



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1992

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COMMUNIQUE

22ND MEETING OF SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP

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THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP HELD ITS TWENTY-SECOND MEETING IN HONG KONG FROM MARCH 24 TO 26, 1992.

THE GROUP HAD A FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE FUTURE OF LANDS WHICH ARE NOW IN USE FOR DEFENCE PURPOSES IN HONG KONG.

THE GROUP DISCUSSED MATTERS RELATING TO HONG KONG'S INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS AND REACHED AGREEMENT ON THE CONTINUED APPLICATION TO HONG KONG AFTER 1997 OF NINE INTERNATIONAL TREATIES IN THE FIELDS OF CONSERVATION, TRADE, POSTAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW.

THE GROUP HAD A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION RELATING TO THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG AFTER 1997.

THE GROUP HAD A FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION OF MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

THE GROUP HAD AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND PROTECTION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND RELEVANT COUNTRIES AND MADE PROGRESS.

THE TWO SIDES HAD AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON MATTERS RELATING TO RTHK.

THE TWO SIDES HAD A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON HONG KONG'S AIR SERVICES AGREEMENTS.

THE GROUP HAD A FURTHER DISCUSSION ABOUT MAJOR FRANCHISES EXTENDING BEYOND 1997.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP WILL TAKE PLACE IN PEKING IN JUNE 1992.

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BILL TO TACKLE COMPUTER CRIMES

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION TO TACKLE COMPUTER-RELATED CRIME.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID LEGAL SANCTIONS WERE REQUIRED TO COUNTER THE OPPORTUNITY FOR ABUSE PROVIDED BY THE INCREASING USE OF COMPUTERS HERE.

"EXISTING LAWS ARE INADEQUATE IN THAT CERTAIN ACTS RELATED TO COMPUTER CRIME ARE NOT OFFENCES IN THEIR OWN RIGHT," THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT.

"THEY WILL BE OUTLAWED IN FUTURE BY AMENDING OR CREATING NEW SECTIONS IN THE TELECOMMUNICATION ORDINANCE, CRIMES ORDINANCE AND THEFT ORDINANCE," HE SAID.

THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY THE COMPUTER CRIMES BILL 1992, WHICH WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE BILL MAKES IT AN OFFENCE FOR ANY PERSON TO OBTAIN UNAUTHORISED ACCESS TO A COMPUTER BY MEANS OF TELECOMMUNICATION. THE PENALTY WOULD BE A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$20,000 ON CONVICTION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS WAS TO PREVENT "HACKING", WHEREBY A PERSON CAN ACCESS A COMPUTER SYSTEM FROM A REMOTE LOCATION WITHOUT PHYSICAL CONTACT BY MEANS OF A MODEM AND TELEPHONE.

"WHILE HACKING IS OFTEN DONE FOR PLEASURE RATHER THAN WITH ANY DISHONEST INTENT, IT CAN CAUSE GREAT INCONVENIENCE AND EXPENSE TO THE COMPUTER USER," HE ADDED.

IT WILL ALSO BE AN OFFENCE FOR A PERSON TO OBTAIN ACCESS TO A COMPUTER WITH INTENT TO COMMIT AN OFFENCE, WITH DISHONEST INTENT TO DECEIVE, WITH A VIEW TO DISHONEST GAIN FOR HIMSELF OR ANOTHER, OR WITH DISHONEST INTENT TO CAUSE LOSS TO ANOTHER. A PERSON WHO IS CONVICTED WOULD BE LIABLE TO IMPRISONMENT FOR FIVE YEARS.

THE BILL ENABLES THE OFFENCE OF MAKING A FALSE ENTRY IN A BANK BOOK TO APPLY TO ENTRIES MADE ON A COMPUTER. SIMILARLY, THE OFFENCE OF FALSE ACCOUNTING WILL BE MADE TO APPLY TO RECORDS KEPT BY MEANS OF A COMPUTER.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE OFFENCE OF BURGLARY TO BE EXTENDED TO COVER A PERSON WHO ENTERS A BUILDING AS A TRESPASSER WITH INTENT UNLAWFULLY TO ALTER OR ERASE INFORMATION STORED IN A COMPUTER OR ITS SOFTWARE OR TO CAUSE THE COMPUTER TO MALFUNCTION.

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PROPOSAL TO BUILD RIVER TRADE TERMINAL INVITED

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PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS ARE INVITED FROM INTERESTED PARTIES TO DEVELOP AND OPERATE A RIVER TRADE TERMINAL IN TUEN MUN AREA 38 TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING RIVER CRAFT TRAFFIC FROM THE PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION.

THE TERMINAL, WHICH FORMS PART OF THE PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, WILL BE BUILT IN AN AREA OF 56 HECTARES OF SEABED TO THE EAST OF TAP SHEK KOK POWER STATION.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (THURSDAY), THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR BOWEN LEUNG, SAID: "THE LOCATION HAS BEEN CHOSEN BECAUSE OF ITS CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE DEEP WATER CHANNEL AT URMSTON ROAD AND GOOD POTENTIAL FOR ROAD ACCESS VIA TUEN MUN HIGHWAY AND THE FUTURE COUNTRY PARK SECTOR OF ROUTE 3."

"AND, MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, IT WILL OBTAIN THE NEED FOR RIVER CRAFT FROM THE PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION TO PASS THROUGH THE NARROW MA WAN CHANNEL," MR LEUNG SAID.

THE AWARD OF THE RIGHT TO DEVELOP AND OPERATE THE TERMINAL WOULD PROBABLY BE MADE THROUGH COMPETITIVE TENDER.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER IS EXPECTED TO PAY A LAND PREMIUM FOR DEVELOPING AND OPERATING THE TERMINAL ACCORDING TO CONDITIONS LAID DOWN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

ONE OF THE CONDITIONS IS THAT THE TERMINAL SHOULD BE A SELF-CONTAINED FACILITY WHICH WILL PROVIDE A 3,000-METRE BERTHING FRONTAGE WITHIN A SHELTERED BASIN, CARGO WORKING AREAS, SUFFICIENT LORRY PARKING, AND A GODOWN.

THERE SHOULD ALSO BE FACILITIES FOR CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION CONTROLS, FIRE-FIGHTING, AND OPEN SPACE AND CATERING FACILITIES FOR WORKERS TO BE EMPLOYED THERE.

THE TERMINAL HAS BEEN PLANNED FOR 24-HOUR USAGE WITH FLOOD LIGHTING AVAILABLE FOR NIGHT-TIME OPERATION.

THE TARGET COMMISSIONING DATE OF THE TERMINAL SHOULD BE AROUND 1995 ACCORDING TO THE CURRENT PORT DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND PROGRAMME.

THE LEASE TERM FOR THE TERMINAL WILL RUN TO 2047.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 42,000 RIVER TRADE CRAFT WILL USE THE TERMINAL IN 1996. THE NUMBER WILL GROW TO 58,950 IN 2001 AND 86,350 IN 2006.

/A PROSPECTUS

A PROSPECTUS OUTLINING THE OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT IS AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION BY THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PLANNING DIVISION OF THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH ON 20TH FLOOR OF MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD.

INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT THEIR PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS IN RESPECT OF THE PHASING OF DEVELOPMENT, LEASE PERIOD, ACTUAL LAND REQUIREMENT AND THE SUGGESTED WAYS OF OPERATING THE TERMINAL TO THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BY THE END OF JUNE THIS YEAR.

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ANTI-CRIME PROPOSALS FORWARDED TO CHINA

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COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR LI KWAN-HA, HAD PERSONALLY FORWARDED A PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS TO THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES TO BETTER CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO PLACES IN COMBATING CROSS-BORDER CRIMES DURING A TWO-DAY TRIP TO BEIJING.

THE VISIT, MR LI SAID, WAS MADE TO ALLOW TIME FOR THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES TO CONSIDER THE HONG KONG PROPOSALS BEFORE A SCHEDULED MEETING IN APRIL.

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE WOULD ALSO HAVE TIME TO STUDY SIMILAR PROPOSALS RAISED BY THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT IMMEDIATELY UPON HIS RETURN FROM BEIJING, MR LI SAID HE WOULD NOT RULE OUT MAKING ANOTHER TRIP TO BEIJING IF NECESSARY PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED APRIL MEETING SUBJECT TO DELIBERATIONS BY BOTH SIDES ON THESE PROPOSALS.

MR LI ALSO EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE TOWARDS THE SUPPORT GIVEN BY THE GOVERNOR, LORD WILSON, WHO YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY) SAID THE COMMISSIONER OF THE POLICE AND THE POLICE FORCE HAD BEEN DOING A GOOD JOB AND BOTH DESERVED A FULL SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY.

LORD WILSON, DURING A VISIT TO TUEN MUN, ALSO SAID THE VISIT TO BEIJING BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE PROVIDED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR DISCUSSIONS.

MEANWHILE, MR LI TOLD REPORTERS THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE FACE-TO-FACE DISCUSSIONS WITH HIS CHINESE COUNTERPARTS THAN THROUGH CORRESPONDENCE AND TELEPHONE.

HE SAID THE TWO-DAY TRIP WAS "FRUITFULL".

MR LI REVEALED THAT MAJOR FEATURES OF HIS PROPOSALS COVERED SUGGESTED WAYS AND MEANS TO "BETTER AND ENHANCE THE EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE" WITH A VIEW TO SPEEDING UP THE COMMUNICATION PROCESS.

/OTHER AREAS

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OTHER AREAS COVERED TOUCHED ON HOW ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATIONS AT SEA COULD BE BETTER CO-ORDINATED, HE ADDED.

"WE ALSO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON CRIME INVESTIGATIONS AND HOW THEY CAN BE CONDUCTED BY BOTH SIDES WITH THE SAME AIM TO PUT THE WRONGDOERS BEFORE THE COURTS.

BOTH SIDES ALSO DISCUSSED EXCHANGES OF EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE IN TACKLING VARIOUS TYPES OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.

MR LI CITED AS AN EXAMPLE THAT THE FORCE'S EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE IN THE AREA OF COMMERCIAL CRIMES WERE QUITE "RICH".

"WE BOTH, HOWEVER, RECOGNISE THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES IN OUR LEGAL SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES AND WE TRY TO FIND SOME COMMON GROUND FROM WHICH TO WORK ON," MR LI SAID.

DURING THE TWO-DAY VISIT, MR LI SAID HE HAD ALSO SOUGHT ASSISTANCE FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES IN THE INVESTIGATIONS OF SEVERAL MAJOR CRIMES HAPPENED IN THE TERRITORY.

MR LI SAID HE WAS TOLD THAT THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES HAD SOME CLUES ON THE CASH-IN-TRANSIT ROBBERY WHICH HAPPENED AT THE AIRPORT LAST JULY IN WHICH \$167 MILLION WERE LOOTED.

HE SAID POLICE INVESTIGATORS WOULD BE SENT TO CHINA IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO TO FOLLOW UP ON THE LEADS.

PROGRESS MADE BY CHINESE INVESTIGATORS ON THE KIDNAP OF BUSINESSMAN, MR WONG TAK-FAI, WAS ALSO INQUIRED AS THE FORCE BELIEVED THE PRIME SUSPECT WAS STILL HIDING IN CHINA, HE ADDED.

ALSO, ASSISTANCE FROM CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON TRACKING DOWN A SUSPECT, NICKNAMED "GOOSE HEAD", WHO WAS BELIEVED TO BE INVOLVED IN A NUMBER OF MAJOR ARMED ROBBERIES IN HONG KONG RECENTLY AND NOW HIDING IN CHINA, WAS ALSO SOUGHT.

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ADVICE FOR BRITISH NATIONALS AND HK RESIDENTS IN LIBYA

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ON THE ADVICE OF THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE (FCO), THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION TODAY (THURSDAY) ADVISED BRITISH NATIONALS AND HONG KONG RESIDENTS IN LIBYA TO CONSIDER CAREFULLY WHETHER THEY NEED TO REMAIN IN THE COUNTRY.

THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION POINTED OUT THAT THE FCO, IN AN ADVICE TO BRITISH NATIONALS, HAD NOTED THAT LIBYA HAD NOT COMPLIED WITH SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 732 ON THE QUESTION OF THE BOMBING OF FLIGHTS PAN AM 103 AND UTA 772.

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THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE ARE NOW CONSIDERING, IN CONSULTATION WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, WHAT FURTHER STEPS MIGHT BE TAKEN UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SANCTIONS INVOLVING FLIGHTS TO AND FROM LIBYA, TO SECURE LIBYA'S COMPLIANCE.

IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND ON THE ADVICE OF THE FCO, THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION ADVISED BRITISH NATIONALS AND HONG KONG RESIDENTS IN LIBYA THAT THEY SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT THERE MAY BE NO FLIGHTS TO AND FROM LIBYA FOLLOWING THE IMPOSITION OF SANCTIONS BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

THEY ALREADY KNOW THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS, BRITAIN CAN PROVIDE ONLY VERY LIMITED CONSULAR PROTECTION.

IF, DESPITE THESE CONDITIONS, THEY DECIDE TO REMAIN IN LIBYA THEY ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO MAINTAIN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE BRITISH INTERESTS SECTION OF THE ITALIAN EMBASSY (TELEPHONE NUMBER TRIPOLI 31191).

BRITISH NATIONALS AND HONG KONG RESIDENTS CONSIDERING VISITING LIBYA SHOULD ALSO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT FLIGHTS MAY CEASE AND ARE ADVISED TO CONSIDER WHETHER THEIR VISITS ARE REALLY NECESSARY.

THEY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SOME LIBYAN ENTRY AND EXIT VISAS ARE ENDORSED 'BY AIR ONLY'.

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STUDY ON METAL AND LIGHT ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES UNDERWAY

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THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT COMMISSIONED A \$3.1 MILLION STUDY ON THE METALS AND LIGHT ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES EARLIER THIS YEAR WITH AN AIM TO IMPROVE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE INDUSTRIES.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE HONG KONG LINKAGE INDUSTRY - INTERNATIONAL MACHINE TOOL EXHIBITION '92 TODAY (THURSDAY), THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID THE OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY WAS TO IDENTIFY THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LOCAL METALS AND LIGHT ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND TO ANALYSE THE GLOBAL TRENDS IN RELATED PRODUCT MARKETS AND THE APPLICATION OF NEW TECHNOLOGY.

HE SAID THE STUDY WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN JOINTLY BY THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL AND THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP, A U.S. MANAGEMENT CONSULTING FIRM, WHICH WAS EXPECTED TO SUBMIT THEIR DRAFT FINAL REPORT IN MAY THIS YEAR.

INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE STUDY WOULD BE DISSEMINATED TO MANUFACTURERS, HE ADDED.

/MR BARMA

MR BARMA SAID THE LINKAGE INDUSTRIES, OF WHICH THE METALS AND LIGHT ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES FORM A PART, NOW FACED REQUESTS FROM MANUFACTURERS FOR HIGH QUALITY SERVICES NEVER DEMANDED BEFORE.

MANY COMPANIES, EVEN SMALL ONES, HAD FOUND IT NECESSARY TO INVEST IN ADVANCED MACHINERY AND TO ADOPT NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE FAST PACE OF COMPETITION, HE SAID.

MR BARMA POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN A NUMBER OF INITIATIVES TO HELP THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY UPGRADE.

"TO ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R & D) IN TECHNOLOGIES APPLICABLE TO HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES, AN APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SCHEME WILL BE LAUNCHED LATER THIS YEAR.

"UNDER THE SCHEME, FINANCIAL SUPPORT ON A MATCHING BASIS WILL BE PROVIDED TO COMPANIES FOR APPLIED R & D WORK," HE SAID.

ANOTHER MEASURE THAT WOULD STIMULATE DEVELOPMENT WAS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE.

APART FROM PROVIDING ACCOMMODATION FOR TECHNOLOGY-BASED FIRMS, THE CENTRE WOULD ALSO PROVIDE PRODUCT DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FACILITIES.

ALTHOUGH CONSTRUCTION WOULD NOT BE COMPLETED UNTIL 1994, THE CENTRE HAD ALREADY STARTED TO PROVIDE SOME SERVICES, MR BARMA SAID.

IN THE AREA OF PRECISION CALIBRATION, THE STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAD INVESTED HEAVILY IN RECENT YEARS IN BUILDING UP ITS MECHANICAL MEASUREMENT FACILITIES TO MEET INDUSTRY'S INCREASING NEEDS FOR THE SERVICE.

MR BARMA SAID THE LABORATORY, USING THE VERY LATEST STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT, COULD PROVIDE FOR MOST OF THE REQUESTS FROM LOCAL INDUSTRIES FOR PRECISION CALIBRATION, ADDING THAT SUCH REQUESTS WERE INCREASINGLY COMING FROM LINKAGE INDUSTRIES.

HE SAID THE GROWTH OF LINKAGE INDUSTRIES IN RECENT YEARS WAS A REFLECTION OF THE GRADUAL SHIFT OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRY FROM LOW VALUE-ADDED AND LABOUR-INTENSIVE MANUFACTURING INTO THE MECHANISED AND OFTEN AUTOMATED PRODUCTION OF HIGHER QUALITY PRODUCTS.

"IT IS ALSO A RESPONSE TO THE CONSIDERABLE DEMAND FOR INDUSTRIAL MATERIALS FROM MANUFACTURERS WHO HAVE RELOCATED SOME OR ALL OF THEIR OPERATIONS TO CHINA.

"IN 1991, FOR EXAMPLE, 64.4 PER CENT OF MACHINE TOOLS AND INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY MANUFACTURED IN AND EXPORTED FROM HONG KONG WENT TO CHINA," HE ADDED.

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DANGEROUS GOODS (SHIPPING) REGULATIONS AMENDED
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A WHARF AT NIM SHUE WAN WILL BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF APPROVED PETROLEUM WHARVES TO BE USED BY VESSELS CONVEYING PETROLEUM AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND TRADING EXCLUSIVELY WITHIN THE WATERS OF HONG KONG (REFERRED TO AS TYPE III VESSELS IN THE DANGEROUS GOODS (SHIPPING) REGULATIONS).

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID AMENDMENTS WERE MADE TO THE DANGEROUS GOODS (SHIPPING) REGULATIONS 1992 TO ALLOW THE WHARF TO BE USED FOR THE ABOVE PURPOSE.

THE AMENDMENT REGULATIONS ALSO REPEAL THE REFERENCE TO THE CONTAINER TERMINAL AT HUNG HOM IN THE LIST OF APPROVED CONTAINER TERMINALS, AS THIS TERMINAL WAS CLOSED DOWN IN AUGUST 1990.

WITH THE ADDITION OF THE NIM SHUE WAN WHARF, THERE ARE NOW 22 APPROVED PETROLEUM WHARVES FOR TYPE III VESSELS IN HONG KONG.

THE DANGEROUS GOODS (SHIPPING) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1992 WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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NEW HONG KONG/NORWAY TEXTILES AGREEMENT REACHED
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HONG KONG AND NORWAY HAVE TODAY CONCLUDED AN 18-MONTH TEXTILES AGREEMENT TO SUCCEED THE CURRENT ONE WHICH EXPIRES ON JUNE 30 THIS YEAR.

THE NEW AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS CONCLUDED AFTER A THREE-DAY CONSULTATION IN HONG KONG, PROVIDES FOR LIBERALISATION OF SOME CLOTHING CATEGORIES.

THE HONG KONG DELEGATION WAS LED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR ALAN LAI, AND THE NORWEGIAN DELEGATION WAS LED BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL, ROYAL MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, MR JOHAN IVERSON.

THE NEW AGREEMENT WILL BE RATIFIED ONCE INTERNAL PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED. DETAILS OF IT WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN A NOTICE TO EXPORTERS TO BE ISSUED BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT.

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52 MEMBERS SPEAK IN APPROPRIATION BILL DEBATE

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A TOTAL OF 52 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS HAVE SPOKEN IN A TWO-DAY DEBATE ON THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1992 IN THE COUNCIL THAT ENDED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE DEBATE ON THE BILL IS FURTHER ADJOURNED TO NEXT WEDNESDAY (APRIL 1) WHEN REPLIES FROM OFFICIALS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE GIVEN ON VARIOUS POINTS RAISED.

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STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATION WORK ON BRIDGE EXTENDED

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ALL VESSELS INTENDING TO PASS THROUGH THE TSING YI SOUTH BRIDGE ARE URGED TO NAVIGATE WITH EXTREME CAUTION AS STRUCTURAL INVESTIGATION WORK ON THE BRIDGE IS STILL UNDERWAY, A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

"THE INVESTIGATION WORK, WHICH STARTED IN EARLY JANUARY THIS YEAR, HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL THE END OF APRIL," HE SAID.

"SCAFFOLDINGS HAVE BEEN PUT UP UNDER THE ARCH OF THE BRIDGE, AND THE MAXIMUM VERTICAL CLEARANCE FOR SAFE NAVIGATION BELOW THE SPAN HAS BEEN REDUCED FROM 17 TO 15 METRES."

MASTERS, COXSWAINS AND PERSONS IN CHARGE OF ALL VESSELS REQUIRING TO PASS THROUGH THE BRIDGE HAVE TO ENSURE THAT THE AIR DRAFT OF THEIR VESSEL DOES NOT EXCEED 15 METRES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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PRIMARY STUDENTS ENJOY CLASSROOM CLEANING WORK

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS WERE IMPRESSED BY STUDENTS TAKING PART IN THE CLASSROOM CLEANLINESS PILOT SCHEME DURING A VISIT TO THE SKH LUI MING CHOI MEMORIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KENNEDY TOWN TODAY (THURSDAY).

UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF THEIR TEACHERS, PRIMARY ONE TO SIX STUDENTS ON DUTY CLEANED DESKS, CHAIRS, BOARDS, CUPBOARDS, SWEEPED THE FLOOR, AND COLLECTED LITTER FOR DISPOSAL.

THE MEMBERS SAW SENIOR STUDENTS HELP YOUNGER ONES LOCK WINDOWS AND DOORS AND SWITCH OFF LIGHTS.

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THE 15-MINUTE CLEANING DUTY IS CONDUCTED AT THE END OF THE LAST CLASS OF THE DAY.

THE HEADMASTER OF THE AM SECTION OF THE SCHOOL, MR LEE SIU-TIN, SAID THE SCHEME STARTED IN MID-SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR AND WAS CONTINUING.

MEMBERS JOINING TODAY'S SCHOOL VISIT WERE MRS MINNIE LAI, MS AUDREY EU, MR PETER LEE AND DR ANDREW WONG KAM-CHEUNG. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE PRINCIPAL EDUCATION OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR KAN KWOK-CHOI.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	25.3.92	1200
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	26.3.92	-554 *
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+54
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+700 **

* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED -500 MN
* OTHER FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED - 54 MN
** O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON 27.3.92

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.6 *-0.2* 26.3.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

BF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.24 PCT	20 MONTHS	2311	6.25	100.51	6.00
1 MONTH	4.00 PCT	23 MONTHS	2402	5.50	98.78	6.28
3 MONTHS	4.04 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.39 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.79 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 4,115 MN

CLOSED 26 MARCH 1992

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