



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
CENTRAL RECLAMATION AUTHORISED	1
HONG KONG ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS REMAIN SOUND : STI	2
HK - AN INTEGRAL PART OF ASIA PACIFIC	3
TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY BILL	5
ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED	6
VITAL ROLE FOR HK STUDENTS IN THE UK	7
GOVT LAND SALE BY AUCTION	9
HONG KONG UPGRADES TOKYO OFFICE	10
TSING YI OZP TO COVER CT-9 SITE	10
CONCESSIONS FOR DISABLED DRIVERS	11
NEW BUS ROUTE TO SERVE KOWLOON	12
IMPROVED STUDENTS COMMENDED	12
NEW PIER AT MUI WO	13
TENDERS INVITED FOR WORKS ON DRAW-OFF FACILITIES OF RESERVOIR	13
HONG KONG YEARBOOK TO GO ON SALE	14
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS	15

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 1 -

CENTRAL RECLAMATION AUTHORISED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS AUTHORISED THE RECLAMATION OF ABOUT 20 HECTARES OF LAND AT THE EXISTING WATERFRONT IN CENTRAL TO ACCOMMODATE THE HONG KONG TERMINUS OF THE AIRPORT RAILWAY.

THE NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION FOR THE RECLAMATION WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PROJECT IS KNOWN AS THE CENTRAL AND WAN CHAI RECLAMATION, PACKAGE 1, PHASE 1, ENGINEERING WORKS (WESTERN SECTION).

IT WILL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEAWALL AND RECLAMATION FOR ABOUT 20 HECTARES OF LAND BETWEEN RUMSEY STREET AND BLAKE PIER, CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS AND STREET AMENITIES, THE LAYING OF DRAINS AND SEWERS AND LANDSCAPING WORKS.

IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE REPROVISIONING OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC FERRY PIERS AND ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENT OFFICES, COOLING WATER PUMPING STATIONS AND OTHER EXISTING FACILITIES AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED WORKS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVED THE PROJECT WITHOUT MODIFICATION OR CONDITION AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE OBJECTIONS RECEIVED.

A TOTAL OF SEVEN OBJECTIONS HAD BEEN RECEIVED. OF WHICH, TWO WERE SUBSEQUENTLY WITHDRAWN.

TWO OF THE OBJECTIONS NOT WITHDRAWN WERE LODGED BY FERRY SERVICES OPERATORS.

THE OTHER THREE OBJECTIONS CAME FROM INCORPORATED OWNERS OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS ON THE WATERFRONT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID WORKS FOR THE PROJECT WOULD BE CAREFULLY PHASED IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE SAFETY AND OPERATION LEVELS OF THE FERRIES WERE MAINTAINED AND INCONVENIENCE TO PASSENGERS MINIMISED THROUGHOUT THE PERIOD OF THE CONSTRUCTION.

REFERRING TO OBJECTIONS RAISED BY OWNERS OF SEVERAL BUILDINGS ON THE WATERFRONT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ARRANGING FOR THE RELOCATION OF THE AIR-CONDITIONING AND FLUSHING SYSTEM OF THE BUILDINGS, WHICH WERE TO BE AFFECTED BY THE RECLAMATION.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE RECLAMATION WORK WAS PROGRAMMED TO BEGIN BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

HE ADDED THAT ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERED THAT HIS INTEREST WOULD BE AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT MAY DELIVER A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 2, 1993.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 2 -

HONG KONG ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS REMAIN SOUND : STI
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WHILE CONCERNS ABOUT U.S.-CHINA TRADE RELATIONS ARE REAL, HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS REMAIN SOUND, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. CHAU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE "HONG KONG IN TRANSITION" CONFERENCE IN LONDON, MR CHAU SAID A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC MOMENTUM HAD BEEN GENERATED BOTH IN HONG KONG AND OVER THE BORDER IN CHINA.

"CHINA'S LEADERS HAVE RECENTLY STRONGLY RE-ASSERTED THEIR COMMITMENT TO ECONOMIC REFORMS. THE PROSPECTS FOR GROWTH LOOK GOOD," MR CHAU SAID.

HE NOTED THAT THE YEARS SINCE THE NEGOTIATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION HAD NOT BEEN EASY ONES.

"NOT ONLY HAVE WE SURVIVED THEM BUT WE HAVE ALSO EMERGED WITH FLYING COLOURS," HE SAID.

EXTERNAL TRADE HAS CONTINUED TO FLOURISH AND TOTAL EXPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO GROW AT ABOUT 14 PER CENT THIS YEAR.

"THE ECONOMY, AFTER THE LOWER GROWTH RATES OF 3 PER CENT IN 1990 AND 4 PER CENT IN 1991, IS FORECAST TO GROW IN 1992 AT A RESPECTABLE 5 PER CENT. PER CAPITA GDP IN 1991 WAS US\$14,000 - HIGHEST IN ASIA AFTER JAPAN AND OIL-RICH BRUNEI AND HIGHER THAN THAT OF SOME MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY," MR CHAU SAID.

"IN 1981, WE WERE THE 18TH LARGEST TRADING ENTITY IN THE WORLD. AS A RESULT OF THE GROWTH IN OUR CHINA TRADE, IN THE SECOND-HALF OF THE 1980'S WE ROSE TO BECOME THE 11TH LARGEST.

"THE LATEST GATT FIGURES SHOW THAT WE ARE NOW THE 10TH LARGEST. IF THE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WERE COUNTED AS ONE SINGLE ENTITY - AS THEY SHOULD BE - WE ARE THE FIFTH LARGEST, AFTER THE U.S., THE EC, JAPAN AND CANADA.

"THIS IS A RECORD OF WHICH WE HONG KONG RESIDENTS CAN JUSTLY BE PROUD," MR CHAU SAID, ADDING THAT BUT IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT CHINA, ESPECIALLY SOUTH CHINA WHICH HAD BECOME THE VAST HINTERLAND ON WHICH HONG KONG WAS ABLE TO DRAW TO SUPPLEMENT ITS LIMITED SUPPLIES OF LAND AND MANPOWER.

"FOR ITS PART, HONG KONG THROUGH ITS INVESTMENT AND ENTREPRENEURS HAVE PROVIDED THE ENGINE FOR THE GROWTH OF SOUTH CHINA.

"THIS RELATIONSHIP IS ONE WHICH HAS BENEFITED BOTH CHINA AND HONG KONG," MR CHAU STRESSED.

IT IS A RELATIONSHIP WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO GROW. THE MUTUAL BENEFIT DERIVED BY THE TWO PARTIES TO THIS RELATIONSHIP IS IN FACT ONE OF THE BEST GUARANTEES OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS A HIGHLY AUTONOMOUS SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION OF CHINA, HE SAID.

/MR CHAU

MR CHAU POINTED OUT THAT SOME COMMENTATORS HAVE REFERRED TO THIS RELATIONSHIP AS ONE OF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION.

"I THINK MYSELF THAT THAT IS THE WRONG TERM. THE CORRECT TERM IN MY VIEW IS ECONOMIC INTERDEPENDENCE," MR CHAU SAID.

THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION GUARANTEES THAT AFTER 1997 HONG KONG WILL CONTINUE TO BE A SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY AND WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE TRADE AND ECONOMIC DECISIONS ON ITS OWN, HE SAID.

"I BELIEVE THAT IT IS BY REMAINING AS AN AUTONOMOUS TRADING PARTNER AND A SEPARATE ECONOMIC ENTITY THAT HONG KONG CAN RETAIN ITS VITALITY AND DYNAMISM AND THEREBY CONTINUE TO PLAY ITS PRESENT ROLE," HE SAID.

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HK - AN INTEGRAL PART OF ASIA PACIFIC

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OVER 600 OVERSEAS COMPANIES HAVE SET UP THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS IN HONG KONG TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TERRITORY'S EFFICIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND CLOSE TIES WITHIN THE REGION, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR FRANCIS HO, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR HO WAS SPEAKING TO MEMBERS OF THE VICTORIAN EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION IN MELBOURNE AT THE END OF A ONE-WEEK INVESTMENT PROMOTION VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

ACCORDING TO A RECENT SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, 602 REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND 278 REGIONAL OFFICES WERE SET UP BY OVERSEAS COMPANIES IN HONG KONG AS AT THE MIDDLE OF LAST YEAR.

MR HO SAID HONG KONG HAD ESTABLISHED THE STATURE AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL AND SERVICE CENTRE OVER THE YEARS.

"THERE ARE NOW SOME 400 OVERSEAS BANKS REPRESENTED HERE FROM AROUND THE WORLD. OF THE WORLD'S TOP 100 BANKS IN TERMS OF TOTAL ASSETS, 84 ARE PRESENT HERE," HE SAID.

MR HO SAID HONG KONG'S STOCK MARKET WAS ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST ACTIVE IN ASIA.

"SOME 350 PUBLIC COMPANIES ARE CURRENTLY LISTED ON THE HONG KONG STOCK EXCHANGE. TOGETHER THEY HAVE A MARKET CAPITALISATION OF ABOUT \$125 BILLION.

"THIS HAS MADE HONG KONG THE THIRD LARGEST STOCK MARKET IN ASIA, AFTER JAPAN AND TAIWAN. MANY OF THE WORLD'S MAJOR SECURITIES HOUSES AND INSURANCE COMPANIES ARE PRESENT HERE," HE SAID.

MR HO SAID HONG KONG AND AUSTRALIA WERE BOTH IN THE ASIA PACIFIC WHICH WAS RECKONED TO BE THE FASTEST GROWING AND MOST DYNAMIC REGION IN THE WORLD.

THE REGION ACCOUNTED FOR HALF OF THE WORLD'S GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT AND ONE-THIRD OF WORLD TRADE.

"IN THE LAST DECADE, ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIES GREW AT AN AVERAGE OF EIGHT PER CENT A YEAR OVERALL. FOR THOSE WHICH HAVE BEEN DUBBED NEWLY INDUSTRIALISED ECONOMIES OR DYNAMIC ASIAN ECONOMIES, THE GROWTH WAS EVEN FASTER, AT 12 PER CENT PER ANNUM," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT HONG KONG WAS THE 10TH LARGEST TRADING ENTITY IN THE WORLD, MR HO SAID AMONG HONG KONG'S TOP 20 TRADING PARTNERS, 12 WERE FROM THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

"INDEED, CHINA IS OUR LARGEST TRADING PARTNER, WITH USA COMING SECOND AND JAPAN THIRD.

"IN 1991, ASIA PACIFIC ACCOUNTED FOR 78 PER CENT OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL TRADE. OUR EXPORTS TO THE REGION GREW AT AN AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF 14 PER CENT DURING THE LAST DECADE TO REACH A TOTAL OF \$160 BILLION IN 1991," HE SAID.

AS REGARDS THE RE-EXPORT TRADE, MR HO SAID HONG KONG RE-EXPORTED GOODS VALUED AT \$381 BILLION TO THE REGION LAST YEAR.

GROWTH IN THIS RE-EXPORT TRADE IN THE LAST DECADE AMOUNTED TO 31 PER CENT EACH YEAR AND WAS CONTINUING.

"THIS REFLECTS THE GEOGRAPHICAL ADVANTAGE OF HONG KONG AS A GATEWAY BETWEEN CHINA AND OTHER ECONOMIES IN THE REGION, AND OUR MASSIVE INVESTMENT INTO SOUTHERN CHINA.

"OUR IMPORTS FROM THE REGION ARE EQUALLY SIGNIFICANT, GROWING BY AN ANNUAL AVERAGE OF 18 PER CENT DURING THE LAST DECADE," HE SAID.

IN A NUTSHELL, MR HO SAID, HONG KONG WAS CLEARLY AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE ASIA PACIFIC.

"OUR STRATEGIC LOCATION IN THE REGION HAS HELPED US TO PROSPER, AND GREATER ECONOMIC TIES WITH COUNTRIES IN THE REGION AND GREAT REGIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WILL IN TURN CONTINUE TO PROVIDE GOOD INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG ITSELF," HE SAID.

EARLIER, MR HO SAID AT A LUNCH MEETING OF THE HONG KONG AUSTRALIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN MELBOURNE THAT THERE WAS A GROWING INTEGRATION BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA AS BOTH LED THE WAY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS LARGE, AND STILL LARGELY UNTAPPED MARKET OF THE GREATER SOUTH CHINA HINTERLAND.

"HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN, WITH THEIR ENTREPRENEURIAL FLAIR AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF INTERNATIONAL MARKETS, AND COMMON LANGUAGE AND CULTURE WITH COUNTERPARTS AND WORKERS IN THE GUANGDONG PROVINCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE THE MAIN MOVERS OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY IN SOUTHERN CHINA.

"THEY ARE THE NATURAL CONNECTION FOR ANY OVERSEAS COMPANIES WANTING TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR PART OF THE WORLD," HE SAID.

TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY BILL

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 29.

THE BILL SEEKS TO CONTROL ALL TOYS AND SPECIFIED CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS ON SALE OR INTENDED FOR SALE IN HONG KONG BY SETTING SAFETY STANDARDS FOR THEM. IT IMPOSES A DUTY ON THE SUPPLIERS TO ENSURE THAT THEIR PRODUCTS ARE REASONABLY SAFE.

"WE RECOGNISE THAT THERE IS A NEED TO IMPOSE STATUTORY CONTROLS ON THE SUPPLY OF TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS IN ORDER TO BRING THEIR SAFETY STANDARDS UP TO THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL AND TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN," HE SAID.

THE BILL FOLLOWS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON TOY SAFETY WHICH COMPRISED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TOY INDUSTRY, THE CONSUMER COUNCIL AND RELEVANT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

"THE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTARY TOY SAFETY STANDARD ESTABLISHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF TOY INDUSTRIES (ICTI) AND THE BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION (BSI) STANDARDS WILL BE ADOPTED AS THE RESPECTIVE SAFETY STANDARDS FOR TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS," HE SAID.

THE ICTI STANDARD, AN INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARD FOR TOYS IS COMPREHENSIVE AND VERY SIMILAR TO THE SAFETY STANDARDS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE NO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS.

THE CLOSEST APPROXIMATION ARE THE BSI STANDARDS WHICH ARE WIDELY USED AND HIGHLY REGARDED IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING COMMUNITY. THEY COVER THE MOST COMMONLY USED CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS.

"THE BILL WILL BE ENFORCED BY THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ON AN 'ACT-ON-COMPLAINT' BASIS," HE SAID.

"THERE WILL BE A GRACE PERIOD OF ONE YEAR FOR THE INDUSTRY TO ADJUST BEFORE THE BILL COMES INTO OPERATION.

"THE BILL PROVIDES FOR A NOTICE SYSTEM TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE (CCE) WHEREBY SUPPLIERS MAY BE REQUIRED TO MODIFY, AND IN EXTREME CASES, TO RECALL THEIR UNSAFE TOYS OR CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS," HE ADDED.

UNDER THE BILL, IT WILL BE AN OFFENCE TO MANUFACTURE, IMPORT OR SUPPLY IN HONG KONG TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS WHICH DO NOT MEET THE STATUTORY SAFETY STANDARDS.

IT WILL ALSO BE AN OFFENCE IF A PERSON DOES NOT COMPLY WITH THE NOTICES ISSUED BY CCE.

ANY PERSON AGGRIEVED BY NOTICES ISSUED BY CCE MAY APPEAL TO AN INDEPENDENT APPEAL BOARD WHICH WILL BE CHAIRED BY A LEGAL PRACTITIONER, WITH MEMBERS INCLUDING A GENERAL CONSUMER, A SCIENTIST OF RELEVANT EXPERTISE AND A PERSON FROM THE TOY AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCT INDUSTRY.

THE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY BILL WILL BE GAZETTED ON APRIL 10.

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ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

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THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S.H. LEE, TODAY (FRIDAY) APPEALED TO HONG KONG PEOPLE, WHO HAVE A PROUD RECORD OF CARING FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE, TO GIVE THEIR SUPPORT TO THE ORGAN DONATION CAMPAIGN.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE CAMPAIGN, DR LEE SAID: "WE HAVE IN HONG KONG THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO COULD NOT LIVE A NORMAL LIFE BECAUSE THEIR EYES, KIDNEYS OR LIVERS CANNOT FUNCTION PROPERLY.

"FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRAVELY ILL, THEIR LIVES MAY EVEN BE THREATENED. TO THESE PEOPLE, THE ONLY HOPE IS TO HAVE THE DEFECTIVE ORGANS REPLACED."

DR LEE SAID HONG KONG HAS THE EXPERTISE AND FACILITIES TO CARRY OUT SUCH TRANSPLANT OPERATIONS.

"WHAT WE LACK ARE ORGAN DONORS."

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE SIGNING OF THE ORGAN DONATION CARDS ONLY INDICATES ONE'S WISH TO DONATE HIS OR HER ORGAN AFTER DEATH AND NOT BEFORE.

ALSO, THE VIEW OF THE DONOR'S RELATIVES WILL BE RESPECTED. IN OTHER WORDS, THE ORGANS PLEDGED WILL NOT BE REMOVED IF OBJECTION IS RAISED.

"HONG KONG CAN BE PROUD OF ITS RECORD OF CARING FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE, BOTH LOCALLY AND IN FAR AWAY PLACES," HE SAID.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE WOULD, ONCE AGAIN, DEMONSTRATE THAT THEY CARE.

"AN ORGAN DONATED CAN MEAN A LIFE SAVED. GIVE GENEROUSLY," HE URGED.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WITH POK OI HOSPITAL, TELEVISION BROADCASTS LIMITED (TVB), RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK), AND THE HONG KONG KIDNEY FOUNDATION AS CO-ORGANISERS.

THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF NEPHROLOGY LIMITED AND THE KIDNEY DONATION SOCIETY (HONG KONG) LIMITED HAVE ALSO OFFERED THEIR SUPPORT.

THE DRIVE WILL CONSIST OF A SERIES OF DISPLAYS OF HEALTH EDUCATION MATERIALS AT COMMERCIAL CENTRES WHERE STALLS WILL BE SET UP TO FACILITATE THE SIGNING OF CARDS BY DONORS.

TWO CARNIVALS, ORGANISED BY THE TVB AND RTHK, WILL BE STAGED AT THESE VENUES.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE CAMPAIGN WILL BE AN ORGAN DONATION CARD SIGNING CEREMONY TO BE ATTENDED BY CELEBRITIES AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

THE CEREMONY WHICH FORMS PART OF THE "ENJOY YOURSELF TONIGHT" PROGRAMME ON TVB JADE WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE ON APRIL 17.

ARTISTS FROM TVB WILL ALSO VISIT VARIOUS HOUSING ESTATES TO PROMOTE THE CAMPAIGN. THE ESTATE WITH THE MOST PEOPLE PLEDGING TO DONATE THEIR ORGANS WILL WIN THE "MOST CARING ESTATE" AWARD.

A NUMBER OF ORGANISATIONS HAVE ALSO KINDLY AGREED TO HELP BY MAKING ORGAN DONATION CARDS AVAILABLE AT THEIR OUTLETS. THE CARDS CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S INSTITUTIONS.

THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL DISTRIBUTE THE LETTER OF APPEAL AND ORGAN DONATION CARDS TO EACH OF THE 800,000 HOUSEHOLDS OF 200 HOUSING ESTATES DURING THEIR DOOR-TO-DOOR VISITS WHILE THE TREASURY WILL SEND ORGAN DONATION CARDS AND LEAFLETS TOGETHER WITH THE NOTICES FOR PAYMENT OF RATES.

IN ORDER TO REACH OUT TO AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE, ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST (APIS) WILL BE BROADCAST ON TELEVISION AND RADIOS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

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VITAL ROLE FOR HK STUDENTS IN THE UK

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BRITISH TRAINING FOR HONG KONG STUDENTS CAN PREPARE THEM FOR THEIR RETURN TO THE TERRITORY AND CONTRIBUTE TO ITS SUCCESS, THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER, JOHN YAXLEY, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF A THREE-DAY CONFERENCE ORGANISED BY THE PROFESSIONAL AND POSTGRADUATE SOCIETY AT LONDON'S IMPERIAL COLLEGE, MR YAXLEY SAID HONG KONG STUDENTS COULD BENEFIT FROM THEIR EDUCATION IN THE UK BY GAINING SOME INSIGHT AND UNDERSTANDING OF HOW WESTERN SOCIETIES WORK, BOTH SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY.

"THIS IS IMPORTANT IN HONG KONG'S CIRCUMSTANCES BECAUSE HONG KONG IS PROBABLY THE WORLD'S BEST EXAMPLE OF A PLACE WHICH ACTS AS AN INTERFACE BETWEEN EAST AND WEST," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT A UK TRAINING WILL FACILITATE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND ALSO AN UNDERSTANDING OF WESTERN MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES.

HE SAID SOCIETIES DID NOT FLOURISH SOLELY AS A RESULT OF ECONOMIC GROWTH. THE "RULE OF LAW" AND A SENSE OF "FAIRNESS AND JUSTICE" WERE MAJOR FACTORS IN PROVIDING A STABLE FRAMEWORK TO ANY SOCIETY.

"HONG KONG, POST 1997, WILL INHERIT A BRITISH INSPIRED LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM. IT IS NOT THE ONLY LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM IN THE WORLD BUT IT APPEARS TO HAVE SERVED HONG KONG WELL FOR 150 YEARS AND ITS CONTINUATION IS ENSHRINED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION," HE SAID.

"IT SEEMS THAT IN SOME WAY THE CONTINUAL RETURN OF HONG KONG STUDENTS, ESPECIALLY OUR LAWYERS, AFTER PERIODS OF TRAINING IN THE UK WILL HELP TO PRESERVE AND KEEP ALIVE THE LEGAL AND JUDICIAL SYSTEM WHICH HONG KONG HAS CHOSEN FOR ITS FUTURE," MR YAXLEY SAID.

ON THE WORK OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN LONDON, HE SAID THE OFFICE WAS ACUTELY CONSCIOUS OF THE ROLE IT SHOULD BE PLAYING IN ASSISTING IN THIS PROCESS OF OPENING UP AND DEVELOPING THE LINES OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TERRITORY AND PROFESSIONALS AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS IN THIS COUNTRY.

"WE HAVE RECENTLY REORGANISED OUR COMMUNITY AND STUDENTS DIVISIONS SO THAT WE ARE BETTER PLACED TO PROVIDE BRIEFINGS ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG AT UNIVERSITIES AND POLYTECHNICS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

"A RECENT EXAMPLE WAS OUR SEMINAR LAST MONTH AT MANCHESTER. WE ARE ALSO INCREASING OUR SUPPORT FOR CAREERS FAIRS. WE HAVE ARRANGED OR BEEN INVOLVED IN A NUMBER OF THESE, THE NEXT BEING IN SHEFFIELD LATER THIS MONTH.

"WE ARE ALSO WORKING ON OUR "YOUNG AMBASSADOR" SCHEME THROUGH OUR ASSISTANCE TO VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL BODIES, INCLUDING THE ORGANISERS OF THIS CONFERENCE AND THE HONG KONG EXECUTIVES CLUB," HE SAID.

AT THE THREE-DAY CONFERENCE WHICH WILL END ON SUNDAY (APRIL 5), THE ORGANISERS HAVE ARRANGED FOR A DISTINGUISHED GROUP OF SPEAKERS TO TALK ON CURRENT ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS AND ON CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG.

IN ADDITION TO MR YAXLEY, TODAY'S OTHER SPEAKERS INCLUDED PETER RICKETTS OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE, LORD JUDD AND THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY T.H. CHAU, WHO GAVE A KEYNOTE SPEECH ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS TAM YIU-CHUNG, FREDERICK FUNG WILL SPEAK ON HONG KONG'S SOCIAL AFFAIRS TOMORROW WHILE THE LONDON OFFICE'S DEPUTY COMMISSIONER DAVID TSUI WILL INTRODUCE TO PARTICIPANTS CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE.

OTHER SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE LEGCO MEMBERS SELINA CHOW, DR YEUNG SUM AND PROMINENT INDUSTRIALISTS AND BANKERS.

GOVT LAND SALE BY AUCTION

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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE IN A PUBLIC AUCTION BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT TO BE HELD IN THE CITY HALL THEATRE ON APRIL 28.

THE AUCTION WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRST LOT IS LOCATED AT AP LEI CHAU WEST, HONG KONG.

WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 5,538 SQUARE METRES, THE SITE IS INTENDED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES (EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADES).

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 31,567 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE APRIL 28, 1996.

THE SECOND LOT IS LOCATED AT AREA 11, ON LAI STREET, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SITE HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,869 SQUARE METRES AND IS EARMARKED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES (EXCLUDING DANGEROUS GOODS GODOWN).

THE BUILDING COVENANT STIPULATES THAT THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 16,353 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 1996.

THE REMAINING LOT IS LOCATED AT AREA 30, TAI PO, NEW TERRITORIES.

WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 24,630 SQUARE METRES, THE SITE IS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR OF NOT LESS THAN 26,600 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1996.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AND SALES PLANS INSPECTED AT, THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, KOWLOON WEST, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

CONDITIONS OF SALE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING, TAI PO, NORTH, SAI KUNG AND ISLANDS.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

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HONG KONG UPGRADES TOKYO OFFICE

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THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN TOKYO HAS BEEN UPGRADED FROM A CHIEF REPRESENTATIVE POST TO PRINCIPAL REPRESENTATIVE BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF JAPAN AS AN IMPORTANT TRADING PARTNER WITH HONG KONG.

JAPAN IS HONG KONG'S THIRD LARGEST TRADING PARTNER IN TERMS OF TOTAL VOLUME OF BUSINESS AND THE NUMBER ONE OVERSEAS INVESTOR IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE PRINCIPAL REPRESENTATIVE, MR DAVID LAN, AT A RECENT SPRING RECEPTION IN TOKYO.

THE RECEPTION WAS ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 200 GUESTS INCLUDING JAPANESE DIET MEMBERS, OFFICIALS OF JAPANESE GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS, REPRESENTATIVES OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN TOKYO AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES OF BANKING, FINANCIAL, MANUFACTURING AND VARIOUS BUSINESS SECTORS IN JAPAN.

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TSING YI OZP TO COVER CT-9 SITE

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT TSING YI OUTLINE ZONING PLAN, INCLUDING THE INCORPORATION OF THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION OFF SOUTHEAST TSING YI FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED CONTAINER TERMINAL NO. 9 AND CONTAINER BACK-UP FACILITIES.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ALSO INCLUDE RESERVING LAND IN THE PROPOSED RECLAMATION AREA FOR OTHER USES SUCH AS COMMUNITY FACILITIES, OPEN SPACE, CARGO HANDLING AREA, MARINE-RELATED USES, CHEMICAL WASTES TREATMENT AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES.

SOME OF THE PRESENT LAND USES OF CERTAIN AREAS IN SOUTHEAST TSING YI HAVE ALSO BEEN AMENDED TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPOSED CONTAINER TERMINAL.

THESE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS INCLUDE REZONING OF PART OF AREA 22 FROM "INDUSTRIAL" TO "OPEN SPACE", "GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY" AND "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" ANNOTATED "CONTAINER RELATED USES".

THE AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT PLAN CAN NOW BE INSPECTED UNTIL JUNE 3 THIS YEAR AT:

* THE DISTRICT OFFICE (KWAI TSING), 10TH FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES;

* PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND

/* TSUEN WAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 11 -

* TSUEN WAN DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, HO FAI COMMERCIAL CENTRE, BLOCK 2, 222-224, SAI LAU KOK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTIONS IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG ON OR BEFORE JUNE 3 THIS YEAR.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN (PLAN NO. S/TY/9) ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, AND KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON AT \$10 EACH UNCOLOURED AND \$60 EACH COLOURED.

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CONCESSIONS FOR DISABLED DRIVERS

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AN AMENDMENT REGULATION WHICH EMPOWERS THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO EXEMPT DISABLED DRIVERS FROM THE PAYMENT OF TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP FEES UPON A TRANSFER OF MOTOR VEHICLES COMES INTO EFFECT TODAY (FRIDAY).

UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC (REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1992 GAZETTED TODAY, DISABLED DRIVERS MAY APPLY FOR SUCH EXEMPTION WHICH WILL SAVE THEM \$1,000 WHEN THEY PURCHASE SECOND-HAND CARS.

"IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO ENHANCE MOBILITY OF DISABLED PERSONS BY PROVIDING THEM WITH SPECIAL TRANSPORT SERVICES AND EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PAYMENT OF CERTAIN FEES AND DUTIES ON SELF-DRIVEN PRIVATE CARS," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE PURPOSE IS TO FACILITATE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND ENHANCE THEIR INTEGRATION INTO SOCIETY," HE ADDED.

THERE WERE 1,244 DISABLED PERSONS POSSESSING A DRIVING LICENCE AT THE END OF JANUARY THIS YEAR. OF THEM, 613 WERE CAR OWNERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID APART FROM THE CONCESSION IN RESPECT OF TRANSFER OF VEHICLE OWNERSHIP FEES, DISABLED DRIVERS WILL ALSO ENJOY OTHER EXEMPTIONS INCLUDING LEARNER'S DRIVING LICENCE FEE, DRIVING TEST FORM FEE, FULL DRIVING LICENCE FEE AND ANNUAL LICENCE FEE.

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/12

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 12 -

NEW BUS ROUTE TO SERVE KOWLOON

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT KOWLOON MOTOR BUS ROUTES 206S AND 241S WILL BE MERGED AND FORM A NEW ROUTE, 241S, TO OPERATE BETWEEN CHEUNG ON ESTATE AND KOWLOON STATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY FROM SUNDAY (APRIL 5).

THE MOVE IS TO STREAMLINE BUS OPERATIONS AND MORE FULLY UTILISE EXISTING RESOURCES.

THE NEW OVERNIGHT ROUTE WILL COVER MOST OF THE PREVIOUSLY SERVED AREAS OF ROUTE 206S. IT WILL RUN AT A FREQUENCY OF 15 MINUTES.

THE FARE OF THIS AIR-CONDITIONED BUS WILL BE \$10 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

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IMPROVED STUDENTS COMMENDED

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SOME 600 JUNIOR SECONDARY STUDENTS WERE HIGHLY COMMENDED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, FOR THEIR HARD WORK AND PERSEVERANCE IN ACHIEVING BETTER ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1991-92 SING TAO MOST IMPROVED STUDENTS AWARD AT QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM, MR LI SAID THE STUDENTS HAD DEMONSTRATED A POSITIVE LEARNING ATTITUDE AND SET A GOOD EXAMPLE FOR OTHER STUDENTS.

TO THE 400-PLUS PARENTS ATTENDING THE CEREMONY, HE SAID: "YOUR PRESENCE CLEARLY SHOW YOUR CARE AND SUPPORT FOR YOUR CHILDREN."

ALSO, HE SAID, PARENTAL CONCERN AND ENCOURAGEMENT WOULD HAVE A GREAT EFFECT ON CHILDREN'S CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY WAS THE SING TAO CHINESE NEWSPAPER PUBLISHING GROUP GENERAL MANAGER, MR HEUNG SHU-FAI.

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE AWARD WAS MEANT TO RECOGNISE THE ATTAINMENT OF THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAD STRIVEN FOR IMPROVEMENT.

A TOTAL OF 617 STUDENTS FROM 317 SCHOOLS, INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS, RECEIVED THE \$500 CASH AWARD TODAY.

THESE AWARDS WERE WON BY STUDENTS WHO HAD ATTAINED THE BEST ALL-ROUND IMPROVEMENT IN ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE ON COMPLETION OF SECONDARY 2 OR SECONDARY 3 OVER THE PAST SCHOOL YEAR.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 13 -

NEW PIER AT MUI WO
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CONSTRUCTION OF A PIER WILL START AT MUI WO, LANTAU ISLAND IN MAY WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 1.22 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED TO PROVIDE A BERTHING POINT FOR FIREBOATS.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED WILL BE AFFECTED BY SUCH WORK MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE APRIL 2 NEXT YEAR.

THE NOTICE, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER) AND AT THE ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS SUB-OFFICE AT MUI WO.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR WORKS ON DRAW-OFF FACILITIES OF RESERVOIR
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FROM A LIST OF PREQUALIFIED TENDERERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL DRAW-OFF FACILITIES AT THE TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR.

THE RESERVOIR WAS BUILT IN THE 1950'S AND HAS BEEN THE MAIN SOURCE OF SUPPLY TO TSUEN WAN, YUEN LONG AND TUEN MUN UNTIL NOW.

BUT IT WOULD REQUIRE TO PROVIDE SUPPLY TO THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK AND THE ASSOCIATED NEW TOWNS AND INDUSTRIAL AREAS OF NORTH LANTAU BY THE END OF 1990S.

WITH ITS EXISTING DRAW-OFF AND TRANSFER FACILITIES APPROACHING THEIR CAPACITIES, THE ADDITIONAL FACILITIES ARE REQUIRED TO MEET THE ANTICIPATED DEMAND FOR WATER SUPPLY FROM BOTH THE WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES REGION AS WELL AS FROM THE NEW AIRPORT AND ASSOCIATED NEW TOWNS ON LANTAU ISLAND IN FUTURE.

WORKS ON THE NEW FACILITIES COMPRISE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 45-METRE HIGH INTAKE TOWER INSIDE THE TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVIOR WHICH WILL BE CONNECTED TO THE EXISTING AND FUTURE WATER TRANSFER AQUEDUCTS VIA A STEEL PIPELINE AND A TUNNEL WHICH WILL PASS UNDERNEATH THE EXISTING DAM.

A 50-METRE LONG BRIDGE WILL ALSO BE BUILT TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE INTAKE TOWER.

/THE PROJECT

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 14 -

THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN JUNE AND BE COMPLETED BY EARLY 1994.

CONSULTANT FOR THE PROJECT IS BINNIE CONSULTANTS LIMITED WHICH WAS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ENGINEERING OF THE RESERVOIR IN THE EARLY 1950S.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CONSULTANT'S OFFICE ON 11TH FLOOR, NEW TOWN TOWER, PAK HOK TING STREET, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON MAY 1.

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HONG KONG YEARBOOK TO GO ON SALE

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HONG KONG 1992, THE OFFICIAL YEARBOOK, WILL MAKE ITS APPEARANCE ON MONDAY (APRIL 6).

COSTING \$48, IT WILL BE WELCOMED BY ALL WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN HONG KONG, AND BY STUDENTS, WRITERS AND BUSINESS PEOPLE, AS THE DEFINITIVE REFERENCE BOOK.

COMBINING 380 PAGES OF INFORMATION, 68 PAGES OF STATISTICS AND 10 SECTIONS OF COLOUR PICTURES, THE REPORT GIVES EXTENSIVE COVERAGE OF HONG KONG EVENTS IN 1991.

THE REVIEW CHAPTER, ENTITLED "A COMPLETELY NEW PORT", FOCUSES ON THE FAR-REACHING DEVELOPMENTS PLANNED FOR HONG KONG'S BUSTLING PORT, WHICH HAS TENDED TO BE UPSTAGED BY THE HIGH-PROFILE NEW AIRPORT AND ITS RELATED PROJECTS. MR D.K. LEWIS, WHO CONTRIBUTED THE CHAPTER, HELPS TO REDRESS THE BALANCE.

THE COLOURFUL, EASY-TO-READ END-PAPER MAP THIS YEAR FEATURES THE DISTRIBUTION OF HONG KONG'S POPULATION WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE NEW TOWNS AND THE POPULATION MOVEMENTS THEY ARE CREATING. THE MAP PROVIDES UP-TO-THE-MINUTE STATISTICS FROM THE 1991 CENSUS.

THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS APPEARS AGAIN, PROVIDING A CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF SOME OF THE MAJOR LANDMARKS OF 1991.

A WEALTH OF INFORMATION ON HONG KONG, COMPLEMENTED BY NUMEROUS COLOUR ILLUSTRATIONS OF DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF ITS LIFE AND EVENTS, MAKES THE GOVERNMENT'S ANNUAL REPORT A CONSISTENT BESTSELLER.

HONG KONG 1992, PUBLISHED IN SEPARATE ENGLISH AND CHINESE EDITIONS, WILL GO ON SALE FROM APRIL 6 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; DISTRICT OFFICES AND LEADING BOOKSTORES.

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/15

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 1992

- 15 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	2.4.92	700
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	3.4.92	+35
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-35
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+250 *
* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON 6.4.92		
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.5 *-0.4*	3.4.92	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.08 PCT	20 MONTHS	2311	6.25	100.99	5.67
1 MONTH	4.04 PCT	23 MONTHS	2402	5.50	99.21	6.04
3 MONTHS	4.05 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.28 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.65 PCT					
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 2,980 MN						
CLOSED 3 APRIL 1992						

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