARILY, THE DEPARTMENT'S PERFORMANCE PLEDGES FEATURED THREE CHARACTERISTICS - EMPHASIS ON THE PROVISION TO THE PUBLIC CONVENIENT, EFFICIENT AND QUALITY SERVICE; COURTEOUS SERVICES AND SERVICES ON RESIDENT-ORIENTATED BASIS.

TO ACHIEVE THESE TARGETS, DR LEE SAID MEASURES WOULD BE INTRODUCED TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT OF GOP CLINICS.

THESE INCLUDE INSTALLATION OF AIR-CONDITIONERS AT WAITING HALLS, PROVISION OF DRINKING FOUNTAINS, BETTER AND CLEANER TOILET FACILITIES.

DR LEE ALSO PLEDGES TO PROVIDE BETTER PATIENT CARE THROUGH VARIOUS MEASURES.

THEY ARE TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY OF PATIENT INFORMATION, TO EXPLAIN TO PATIENT ON HIS/HER AILMENT, TO LABEL ALL DISPENSED MEDICINES AND TO REDUCE THE WAITING TIME.

"TRAINING COURSES FOR MIDDLE MANAGERS, GUIDANCE AND ASSISTANCE TO STAFF FROM GOP SERVICES HAVE RECENTLY BEEN OFFERED TO HELP THE COLLEAGUES ACQUIRE THE RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAMME," DR LEE SAID.

FINALLY, HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS READY FOR THE PROGRAMME AND EXPECTED THE FULL SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 11 -

FUTURE LIES IN EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT

\* \* \* \* \*

HK'S FUTURE LIES IN IMPROVING QUALITY OF EDUCATION HAVING ACHIEVED QUANTITATIVE TARGETS IN SCHOOLS AND WITH THE AMBITIOUS TERTIARY EXPANSION PROGRAMME WELL ON TRACK.

THE EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION IN HONG KONG MUST NOW BE TO IMPROVE QUALITY.

THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR JOHN CHAN, TOLD THE AUDIENCE AT THE ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP DINNER OF THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION TONIGHT (THURSDAY) THAT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF QUALITATIVE IMPROVEMENT WOULD NOT HAPPEN BY ACCIDENT.

"WE MUST GO ABOUT IT METHODICALLY," HE SAID. "WE NEED TO SET OUT OUR AIMS, DEVELOP A STRATEGY, FORMULATE SPECIFIC POLICIES AND DRAW UP REALISTIC PLANS OF IMPLEMENTATION.

"THIS PROCESS IS SIMPLE IN CONCEPT, NO DIFFERENCE FROM A TYPICAL ANSWER TO A TYPICAL QUESTION FOR MBA STUDENTS.

"WHAT DISTINGUISHES IT FROM AN ACADEMIC EXERCISE IS THAT ITS SCALE IS GIGANTIC, INVOLVING 1.2 MILLION PEOPLE IN FULL-TIME EDUCATION AND 17 PER CENT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL EXPENDITURE, AND THAT IT IS FOR REAL, CARRYING WITH IT THE FUTURE WELLBEING OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY."

ON SETTING OUT A COHERENT AND COMPREHENSIVE SET OF AIMS FOR SCHOOLS, MR CHAN TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE EDUCATION COMMISSION RECENTLY PUBLISHED A STATEMENT OF AIMS FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION WHICH SET OUT IN CLEAR TERMS WHAT THE DIFFERENT PLAYERS INVOLVED IN THE FIELD - PARENTS, TEACHERS, EMPLOYERS AND EDUCATION ADMINISTRATORS - SHOULD BE STRIVING TO ACCOMPLISH.

IT ALSO TRIED, THROUGH THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION EXERCISE, TO INVOLVE EVERYONE IN IDENTIFYING AND REACHING A CONSENSUS ON WHAT HONG KONG WANTED TO END UP.

"SETTING OURSELVES CLEAR AIMS WILL HELP ALL TO PLAY THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES AND ENSURE THAT DEBATE ON DIFFERENT WAYS OF GETTING THERE WILL NOT OBSCURE OUR VISION OF THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION," HE SAID.

THE DRAWING UP OF A COMPREHENSIVE SET OF AIMS FOR SCHOOLS HAS NOT HELD UP ACTION TO DEVELOP A BROAD STRATEGY.

MR CHAN SAID THE EXISTING STRATEGY OF EXPANDING TERTIARY EDUCATION AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SCHOOLS WAS ON TRACK TO MEET THE TARGET OF PROVIDING 14,500 FIRST-YEAR FIRST-DEGREE PLACES BY 1994.

FUNDS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR ACADEMIC PLANS, FOR THE 1992-1995 TRIENNIUM.

/"I MIGHT .....

"I MIGHT SAY THAT, FROM MY OWN PERSPECTIVE, THE PROGRAMME IS NOW ON AUTO-PILOT," THE SECRETARY SAID, ADDING THAT THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE AND THE INSTITUTIONS COULD BE COUNTED ON TO DO THE REST.

TURNING TO IMPROVEMENTS OF QUALITY OF SCHOOLS, MR CHAN SAID THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S FOURTH AND FIFTH REPORTS HAD PROVIDED THE BLUE PRINT FOR DEALING WITH THE PROBLEMS OF MOTIVATING LEARNERS IN SCHOOLS AND ENABLING TEACHERS TO DO A BETTER JOB.

SPECIFIC POLICIES TO GIVE EFFECT TO THESE STRATEGIES HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED.

FIRST, TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEMS BROUGHT ON BY UNIVERSAL EDUCATION, THE GOVERNMENT HAS STARTED TO ASK SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS TO GIVE STUDENTS MORE INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION AND GUIDANCE; TO SET UP A NEW CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO REFORM THE WAY IN WHICH THE CURRICULUM IS DEVELOPED; TO SET UP A PILOT SCHEME, STARTING WITH PRIMARY 4 IN MAY 1993, ON ATTAINMENT TARGETS AND RELATED ASSESSMENTS TO HELP TEACHERS AND STUDENTS FOCUS MORE CLEARLY ON THEIR TASKS; AND TO RATIONALISE THE MEDIA OF INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS TO HELP AND ENCOURAGE PARENTS AND TEACHERS TO RECOGNISE THE NEEDS OF THE STUDENTS.

SECONDLY, MR CHAN SAID, AS RECOMMENDED IN ECR5, THE GOVERNMENT HAS EMBARKED ON IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF TEACHERS WHICH INVOLVES NOT ONLY BETTER TRAINING BUT ALSO MOTIVATING MORE YOUNG PEOPLE AND SERVING TEACHERS TO JOIN.

THIRDLY, SCHOOLS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ASSUME MORE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR OWN MANAGEMENT, AND IN RETURN, THEY ARE GIVEN MORE FLEXIBILITY IN THE USE OF THEIR RESOURCES.

MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO QUALITY ALSO EXTENDED TO VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

IMPROVEMENTS IMPLEMENTED BY THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL (VTC) IN THE PAST FEW YEARS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE EDUCATION PROVIDED IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES INCLUDE BETTER LIBRARIES, TEACHING AIDS, COMPUTING FACILITIES AND STUDENT AMENITIES; SCHEMES FOR THE EXTERNAL MODERATION OF COURSES; AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PREPARATION AND UPDATING OF STUDY PROGRAMMES AND FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE.

THE TRANSFER OF SUB-DEGREE PLACES FROM THE POLYTECHNICS TO VTC HAS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO RATIONALISE AND IMPROVE THE CRAFT TRAINING OFFERED IN THE TECHNICAL INSTITUTES AND TRAINING CENTRES.

TO SUM UP, MR CHAN SAID, THE GOVERNMENT WAS MOVING WITH DETERMINATION TOWARDS BETTER QUALITY IN EDUCATING AND TRAINING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE FOR LIFE AND WORK IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

HE SAID: "THIS IS A CRUCIAL TASK BECAUSE, WHATEVER THE FUTURE MAY BRING, NOTHING IS GOING TO CHANGE THE FACT THAT HONG KONG HAS TO RELY PRINCIPALLY ON THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT OF ITS PEOPLE TO SURVIVE AND PROSPER," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE VERY SOLID FOUNDATIONS UPON WHICH WE CAN BUILD. WE KNOW WHERE WE WANT TO GO, AND WE NOW HAVE A CLEAR ROAD MAP TO GUIDE US TO OUR DESTINATION," HE ADDED.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 13 -

MORE NON-REFUGEES RETURN TO VIETNAM

\* \* \* \* \*

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT A SEVENTH GROUP OF ABOUT 60 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS SCREENED OUT AS NON-REFUGEES WILL RETURN TO VIETNAM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) UNDER THE CONTINUING ORDERLY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

THIS IS THE SEVENTH FLIGHT UNDER THE ORDERLY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME AGREED WITH THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT ON OCTOBER 29 LAST YEAR.

IT FOLLOWS THE FLIGHTS ON NOVEMBER 9 AND DECEMBER 10 LAST YEAR, AND FEBRUARY 12, JUNE 19, AUGUST 4 AND OCTOBER 10 THIS YEAR.

A TOTAL OF 279 NON-REFUGEES HAVE SO FAR BEEN RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

- - - - -

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE FOLLOWING ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO FACILITATE MEDIA COVERAGE:

A FIXED POSITION WILL BE SET UP ON THE AIRPORT TARMAC WHERE JOURNALISTS CAN WITNESS THE RETURNEES BOARDING THE PLANE WHICH WILL TAKE THEM BACK TO VIETNAM.

MEDIA MEMBERS WHO WISH TO MAKE USE OF THE FACILITY SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT PRESS ROOM IN THE ARRIVAL HALL NO LATER THAN 8.30 AM TOMORROW. TELEPHOTO LENSES WILL BE NECESSARY.

EDITORS ARE REMINDED THAT THEIR REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS MUST BE ABLE TO PRODUCE PROOF THAT THEY ARE BONA FIDE JOURNALISTS BEFORE THEY ARE ALLOWED TO USE THE FACILITY.

- - - - U - - - -

PLANS TO PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY

\* \* \* \* \*

THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS PLANNING EDUCATION PROGRAMMES TO PROMOTE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF A SYMPOSIUM ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY BUILDING TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE SAID PLANS WERE ALREADY AFOOT FOR A SERIES OF PROJECTS TO INCREASE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS, INCLUDING THE SETTING UP OF AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY DISPLAY AND INFORMATION CENTRE.

/"ALTHOUGH IMPROVEMENT .....

"ALTHOUGH IMPROVEMENT IN CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN THE DESIGN OF EQUIPMENT HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE TO PLAY IN ACHIEVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY, WE BELIEVE THAT THE REAL ENGINE WHICH WILL DRIVE THIS CHANGE WILL BE PUBLIC AWARENESS," HE ADDED.

MR EASON SAID HONG KONG'S FAST-GROWING ECONOMY HAD RESULTED IN A CORRESPONDINGLY RAPID GROWTH IN ENERGY CONSUMPTION, ADDING THAT THE MOST HEAVY ELECTRICITY CONSUMER IS THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR.

UP TO 40 PER CENT OF THE ELECTRICITY GENERATED IS USED BY THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR, WITH THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR AT 31 PER CENT AND THE DOMESTIC SECTOR AT 21 PER CENT.

AT THE OPENING OF THE SYMPOSIUM EARLIER TODAY, THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, ASSURED THE AUDIENCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS CONSCIOUS ABOUT ENERGY CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY.

MR BLAKE POINTED OUT THAT JUDICIOUS DESIGN AND CHOICE OF THE BUILDING SERVICES AND ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SYSTEMS WERE VITAL TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY, SO WAS THE CONSCIENTIOUS ATTENTION IN OPERATING AND MAINTAINING THEM.

HE SAID: "FOR EXAMPLE, THROUGH THE WORK OF THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, WE HAVE A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME OF ENERGY OPTIMISATION AT THE KAI TAK AIRPORT, WITH THE ANNUAL SAVING IN ENERGY ESTIMATED TO BE MORE THAN \$6 MILLION.

"SIMILAR ENERGY OPTIMISATION SCHEMES HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED IN MACAU FERRY TERMINAL AND SOME GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS WITH CONSIDERABLE SAVINGS ON ELECTRICITY COSTS."

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY OUTLINED

\* \* \* \* \*

THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR KWOK PING-KI, TODAY (THURSDAY) OUTLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN HONG KONG.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE SYMPOSIUM OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY BUILDING AT A KOWLOON HOTEL, MR KWOK SAID HONG KONG RELIED ON IMPORTS FOR ITS PRIMARY ENERGY, AND NON-RENEWABLE ENERGY WAS AT PRESENT A SCARCE RESOURCE IN THE WORLD.

HE SAID THE TERRITORY HAD A 113 PER CENT INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION BETWEEN 1979 AND 1988 WHEN COMPARED TO THE POPULATION GROWTH OF 20 PER CENT.

"THE TERRITORY IS THEREFORE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO THE EFFECTS OF ANY ENERGY PRICE FLUCTUATIONS WHICH COULD THREATEN ITS WORLD TRADE ECONOMY," HE SAID.

/MR KWOK .....

MR KWOK SAID ANOTHER REASON FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY WAS THAT THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT FROM EXCESSIVE CARBON DIOXIDE PRODUCTION FROM THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS WAS AN ENERGY-ENVIRONMENT ISSUE EVERY GOVERNMENT NEEDED TO FACE.

"ABOUT 27 MILLION TONNES OF CARBON DIOXIDE, WHICH REPRESENTED 75 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL CARBON DIOXIDE EMISSION, WERE EMITTED TO THE ATMOSPHERE LAST YEAR DUE TO THE BURNING OF COAL FOR ELECTRICITY GENERATION IN HONG KONG.

"BEARING IN MIND THAT ABOUT 2.8 UNITS OF PRIMARY FUEL ARE REQUIRED TO PRODUCE ONE UNIT OF ELECTRICITY, CONSERVING ELECTRICITY USAGE HAS AN ENORMOUS EFFECT IN REDUCING THE EMISSION OF GREENHOUSE GASES," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE OBVIOUS REASON FOR CONSERVING ENERGY WAS BECAUSE PEOPLE DID NOT WANT TO PAY MORE THAN THE MINIMUM ENERGY NEEDED TO DO THE JOB.

LAST YEAR, HONG KONG CONSUMED MORE THAN 25,000 MILLION UNITS OF ELECTRICITY. ABOUT 50 PER CENT AND 23 PER CENT OF THE ELECTRICITY WAS CONSUMED IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS AND DOMESTIC FLATS RESPECTIVELY.

"IF THERE WERE 10 PER CENT SAVING OF OUR ANNUAL CONSUMPTION THROUGH BETTER HOUSEKEEPING AND OPERATION OF THE BUILDING SERVICES INSTALLATIONS, WHICH WAS PRACTICAL IN PRACTICE, THE SAVING WOULD BE OVER \$1,500 MILLION, AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO BUILD TWO 50-STORY OFFICE BUILDINGS," MR KWOK SAID.

HE STRESSED THAT TOP MANAGEMENT OR CORPORATE MUST HAVE THE AWARENESS AND COMMITMENT OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENT ISSUE BEFORE ANY IMPROVEMENT WORK WOULD BE REALISED.

POINTING OUT THAT PEOPLE SELDOM SAW THE RECRUITMENT OF "ENERGY MANAGER" OF A BUILDING, MR KWOK SAID A FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL ENERGY MANAGER WAS FULLY JUSTIFIED IN LARGE BUILDING OR ORGANISATION BECAUSE HIS SALARY AND ANY IMPROVEMENT WORK WOULD BE EASILY PAID BY THE ENERGY BILL SAVED.

HE SAID ENERGY AUDIT WAS ANOTHER ESSENTIAL KEY ELEMENT IN ENERGY CONSERVATION.

"IT HELPS YOU TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE WAY ENERGY AND FUEL ARE USED IN YOUR BUILDING AND HELPS YOU TO IDENTIFY AREAS WHERE WASTE CAN OCCUR AND WHERE SCOPE FOR IMPROVEMENT MAY BE POSSIBLE," HE SAID.

MR KWOK SAID AN ENERGY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME WAS ALWAYS A CONTINUOUS EXERCISE WHICH MUST BE CONSTANTLY MONITORED AND MODIFIED ACCORDING TO THE CHANGING NEEDS THROUGH ENERGY AUDIT.

"ONCE THE GOAL IS QUANTIFIED IN TERMS OF PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, WE CAN FOCUS ON THE LOWER HIERARCHY REGARDING SUBSYSTEMS OPERATION AND PERFORMANCE TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, MR KWOK SAID THE RISK IN PROMOTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED.

HE DREW THE ATTENTION OF THE SYMPOSIUM PARTICIPANTS TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENERGY EFFICIENT AND INDOOR AIR QUALITY.

"NOWADAYS, BUILDINGS ARE CONSTRUCTED IN A TIGHTER MANNER TO CONSERVE ENERGY.

"NEW OFFICE BUILDINGS, IN MANY CASE, CONSUME LESS THAN HALF OF THE ENERGY WHAT A COMPARABLE BUILDING WOULD HAVE IN THE 70'S.

"THE PRICE FOR THIS CHANGE IS THE BUILDUP OF INDOOR AIR POLLUTANTS AND CARBON DIOXIDE LEVELS, VERY OFTEN CLOSE TO HARMFUL LEVELS," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE MUCH PUBLICISED "SICK BUILDING SYNDROME" WHICH CAUSED FATIGUE, DIZZINESS, HEADACHES, SKIN IRRITATION AND, IN MORE SERIOUS CASES, RESPIRATORY INFECTIONS, WAS BELIEVED TO BE CLOSELY RELATED TO POOR INDOOR AIR QUALITY.

"THIS MEANS A HEALTH HAZARD TO THE BUILDING OCCUPANTS AND LOSS OF PROFITABILITY.

"ENERGY SAVING MEASURES, SUCH AS REDUCING THE AMOUNT OF FRESH AIR TO AIR-CONDITIONED SPACE, SHOULD BE EXAMINED IN DETAILS BY PROFESSIONALS TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY DETRIMENTAL EFFECT TO THE OCCUPANTS," MR KWOK ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### THREE TYPES OF CHEMICAL WASTE COME UNDER CONTROL

\* \* \* \* \*

A TOTAL OF 6,196 CHEMICAL WASTE PRODUCERS OUT OF THE EXPECTED TOTAL OF 8,000 HAVE ALREADY REGISTERED UNDER THE WASTE DISPOSAL (CHEMICAL WASTE) (GENERAL) REGULATION DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD WHICH HAD EXPIRED ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 17).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, MR JOHN BOXALL, SAID THE DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS, SOLID TANNERY, AND POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYL (PCB) WASTE HAS ALREADY COME UNDER CONTROL.

HE SAID THESE THREE TYPES OF CHEMICAL WASTE WAS BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL IN ADVANCE PARTLY BECAUSE THEIR DISPOSAL DID NOT RELY ON THE COMMISSIONING OF THE TSING YI CHEMICAL WASTE TREATMENT CENTRE (CWTC) WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO START OPERATION IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

IN ADDITION, ASBESTOS WASTE AND PCB WASTE IS TOXIC IN NATURE AND POSES SERIOUS HEALTH RISK WHEN NOT PROPERLY MANAGED.

"WASTE PRODUCERS ARE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) BEFORE DISPOSAL OF THEIR WASTE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR DIRECTIONS," MR BOXALL SAID.

"THE PROCEDURE IS NECESSARY SO THAT THE SPECIAL CARE REQUIRED TO HANDLE PARTICULARLY HAZARDOUS WASTE CAN BE TAKEN IN ADVANCE FOR RECEPTION AND DISPOSAL OF THESE WASTE."

THE NEW REGULATION UNDER THE WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE IMPOSES ON THE WASTE PRODUCERS A DUTY OF CARE IN RESPECT OF THEIR WASTE.

THEY HAVE A LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE PROPER PACKAGING, LABELLING AND STORAGE OF THEIR WASTE BEFORE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

WASTE PRODUCERS HAVE TO ENGAGE LICENSED COLLECTORS TO DELIVER THEIR WASTE TO AN APPROVED DISPOSAL FACILITY.

IN THE CASE OF ASBESTOS AND SOLID TANNERY WASTE, THE LANDFILLS AT TSEUNG KWAN O AND PILLAR POINT VALLEY WILL BE DESIGNATED AS THE DISPOSAL FACILITY.

IN RESPECT OF PCB WASTE, BEFORE THE CWTC IS COMMISSIONED, WASTE PRODUCERS CAN FOLLOW THE EXISTING PRACTICES OF DISPOSAL AT A HIGH-TEMPERATURE INCINERATOR IN OTHER COUNTRIES, SUBJECT TO PRIOR APPROVAL FROM EPD.

TO DETER ILLEGAL DISPOSAL SUCH AS "FLYTIPPING", A COMPUTERISED TRIP TICKET SYSTEM HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO ENABLE THE EPD TO APPLY CRADLE-TO-GRAVE CONTROL THROUGH CLOSE MONITORING OF THE WASTE MOVEMENT FROM THE POINT OF PRODUCTION TO THE FINAL DISPOSAL SITE.

"THE THREE-COPY TRIP TICKET WILL ACCOMPANY EACH WASTE CONSIGNMENT AND A COPY HAS TO BE RETAINED BY EACH PARTY IN THE WASTE DISPOSAL CHAIN: THE WASTE PRODUCER, THE WASTE COLLECTOR AND THE DISPOSAL SITE OPERATOR," MR BOXALL SAID.

BY COMPARING THE TRIP TICKET RECORDS, THE EPD CAN READILY IDENTIFY ANY DISCREPANCY AND TAKE FOLLOW UP ACTION IF MALPRACTICES ARE SPOTTED.

TO HELP THE INDUSTRY COMPLY WITH THE NEW CONTROL, A GUIDE TO THE CHEMICAL WASTE CONTROL SCHEME HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AND CAN BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE FROM ALL EPD OFFICES.

THE CODE OF PRACTICE ON THE PACKAGING, LABELLING AND STORAGE OF CHEMICAL WASTE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED FOR REFERENCE OF INDUSTRY IN ADOPTING GOOD PRACTICES IN MANAGING CHEMICAL WASTE.

EPD WILL ISSUE WARNING LETTERS TO THOSE WASTE PRODUCERS WHO HAVE NOT YET APPLIED FOR REGISTRATION.

FAILURE TO REGISTER AFTER THE EXTENDED DEADLINE OF NOVEMBER 30, 1992 IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION WITHOUT FURTHER WARNING, AND THE PENALTY IS A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$200,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS.

MR BOXALL SAID THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE PHASE 1 CONTROL ON CHEMICAL WASTE WAS A STEP TOWARDS THE COMPREHENSIVE CONTROL SCHEME WHICH WOULD BE INTRODUCED EARLY NEXT YEAR IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF THE CWTC.

"THE AVAILABILITY OF A SUITABLE FACILITY FOR THE PROPER DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL WASTE, COUPLED WITH EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE LEGISLATION, WILL ENSURE THE DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL WASTE BE BROUGHT UNDER PROPER CONTROL TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC HEALTH AND PROTECT THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT," HE SAID.

MRS PATTEN GIVES CHILD SAFETY TIPS TO PARENTS

\* \* \* \* \*

MRS PATTEN TODAY (THURSDAY) MADE A FEW SUGGESTIONS TO PARENTS ABOUT PROVIDING A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THEIR CHILDREN.

"AS A MOTHER, I FIRMLY BELIEVE IN THE ADAGE 'PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE'," SHE SAID.

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CONFERENCE ON INJURY PREVENTION IN CHILDHOOD CO-ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG CHILDHEALTH FOUNDATION AND HONG KONG PAEDIATRIC SOCIETY, MRS PATTEN POINTED OUT THAT MANY ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN WERE CAUSED THROUGH LACK OF FORESIGHT OR IGNORANCE AMONG PARENTS.

PARENTS SHOULD TRY TO STOP THEIR CHILDREN GETTING HOLD OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS OBJECTS AND MUST MAKE ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CARING OF THEIR CHILDREN IF THEY HAVE TO GO OUT, SHE ADDED.

"IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT IN HIGH-RISE BUILDINGS THAT PROPER FENCING SHOULD BE INSTALLED IN BALCONIES AND WINDOWS," SHE SAID.

MRS PATTEN RECALLED THAT 16 YEARS AGO, ONE OF HER DAUGHTERS HAD AN ACCIDENT IN WHICH HER HAND WAS BURNT ON AN ELECTRIC FIRE.

"AS A RESULT I MET OTHER PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN HAD ALSO SUFFERED ACCIDENTAL INJURIES - MINOR AND SERIOUS.

"I REALISED HOW IMPORTANT IT IS TO EDUCATE PARENTS AND OTHER CARERS ABOUT THE POTENTIAL DANGERS TO THEIR CHILDREN IN AND OUT OF THE HOME," SHE SAID.

RECOGNISING THAT THERE WAS AN INCREASING NUMBER OF MOTHERS IN FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT, MRS PATTEN SAID THERE WAS A NEED FOR DAY-CARE FACILITIES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN WHO COULD NOT BE CARED FOR BY THEIR PARENTS DURING THE DAY.

"I AM GLAD TO KNOW THAT THERE ARE PLANS TO EXPAND THE PROVISION OF DAY CRECHES, DAY NURSERIES AND OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE SERVICES OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS," SHE ADDED.

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND VOLUNTARY WELFARE AGENCIES ARE NOW PROMOTING THE CONCEPT OF MUTUAL HELP AMONG FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN.

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS ARE ENCOURAGED TO GROUP TOGETHER TO HELP EACH OTHER.

"A HAPPY HOME SHOULD ALSO BE A SAFE ONE. EVERY CHILD SHOULD HAVE A SAFE PLACE TO GROW UP IN," SHE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 19 -

CONSTRUCTION WASTE DIVERSION SCHEME CONTINUES

\* \* \* \* \*

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENT TO DIVERSE CONSTRUCTION WASTE AWAY FROM THE TSEUNG KWAN O AND SHUEN WAN LANDFILLS WOULD CONTINUE.

THE CONSTRUCTION WASTE DIVERSION SCHEME WOULD HELP TO ENSURE THAT THE REUSABLE WASTE COULD BE MORE PROFITABLY DISPOSED OF TO PRODUCE RECLAIMED LAND RATHER THAN WASTING TAXPAYERS MONEY BY OCCUPYING LANDFILL SPACE WHICH IS SPECIALLY PREPARED TO RECEIVE DOMESTIC AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE AT SOME CONSIDERABLE COST TO PUBLIC FUNDS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE SCHEME WHICH WAS INTRODUCED ON OCTOBER 1, CONSTRUCTION WASTE CONTAINING MORE THAN 20 PER CENT INERT MATERIAL BY VOLUME ARE NOT ACCEPTED AT THE TWO LANDFILLS.

CONSTRUCTION WASTE COMPLYING WITH THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THE PUBLIC DUMPING LICENCE CAN BE DISPOSED OF AT PUBLIC DUMPS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PRODUCERS OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE WERE ENCOURAGED TO SORT THEIR WASTE AT SOURCE SO THAT IT COULD BE DISPOSED OF CONVENIENTLY.

"THE SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE BEING PRESENTED TO LANDFILLS, IN THE PERIOD FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SCHEME, HAS DEMONSTRATED CLEARLY THAT THE SEPARATION OF WASTE ON-SITE IS FEASIBLE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"HOWEVER, SINCE THAT TIME THE AMOUNTS OF WASTE RECEIVED AT LANDFILL HAS INCREASED STEADILY, REFLECTING REDUCED EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE BUILDING CONTRACTORS TO CONTINUE TO CO-OPERATE IN THE SEPARATION OF WASTE ON-SITE," HE SAID.

THE ARRANGEMENT FOR HELPING LORRY DRIVERS, WHO HAVE TO DISPOSE OF LOADS OF MIXED WASTES, WOULD CONTINUE FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EFFORTS WOULD CONTINUE TO PERSUADE MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION AND OTHERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TO ADOPT THE RELATIVELY SIMPLE PROCEDURES NEEDED TO SEPARATE WASTE ON SITE.

THUS, THE SMALL COSTS INCURRED IN DOING THIS WOULD BE BORNE BY THE INDUSTRY ITSELF RATHER THAN THAT THE MUCH GREATER COST OF THE MISUSE OF SPECIALLY PREPARED LANDFILL SPACE TO BE BORNE BY THE COMMUNITY.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE CONDITION OF CONTRACT FOR THE NEW STRATEGIC LANDFILLS IN THE WEST, SOUTHEAST AND NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES, WHICH WILL BE OPENED IN MID-1993 ONWARDS, WOULD NOT ALLOW THE DISPOSAL OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE WHICH COULD NOT MEET THE NEW DISPOSAL REQUIREMENT OF LESS THAN 20 PER CENT INERT MATERIAL.

/"AS THESE .....

"AS THESE LANDFILLS ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED TO THE HIGHEST ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS, IT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT VALUABLE LANDFILL SPACE SHOULD NOT BE OCCUPIED BY INERT CONSTRUCTION WASTE.

"THE WASTE COULD BE MORE PROPERLY DISPOSED OF AT PUBLIC DUMPS TO RECLAIM LAND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LOCAL WORKERS' INTERESTS WELL PROTECTED

\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE EFFORTS TO TAKE EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO PROTECT THE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OF LOCAL WORKERS.

"EMPLOYERS WHO INTEND TO IMPORT FOREIGN WORKERS UNDER THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED GENERAL LABOUR IMPORTATION SCHEME MUST REGISTER THEIR VACANCIES WITH THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (LES) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT," AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR, MRS ANGELA HO, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

"EMPLOYERS MUST FIRST OFFER JOBS TO LOCAL WORKERS AT MEDIAN WAGES," SHE SAID.

"LES STAFF WILL CAREFULLY LOOK AT THE JOB REQUIREMENTS IN EACH CASE, IDENTIFY SUITABLE LOCAL JOB SEEKERS, AND REFER THEM TO THE EMPLOYER FOR SELECTION INTERVIEWS," SHE ADDED.

"IF AN EMPLOYER IS FOUND TO HAVE SET EXCESSIVELY RESTRICTIVE REQUIREMENTS NOT COMMENSURATE WITH THE NATURE OF THE JOB, HIS APPLICATION FOR QUOTA TO IMPORT LABOUR MAY BE REJECTED," MRS HO STRESSED.

THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT VACANCIES WILL BE FILLED BY LOCAL WORKERS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AND THAT THEIR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WILL NOT BE UNDULY AFFECTED, SHE EXPLAINED.

MRS HO REITERATED THAT PERMISSION TO IMPORT WORKERS WOULD BE GIVEN ONLY IF THE EMPLOYMENT VISA CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE WAS SATISFIED THAT EVEN WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LES, THE EMPLOYER WAS UNABLE TO FILL HIS VACANCIES WITH LOCAL STAFF.

"HOWEVER, EMPLOYERS MUST NOT OVERSTATE THEIR NEED FOR FOREIGN WORKERS," SHE SAID.

"THEY SHOULD APPLY FOR QUOTAS THAT THEY GENUINELY NEED, OTHERWISE, THEIR APPLICATIONS MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED," SHE ADDED.

INFORMATION ON ALL VACANCIES RECEIVED WILL BE AVAILABLE AT 10 LES DISTRICT OFFICES.

SHE URGED LOCAL JOB SEEKERS TO MAKE THE MOST OF THE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND APPLY AT ANY ONE OF THE OFFICES FOR THE VACANCIES.

/SHE ALSO .....

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 21 -

SHE ALSO CALLED ON WORKERS' UNIONS TO ENCOURAGE THEIR MEMBERS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THE JOBS AVAILABLE TO APPROACH THE LES OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES ON EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CAN BE MADE ON 852 4158.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### TWO RETRAINING COURSES OFFERED TO WORKERS

\* \* \* \* \*

TWO COURSES UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' RETRAINING SCHEME ARE OFFERED TO WORKERS WHOSE JOBS ARE AFFECTED BY CHANGING ECONOMIC STRUCTURE.

THE FULL-TIME COURSES - JUNIOR COOK (ROASTED FOOD) AND BASIC TECHNIQUE FOR WAITER/WAITRESS IN CHINESE RESTAURANT - WILL START FROM NEXT TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 24) AND ON DECEMBER 8, AND WILL LAST FOUR AND TWO WEEKS RESPECTIVELY.

ACTING SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (EMPLOYMENT SERVICES), MR RAYMOND CHAN, SAID THE COURSES WERE PART OF A RANGE OF PROGRAMMES DESIGNED TO MEET THE CHANGING NEEDS OF THE LABOUR MARKET.

THEY WILL ALSO HELP WORKERS ACQUIRE NEW SKILLS OR UPGRADE EXISTING SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT IN ANOTHER TRADE OR FOR A HIGHER-LEVEL JOB IN THE SAME TRADE.

HE NOTED THAT MANY OF THE TRAINEES GRADUATED FROM PREVIOUS SIMILAR COURSES HAD FOUND JOBS.

"TWELVE OUT OF 15 TRAINEES ON THE PREVIOUS COURSE ON BASIC TECHNIQUE FOR WAITER/WAITRESS IN CHINESE RESTAURANT AND THREE OUT OF 18 ON THE JUNIOR COOK (ROASTED FOOD) COURSE HAVE FOUND WORK," MR CHAN SAID.

"IN ADDITION, 12 TRAINEES ON THE JUNIOR COOK COURSE HAVE BEEN INTERVIEWED BY EMPLOYERS AND ARE AWAITING RESULTS," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN URGED INTERESTED WORKERS TO ENROL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 606 2145.

- - - - 0 - - - -

"SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN PERSPECTIVE" SYMPOSIUM

\* \* \* \* \*

STUDENT SUICIDES AND YOUTH PROBLEMS WILL BE AMONG THE SUBJECTS TO BE PUT UNDER MICROSCOPE AT A MULTI-MEDIA SYMPOSIUM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 21).

THE FOUR-HOUR SYMPOSIUM - "SOUTHERN DISTRICT IN PERSPECTIVE" WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM IN THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL, AP LEI CHAU ESTATE. ADMISSION IS FREE AND ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

AS PART OF A DISTRICT AFFAIRS STUDY CONTEST, THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT'S CIVIC EDUCATION COMMITTEE AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD.

SIX SHORT-LISTED TEAMS WERE INVITED TO PRESENT THE FINDINGS OF THEIR THREE-MONTH STUDIES ON DISTRICT MATTERS AT THE SYMPOSIUM.

TOPICS TO BE PRESENTED WILL INCLUDE DANGEROUS SLOPES, TRAFFIC PROBLEMS AT ABERDEEN TUNNEL, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES OF PRIVATE ACCOMMODATIONS AND LOCAL BUS SERVICES.

THE MEDIA OF THEIR PRESENTATIONS WILL RANGE FROM DRAMAS, TALK SHOWS TO VIDEOS, SONGS AND EXHIBITIONS.

A PANEL OF ADJUDICATION WILL SELECT THE WINNING TEAMS. PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT A CEREMONY AFTER THE SYMPOSIUM.

A REPORT ON THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDIES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED LATER TO DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS FOR REFERENCE.

- - - - -

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SYMPOSIUM WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 21) IN THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL, AP LEI CHAU ESTATE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FESTIVE LIGHTS IN TSIM SHA TSUI EAST

\* \* \* \* \*

TSIM SHA TSUI EAST WILL BE BRIGHTENED UP TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WITH FESTIVE LIGHTS TO HERALD CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY TOMORROW EVENING AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN.

THE EVENT WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A CONCERT GIVEN BY POP SINGERS JACKIE CHEUNG, SHIRLEY KWAN, ANDY HUI, SAMMIE CHENG AND VERONICA IP.

/THE CONCERT .....

THE CONCERT WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON RADIO 2, RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK).

ALSO OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE THE DIRECTOR OF BROADCASTING, MISS CHEUNG MAN-YEE; THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR LAM CHEK-YUEN; THE YAU TSIM/MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BART IRELAND; YAU TSIM POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR P W FERRY; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION, MR LUI CHE-WO.

THE EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TSIM SHA TSUI EAST PROPERTY DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION AND RTHK, WITH HELP FROM THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE.

- - - - -

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SWITCHING-ON CEREMONY OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI FESTIVE LIGHTS AT 6 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CENTENARY GARDEN. THEY SHOULD ARRIVE AT THE VENUE BY 5.30 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH MOVES TO WANCHAI TOWER III  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH AND ITS FESTIVAL OFFICE WILL OPERATE AT THEIR NEW PREMISES IN WANCHAI TOWER III, 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, FROM NEXT MONDAY (NOVEMBER 23).

THE BROADCASTING, ENTERTAINMENT AND ADMINISTRATION WING OF THE BRANCH AND THE FESTIVAL OFFICE WILL OCCUPY THE 41ST FLOOR OF THE TOWER.

THE RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICES DIVISION OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE WING WILL OCCUPY THE 40TH FLOOR OF THE TOWER. THE CULTURE DIVISION HAS ALREADY BEEN MOVED TO THE SAME BUILDING IN MID-SEPTEMBER.

THE NEW ENQUIRY TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE:

RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH	594 6644
FESTIVAL OFFICE	594 6668
RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICES DIVISION	594 5661
SECRETARIAT FOR THE COUNCIL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS	594 5600
BOOKS REGISTRATION OFFICE	594 5636

/THE FAXLINE .....

THE FAXLINE NUMBERS FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH AND THE FESTIVAL OFFICE ARE 827 6646 AND 827 2424 RESPECTIVELY.

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE INFORMATION UNIT OF THE BRANCH, WHICH WILL BE HOUSED ON 41ST FLOOR OF WANCHAI TOWER III, WILL ALSO HANDLE MEDIA ENQUIRIES ON THE WORK OF THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY. THE NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE OFFICERS ARE:

SENIOR INFORMATION OFFICER	594 6627
INFORMATION OFFICER	594 6626
ASSISTANT INFORMATION OFFICER	594 6625

- - - - 0 - - - -

1992 HK YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL

\* \* \* \*

THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL BE BRINGING A MUSICAL CHRISTMAS TO THE PUBLIC WITH PERFORMANCE BY LOCAL YOUNG MUSICIANS DURING THE 1992 HONG KONG YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL TO BE HELD FROM DECEMBER 20 TO 30.

THE YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL WAS ORGANISED ANNUALLY BY THE MUSIC OFFICE SINCE 1979, WITH THE AIM TO STIMULATE INTEREST IN BAND MUSIC AND RAISE THE STANDARD OF PERFORMANCE AMONG LOCAL BAND PLAYERS.

OVER 1,500 PARTICIPANTS FROM MORE THAN 20 SCHOOL BANDS TOGETHER WITH THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND AND DISTRICT YOUTH SYMPHONIC BANDS OF THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL PRESENT AN ARRAY BAND MUSIC THIS YEAR IN A SERIES OF CONCERTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC OFFICE SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION SYMPHONIC BAND, SINGAPORE, WILL JOIN THE FESTIVAL.

THE 55-MEMBER BAND WILL PRESENT A SERIES OF CLASSICAL COMPOSITION SUCH AS 'HIGHLIGHTS FROM WESTSIDE STORY', 'A DANCE OF THE YAO' AND 'CHORALE AND SHAKER DANCE'.

THE PROGRAMME OF THE FESTIVAL INCLUDES A FESTIVAL CONCERT AND A FESTIVAL GALA TO BE HELD AT HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS AND THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM IN THE EVENINGS OF DECEMBER 27 AND 30.

VARIOUS KINDS OF BAND MUSIC INCLUDING JAZZ, ROCK, CLASSICAL AND THEME SONGS FROM MOVIES WILL BE PERFORMED.

IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE FOUR CHRISTMAS CONCERTS TO BE STAGED AT WHAMPOA GARDEN FANTASY MUSICAL FOUNTAIN, SHA TIN TOWN PLAZA, KWAI FONG METRO PLAZA AND TUEN MUN PLAZA ATRIUM DURING THE FESTIVAL PERIOD.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 25 -

APART FROM A SERIES OF CONCERTS, THERE WILL ALSO BE A SYMPHONIC BAND CONTEST AND A MARCHING BAND CONTEST FOR LOCAL WIND BANDS AND MARCHING BANDS ON DECEMBER 22 AND 29 RESPECTIVELY.

TICKETS FOR THE FESTIVAL CONCERT AT \$30 EACH AND THE FESTIVAL GALA AT \$20 AND \$40 EACH ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL URBOTIX OUTLETS.

HALF-PRICED TICKETS WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS AND SENIOR CITIZENS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 606 5733.

- - - - 0 - - - -

CHILDREN DRAWING CONTEST IN TSIM SHA TSUI  
\* \* \* \* \*

CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN FOUR AND 13 ARE INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A DRAWING AND COLOURING CONTEST IN TSIM SHA TSUI THIS SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 22).

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TSIM SHA TSUI AREA COMMITTEE AND THE URBAN COUNCIL WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD, THE COMPETITION WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 1 PM AND 3.30 PM AT THE PIAZZA OF THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE.

THOSE WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE ARE WELCOME TO ENROL AT THE VENUE.

THE THEME WILL BE "LOVE THE ENVIRONMENT". PRIZES AND CERTIFICATES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE WINNERS.

DRAWING PAPERS, BOARDS, PASTELS AND CRAYONS WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISERS.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 301 2141.

.....

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YAU TSIM CHILDREN DRAWING COMPETITION THIS SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 22) AT THE PIAZZA OF THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI, BETWEEN 1 PM AND 3.30 PM.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/26 .....

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1992

- 26 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

\* \* \* \* \*

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
REVERSAL OF LAF	NIL
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 112.8 *-0.1* 19.11.92	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS			HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS			
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.75 PCT	15 MONTHS	2402	6.25	101.50	4.29
1 MONTH	3.20 PCT	18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	101.49	4.51
3 MONTHS	3.55 PCT	21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	99.50	4.73
6 MONTHS	3.69 PCT	24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	99.60	4.90
12 MONTHS	4.00 PCT					
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 4,389MN						
CLOSED 19 NOVEMBER 1992						

- - - - 0 - - - -