



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR VISITS PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT FACTORY

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED W. HAKING ENTERPRISES LIMITED, A LEADING LOCAL MANUFACTURER OF PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT.

SIR DAVID WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY (ACTING), MR WILFRED WONG AND THE COMPANY'S SENIOR MANAGEMENT INCLUDING THE GROUP CHAIRMAN, DR HAKING WONG.

THE GOVERNOR WAS BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE FACTORY WHICH WAS SET UP IN 1956 TO PRODUCE PHOTOGRAPHIC AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT.

THE COMPANY HAS SEVEN FACTORIES IN HONG KONG AND IS A LEADING MANUFACTURER AND EXPORTER OF PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT AND BINOCULARS.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WAS MOST ENCOURAGED BY THE SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENTS WHICH THE COMPANY HAD MADE IN SOPHISTICATED MANUFACTURING EQUIPMENT.

"THIS IS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THE WAY THE PHOTOGRAPHIC INDUSTRY IS MOVING UP-MARKET," SIR DAVID SAID.

"ITS INVESTMENT IN SO MUCH OF THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IS A TREMENDOUS DEMONSTRATION OF CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS A SOPHISTICATED MANUFACTURING CENTRE," HE ADDED.

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FS BRIEFED ON LATEST WELFARE SERVICES

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, VISITED THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

MR MACLEOD FIRST MET THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M. D. CARTLAND AND DIRECTORATE OFFICERS AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

DURING THE DISCUSSION, MR MACLEOD WAS BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT INCLUDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 1991 WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE, WELFARE PROJECT FINANCING AND COMPUTERISATION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY THEN VISITED THE DEPARTMENT'S BRANCH OFFICE AT SOUTHOEN CENTRE IN WAN CHAI.

ACCOMPANIED BY REGIONAL OFFICER (HONG KONG) MRS PATRICIA CHU, HE TOURED A NUMBER OF SERVICE UNITS, WHICH INCLUDED THE WAN CHAI FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE, THE WAN CHAI SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNIT AND THE PAYMENT CONTROL SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

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HK'S PARTICIPATION IN APEC WELCOMED

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HONG KONG IS NOW A MEMBER OF APEC, AND THE SEOUL MINISTERIAL MEETING HAS GIVEN US A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH OTHER MEMBERS ON A WIDE RANGE OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. CHAU, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

AT THE CLOSE OF THE THIRD MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (APEC) TODAY IN SEOUL, MR CHAU SAID: "THESE EXCHANGES TOOK PLACE ON BOTH FORMAL AND INFORMAL OCCASIONS AT VERY HIGH LEVELS."

HONG KONG WAS WARMLY WELCOMED BY MINISTERS PRESENT AT THE MEETING. IN THEIR JOINT STATEMENT, THEY REAFFIRMED THAT HONG KONG'S PARTICIPATION WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO GREATER ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN THE REGION.

"APEC III HAS BEEN A PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT EVENT," MR CHAU SAID. "NOT ONLY BECAUSE IT SAW THE PARTICIPATION OF THREE NEW MEMBERS OF HONG KONG, CHINA AND TAIWAN, BUT ALSO BECAUSE TWO IMPORTANT DECLARATIONS WERE MADE.

"THE FIRST DECLARATION SETS OUT FOR THE FIRST TIME THE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF APEC. IT OUTLINES ITS PLANS FOR THE FUTURE. IT ALSO REAFFIRMS APEC'S COMMITMENT TO AN OPEN MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM.

"THE SECOND DECLARATION ADDRESSES THE URUGUAY ROUND. IT RECOGNISES THE URUGUAY ROUND AS THE MOST CRITICAL ECONOMIC ISSUE THE WORLD IS FACING RIGHT NOW.

"IN THE DECLARATION, MINISTERS PLEDGED TO INSTRUCT THEIR NEGOTIATORS TO RETURN TO GENEVA, AND FINALISE A BALANCED, COMPREHENSIVE AND SUBSTANTIAL PACKAGE BY THE END OF THIS YEAR."

MR CHAU ADDED THAT HONG KONG WOULD PLAY AN ACTIVE PART IN APEC'S WORK PROGRAMME.

THE CURRENT APEC WORK PROGRAMME CONSISTS OF 10 PROJECTS COVERING EXCHANGE OF TRADE AND INVESTMENT DATA, TRADE PROMOTION, REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, MARINE RESOURCE CONSERVATION, TELECOMMUNICATIONS, FISHERIES, TRANSPORTATION AND TOURISM.

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GOVT TO STEP UP CONTROL OF
PORNOGRAPHIC VIDEOTAPES AND PUBLICATIONS

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FILMS WHICH ARE INTENDED FOR SALE AND RENTING RATHER THAN SIMPLY FOR EXHIBITION WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME CONTROLS UNDER THE CONTROL OF OBSCENE AND INDECENT ARTICLES ORDINANCE, THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR ALAN WONG CHI-KONG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR WONG SAID AT PRESENT, FILMS, INCLUDING VIDEOTAPES AND LASER DISCS, THAT HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED UNDER THE FILM CENSORSHIP ORDINANCE ARE NOT SUBJECT TO THE CONTROLS UNDER THE CONTROL OF OBSCENE AND INDECENT ARTICLES ORDINANCE, CHAPTER 390.

"AS A RESULT, THE SALE OR RENTING OF CATEGORY III FILMS, WHICH UNDER THE FILM CENSORSHIP ORDINANCE MAY ONLY BE EXHIBITED TO PERSONS AGED 18 AND ABOVE, CAN BE MADE AVAILABLE EASILY TO MINORS," HE SAID.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGREED ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 12) TO INTRODUCE THE CONTROL OF OBSCENE AND INDECENT ARTICLES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE BILL, WHICH IS DUE TO BE GAZETTED ON NOVEMBER 22 AND INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 4 THIS YEAR, WILL PLUG THIS LOOPHOLE AFTER ITS ENACTMENT.

IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE ABOUT 400 CATEGORY III VIDEO FILMS IN CIRCULATION ON THE MARKET AT PRESENT.

MR WONG SAID OWNERS AND DISTRIBUTORS OF THESE VIDEO FILMS WOULD BE GIVEN A GRACE PERIOD OF THREE MONTHS FOR THEM TO MAKE VOLUNTARY SUBMISSIONS TO THE OBSCENE ARTICLES TRIBUNAL FOR CLASSIFICATION.

"THE AMENDMENT LEGISLATION WILL COME INTO FORCE AFTER THE EXPIRY OF THE GRACE PERIOD ON A DATE TO BE DECIDED BY THE GOVERNOR WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL SEEK THE CO-OPERATION OF THE INDUSTRY FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE VIDEO FILMS IN QUESTION TO THE OBSCENE ARTICLES TRIBUNAL IN BATCHES," HE SAID.

THE AMENDMENT BILL WILL ALSO AMEND THE WORDING OF THE WARNING NOTICE STIPULATED UNDER SECTION 24(1) OF THE CONTROL OF OBSCENE AND INDECENT ARTICLES ORDINANCE, WHICH PUBLISHERS HAVE TO DISPLAY ON AN INDECENT ARTICLE OR ON A WRAPPER ENCLOSING THAT ARTICLE.

"THE PRESENT WORDING OF THE WARNING NOTICE GIVES THE WRONG IMPRESSION THAT ONLY THE SALE OF INDECENT ARTICLES TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18 IS PROHIBITED, BUT NOT THE DISTRIBUTION, CIRCULATION, RENTING, HIRING, GIVING, LENDING, SHOWING, PLAYING OR PROJECTING OF THAT ARTICLE," MR WONG SAID.

"THE AMENDED WARNING NOTICE WILL MAKE IT CLEAR THAT INDECENT ARTICLES MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED, CIRCULATED, SOLD, HIRED, GIVEN, LENT, SHOWN, PLAYED OR PROJECTED TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS."

WHEN THIS AMENDMENT COMES INTO FORCE, A WARNING, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, WILL HAVE TO BE DISPLAYED ON ALL ARTICLES CLASSIFIED BY THE OBSCENE ARTICLES TRIBUNAL AS CLASS II ARTICLES.

THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE WARNING READS:

"WARNING: THIS ARTICLE CONTAINS MATERIAL WHICH MAY OFFEND AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED, CIRCULATED, SOLD, HIRED, GIVEN, LENT, SHOWN, PLAYED OR PROJECTED TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS".

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO BE VIGILANT AND TAKE ENFORCEMENT ACTION TO THE BEST OF ITS ABILITY WITHIN AVAILABLE RESOURCES," MR WONG ADDED.

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THIRD QUARTER BUSINESS SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED

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FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AS A WHOLE EXPERIENCED AN IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1991.

LOOKING AHEAD, FIRMS IN THIS SECTOR GENERALLY EXPECT BUSINESS TO SHOW A FURTHER MILD IMPROVEMENT IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THESE COMPARISONS ARE, HOWEVER, LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS. AS FAR AS MANUFACTURING ACTIVITY IS CONCERNED, THE THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS OF THE YEAR ARE NORMALLY MORE ACTIVE PERIODS THAN THE SECOND QUARTER.

FIRMS IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE PLASTICS, FOOD, BEVERAGE AND TOBACCO, WATCHES AND CLOCKS, AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES INDUSTRIES, EXPERIENCED AN IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER.

AS REGARDS THE BUSINESS PROSPECTS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER, FIRMS IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND THE WATCHES AND CLOCKS INDUSTRIES, ANTICIPATE AN IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS AS COMPARED WITH THE THIRD QUARTER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, FIRMS IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY EXPECT A LOWER LEVEL OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, THE FIRMS SURVEYED EXPERIENCED A MILD IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER AND EXPECT THE SITUATION TO CONTINUE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

FIRMS IN THE DISTRIBUTIVE AND CATERING TRADES SECTOR GENERALLY EXPERIENCED AN IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE THIRD QUARTER. REGARDING THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER, FIRMS IN THIS SECTOR, PARTICULARLY HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS, EXPECT A CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS.

IN THE OTHER SERVICES SECTOR, THE FIRMS SURVEYED GENERALLY EXPERIENCED AN IMPROVEMENT IN BUSINESS IN THE THIRD QUARTER.

REGARDING BUSINESS PROSPECTS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER, FIRMS IN THE TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION SERVICES AND IN THE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED SERVICES ANTICIPATE A CONTINUED IMPROVEMENT, WHILE BANKS EXPECT BUSINESS TO REMAIN STABLE.

ABOUT 1,000 FIRMS FROM VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND TRADES, FORMING A CROSS-SECTION OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY. THEY WERE ASKED ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS EXPERIENCES AND EXPECTATIONS AS WELL AS THE BUSINESS PROBLEMS THEY FACED.

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991, FIRMS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR GENERALLY ENCOUNTERED THE PROBLEMS OF PRICE COMPETITION, SHORTAGE OF SKILLED LABOUR, INSUFFICIENT BUSINESS ORDERS OR CONTRACTS, AND HIGH WAGE RATES. THESE PROBLEMS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, PRICE COMPETITION, SHORTAGE OF SKILLED LABOUR, INSUFFICIENT BUSINESS OR CONTRACTS, AND HIGH WAGE RATES WERE THE MAJOR PROBLEMS IN THE THIRD QUARTER. THESE PROBLEMS ARE EXPECTED TO SUSTAIN IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

IN THE DISTRIBUTIVE AND CATERING TRADES SECTOR AND THE OTHER SERVICES SECTOR, A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF FIRMS CITED PRICE COMPETITION, SHORTAGE OF EXPERIENCED STAFF, HIGH STAFF COSTS, AND HIGH STAFF TURNOVER AS THEIR MAJOR BUSINESS PROBLEMS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991.

IN ADDITION, FIRMS IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES ALSO ENCOUNTERED THE PROBLEM OF HIGH RENTALS FOR PREMISES. THESE PROBLEMS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER.

ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, RESULTS OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY, OBTAINED WITH A MINIMUM TIME LAG, ARE INTENDED TO PROVIDE A SOURCE OF REFERENCE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION OF HONG KONG FROM A SHORT-TERM PERSPECTIVE.

IN THE SURVEY, PARTICIPATING FIRMS WERE ASKED TO INDICATE WHETHER, IN THEIR OPINION, THE GENERAL BUSINESS SITUATION AND THE LEVEL OF CAPACITY UTILISATION HAD "IMPROVED", "REMAINED THE SAME" OR "DETERIORATED" IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER.

THEY WERE ALSO ASKED TO INDICATE WHETHER THE SITUATION IS EXPECTED TO "IMPROVE", "REMAIN THE SAME" OR "DETERIORATE" IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1991.

THE OPINIONS OF RESPONDENTS WERE THEN ANALYSED AND THE SUMMARY FINDINGS PUBLISHED IN THE "REPORT ON QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY, THIRD QUARTER 1991". MOREOVER, THE SURVEY REPORT CONTAINS A SECTION ON THE BUSINESS PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED AND EXPECTED BY FIRMS IN DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SECTORS, AND A BREAKDOWN OF THE VIEWS OF FIRMS BY EMPLOYMENT SIZE GROUP.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT, IN A SURVEY OF THIS NATURE, THE RESULTS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED WITH CAUTION AS IT IS DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH PRECISELY THE EXTENT TO WHICH RESPONDENTS' RECOLLECTION OF THE PAST AND PERCEPTION OF THE FUTURE ACCORDS WITH THE UNDERLYING TRENDS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY PURCHASE COPIES OF THE SURVEY REPORT FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL OR FROM THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$8 PER COPY.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THE QUARTERLY BUSINESS SURVEY MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 839 3250.

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CHANGING ATTITUDES TOWARDS MENTAL CARE
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ATTITUDES TOWARDS PSYCHIATRIC PATIENTS HAVE CHANGED A GREAT DEAL DUE TO THE DEDICATION AND HARD WORK OF THE MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG PSYCHIATRIC UNIT, LADY WILSON SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE UNIT AT QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL, LADY WILSON SAID PSYCHIATRY HAD NOT BEEN A PARTICULARLY POPULAR SPECIALITY AMONG MEDICAL SCHOOL GRADUATES, BUT ATTITUDES IN THE COMMUNITY TOWARDS MENTAL CARE WERE CHANGING.

"THIS NEWLY EXPANDED UNIT CAN HELP CHANGE THOSE ATTITUDES FURTHER, THROUGH ITS TEACHING, THROUGH ITS REPUTATION FOR WORTHWHILE RESEARCH, AND THROUGH THE EXAMPLE IT SETS IN OFFERING CARE AND UNDERSTANDING TO THOSE WITH PSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS," SHE SAID.

THIS YEAR MARKED THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY MEDICAL FACULTY'S DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY AND THE SAME ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY PSYCHIATRIC UNIT IN QUEEN MARY HOSPITAL, LADY WILSON SAID THAT SHE KNEW HOW MUCH HAD BEEN DONE TO ENCOURAGE THE WORK OF PSYCHIATRY IN HONG KONG.

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SHE NOTED THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST PLACE TO OFFER COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT TO AUTISTIC AND HYPERACTIVE CHILDREN; IT SET UP THE FIRST CLINIC OFFERING TREATMENT TO LOCAL PEOPLE WITH SEXUAL PROBLEMS; AND IT HAD BEEN APPOINTED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION AS A RESEARCH CENTRE IN THE STUDY OF SCHIZOPHRENIA.

THE EXTENSION WOULD ENABLE MEMBERS OF THE UNIT TO HELP MANY MORE IN NEED; AND IT WOULD HELP THEM TO DEVELOP EVEN MORE THE PRACTICE OF PSYCHIATRY IN HONG KONG, SHE SAID.

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COPYRIGHT PROTECTION TO EXTEND TO HUTCHVISION'S SATELLITE BROADCAST
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AGREED ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 12) TO INTRODUCE THE COPYRIGHT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE BILL WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 27.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID ALL LICENSED BROADCASTERS IN HONG KONG WERE AT PRESENT LISTED IN THE SCHEDULE TO THE COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE EXCEPT HUTCHVISION HONG KONG LIMITED, WHICH WAS GRANTED A SATELLITE TELEVISION UPLINK AND DOWNLINK LICENCE IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR.

"A LISTING IN THE SCHEDULE AFFORDS COPYRIGHT PROTECTION IN HONG KONG TO BROADCASTS MADE FROM A PLACE IN HONG KONG BY LISTED BROADCASTERS," HE SAID.

"IN ORDER TO SECURE COPYRIGHT PROTECTION FOR HUTCHVISION WHICH HAS COMMENCED BROADCASTING, THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH WILL RECOMMEND TO THE GOVERNOR THAT HUTCHVISION BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF BROADCASTERS IN THE SCHEDULE BY MEANS OF A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO AMEND THE COPYRIGHT ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE THAT THE PLACE FROM WHICH A SATELLITE BROADCAST IS MADE IS THE PLACE FROM WHICH THE SIGNALS CARRYING THE BROADCAST ARE TRANSMITTED TO THE SATELLITE."

"THE AMENDMENT BILL WILL HAVE A PROVISION WHICH STATES THAT THE PLACE FROM WHICH A SATELLITE BROADCAST IS MADE IS, IN THE CASE OF SATELLITE TRANSMISSION, THE PLACE FROM WHICH THE SIGNALS CARRYING THE BROADCAST ARE TRANSMITTED TO THE SATELLITE."

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BA TO REGULATE NON-TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF HUTCHVISION'S LICENCE

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THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, WHICH SEEKS TO PROVIDE THE STATUTORY POWER FOR THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (BA) TO REGULATE THE NON-TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF HUTCHVISION'S LICENCE, WAS APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON TUESDAY (NOVEMBER 12).

"UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION, THE BA DOES NOT HAVE THE POWER TO REGULATE DIRECTLY SATELLITE TELEVISION AND SATELLITE RADIO SERVICES," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE SAID THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR THE HUTCHVISION'S LICENCE HAS BEEN THE TELECOMMUNICATION AUTHORITY (TA), WHO IN RESPECT OF THE NON-TECHNICAL ASPECT, IS OBLIGED TO CONSULT THE BA.

"THIS IS NOT IN LINE WITH THE EXISTING ARRANGEMENT FOR THE REGULATION OF SOUND BROADCASTING AND OFF-AIR TELEVISION BROADCASTING, UNDER WHICH THE BA AND THE TA ARE THE AUTHORITY FOR NON-TECHNICAL ASPECTS AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS RESPECTIVELY UNDER THE BROADCASTING LICENCES," HE SAID.

SUBJECT TO THE ENACTMENT OF THE BILL, HUTCHVISION'S LICENCE WILL BE AMENDED ACCORDINGLY TO REFLECT THE NEW REGULATORY POWER OF THE BA IN THE TERMS OF THE LICENCES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE BILL WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AND IS DUE TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 27.

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BILLS RELATED TO SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES TRADING TO BE INTRODUCED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE INTRODUCTION INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BILLS TO FACILITATE THE REPORTING OF FRAUD DETECTED BY AUDITORS AND TO REVOKE THE LICENCES OF DEALERS WHO HAVE NEVER TRADED.

THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, THE COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, AND THE SECURITIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1991 WILL BE GAZETTED ON NOVEMBER 22.

EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND TO THE BILLS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE SCOPE FOR REPORTING BY AUDITORS WAS AT PRESENT VERY LIMITED AND DID NOT COVER, FOR INSTANCE, CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THEY DETECTED FRAUD OR ILLEGAL DEALINGS.

"WE BELIEVE THAT AUDITORS SHOULD BE ABLE TO REPORT TO THE SFC MATTERS OF MATERIAL CONCERN IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF INVESTORS AND PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE MARKETS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT IS ALSO CONSIDERED DESIRABLE THAT AUDITORS SHOULD BE PROTECTED AGAINST ANY POSSIBLE LIABILITY THEY MIGHT INCUR IN RESPECT OF BREACH OF DUTY OF CONFIDENTIALITY TO CLIENTS WHEN COMMUNICATING IN GOOD FAITH TO THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (SFC).

SUCH PROTECTION IS ALREADY AVAILABLE IN RESPECT OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

"A CHANGE OR PROSPECTIVE CHANGE OF AN AUDITOR MAY SIGNIFY POSSIBLE IRREGULARITIES IN THE OPERATION OF A DEALER'S AFFAIRS WHICH COULD GIVE RISE TO PRUDENTIAL CONCERNS.

"IT IS THEREFORE PROPOSED THAT THE SFC SHOULD BE NOTIFIED OF ANY SUCH CHANGE BY THE DEALER CONCERNED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID, ADDING THAT FOR SIMILAR REASONS, AUDITORS SHOULD ALSO BE REQUIRED TO INFORM THE SFC OF THEIR INTENTION TO RESIGN OR TO QUALIFY ACCOUNTS.

THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1991 ALSO SEEKS TO ALLOW MORE SPECIFICALLY FOR THE DISCLOSURE BY THE SFC OF INFORMATION RELATING TO AN AUDITOR TO THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ANY DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS.

THE BILLS ALSO SEEK TO EMPOWER THE COMMISSION TO REVOKE THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS WHO HAVE NEVER TRADED BEFORE.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE EXISTING PROVISIONS THE COMMISSION CAN ROUTINELY SUSPEND OR REVOKE REGISTRATION ON GROUNDS OF CESSATION OF BUSINESS SO THAT THE COMMISSION MAY LIMIT REGISTRATION TO PERSONS ACTUALLY CONDUCTING A BUSINESS OR DEALING IN SECURITIES.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE WORDING OF THE EXISTING PROVISION, WHILE THE COMMISSION CAN REVOKE THE LICENCE OF PERSONS WHO HAVE CEASED BUSINESS, IT IS UNABLE TO REVOKE THE LICENCES OF PERSONS WHO HAVE NEVER COMMENCED BUSINESS.

IT WOULD NOT BE CONSISTENT WITH THE EXISTING POLICY OF REVOCATION OF LICENCES OF INACTIVE DEALERS IF THE LICENCE OF DEALERS WHO HAVE CEASED BUSINESS CAN BE REVOKED WHILE THOSE WHO HAVE NEVER CONDUCTED BUSINESS CANNOT BE REVOKED.

THE BILLS SEEK TO REDRESS THIS SHORTCOMING.

NEW DIRECTIVE ON PROPER REPORTING OF INSURANCE PREMIUM

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THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE HAS TODAY (THURSDAY) ISSUED AN INSURANCE DIRECTIVE RELATING TO PROPER REPORTING OF INSURANCE PREMIUM.

THE DIRECTIVE, WHICH WILL BE ENFORCED FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR, REQUIRES ALL GENERAL BUSINESS INSURERS TO SET OUT IN THE POLICY DOCUMENT THE AMOUNT OF THE PREMIUM BEING CHARGED TO THE POLICY HOLDER.

IT APPLIES TO ALL INSURERS TRANSACTING GENERAL BUSINESS -- FIRE, MOTOR, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION, HOUSEHOLD AND OTHER PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL LINE CLASSES OF GENERAL BUSINESS, DIRECT TO THE PUBLIC.

"IT IS IN THE INTERESTS OF ALL POLICY HOLDERS THAT THE TRUE PREMIUM BEING CHARGED BY THE INSURER IS READILY ASCERTAINABLE," THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE, MR DEREK SULLIVAN, SAID.

"THE PREMIUM, WHICH IS THE CONTRACT CONSIDERATION TO THE INSURANCE POLICY, SHOULD BE CLEARLY SET OUT IN THE POLICY DOCUMENT."

THE PRACTICE OF NOT SPECIFYING PREMIUMS IN THE POLICY DOCUMENT, BUT INSTEAD USING TERMS SUCH AS "AS AGREED" OR "AS ADVISED", GIVES RISE TO POSSIBLE ABUSE BY INSURANCE INTERMEDIARIES CHARGING THE POLICY HOLDER A SUM GREATER THAN THE TRUE PREMIUM.

"THE PRACTICE IS EXTREMELY UNHEALTHY AND OBVIOUSLY UNDESIRABLE FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF BOTH THE POLICY HOLDER AND THE INSURER," MR SULLIVAN SAID.

"INSURERS ARE UNDER CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM CERTAIN INSURANCE AGENTS TO ADOPT THE PRACTICE, WHICH REGRETTABLY IS BECOMING MORE COMMON."

THE DIRECTIVE IS REGARDED BY THE COMMISSIONER AS "TIMELY".

COMPLIANCE WITH THE DIRECTIVE WILL BE A PART OF THE OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE'S ROUTINE MONITORING EXERCISE.

THE DIRECTIVE WILL ALSO ASSIST INSURERS IN THE PROPER ANNUAL REPORTING OF PREMIUM INCOME AS REQUIRED FOR THE MONITORING OF THEIR SOLVENCY POSITION UNDER THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE.

THE GENERAL INSURANCE COUNCIL OF HONG KONG, REPRESENTING INSURERS WRITING GENERAL BUSINESS, HAS BEEN CONSULTED ON THE ISSUE OF THE DIRECTIVE.

IN VIEW OF THE SPECIAL NATURE AND PRACTICE OF REINSURANCE AND MARINE INSURANCE, THE DIRECTIVE DOES NOT APPLY TO THESE AREAS OF INSURANCE BUSINESS.

DROP IN AVERAGE TAR, NICOTINE YIELDS OF CIGARETTES

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THE AVERAGE TAR YIELD AMONG THE 108 TOP BEST-SELLING CIGARETTES IN HONG KONG HAS DECREASED BY 0.6 MILLIGRAM PER CIGARETTE TO 14.3 MILLIGRAMS PER CIGARETTE COMPARED WITH 14.9 MG/CIGARETTE IN THE PREVIOUS ANALYSIS, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST (THE 17TH) SIX-MONTH REVIEW OF TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS OF CIGARETTES RELEASED BY THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE AVERAGE NICOTINE YIELD OF CIGARETTES HAS ALSO GONE DOWN BY 0.1 MG/CIGARETTE TO 1.18 MG/CIGARETTE.

"THE FIGURES FROM THE LATEST ANALYSIS SHOW THAT THE AVERAGE TAR YIELD HAS FALLEN TO A RECORD LOW SINCE THE COMMENCEMENT OF PERIODICAL SURVEYS OF TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS OF CIGARETTES SOME EIGHT YEARS AGO," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"APART FROM THE REDUCTION IN THE AVERAGE TAR YIELD, THE PRESENT SURVEY HAS NOT REVEALED ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FROM THE POSITION SIX MONTH AGO."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID DURING THE LATEST SURVEY, NO "HIGH TAR" CIGARETTES WERE FOUND AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF BRANDS OF VARIOUS TAR GROUPS BETWEEN THE CURRENT AND PREVIOUS SURVEYS HAD REMAINED VERY MUCH THE SAME.

A FULL REPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FINDINGS ON TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST EDITION OF "CHOICE" MAGAZINE.

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PENSION BENEFITS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS TRANSFERRING TO HA

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APPROVAL HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE PENSIONS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) (HOSPITAL AUTHORITY) BILL 1991 TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE BILL WAS REQUIRED TO ENABLE CIVIL SERVANTS TO PRESERVE THEIR PENSION RIGHTS AFTER TRANSFERRING TO THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (HA).

IN JULY LAST YEAR, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVED A PACKAGE OF BRIDGING-OVER ARRANGEMENTS TO ENABLE PROFESSIONAL AND DEPARTMENTAL STAFF OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO TRANSFER TO THE HA.

"THEY CAN HAVE THE CHOICE OF A MIXED SERVICE PENSION WHEREBY THEY CAN CONTINUE TO EARN PENSION ENTITLEMENTS AS IF THEY WERE CIVIL SERVANTS DURING THE PERIOD OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT WITH THE HA," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/"ALTERNATIVELY, THEY

"ALTERNATIVELY, THEY CAN CHOOSE THE PROVIDENT FUND SCHEME OFFERED BY THE HA AND HAVE THEIR EARNED PENSION FROZEN.

"THE PENSION THEY WOULD GET ON RETIREMENT FROM THE HA WILL BE CALCULATED WITH REFERENCE TO THE LAST SUBSTANTIVE SALARY POINT THEY HAVE REACHED AT THE TIME OF THEIR TRANSFER."

UNDER THE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE HA, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BEAR THE LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT OF PENSIONS TO THE TRANSFERRED OFFICERS, BUT THE PENSION ON-COSTS FOR OFFICERS WHO CHOOSE THE MIXED SERVICE PENSION ARRANGEMENT WILL BE REIMBURSED TO THE GOVERNMENT BY THE HA.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID A CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY ORDINANCE IS INCLUDED IN THE BILL TO EMPOWER THE HA TO MAKE SUCH PAYMENTS TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE BILL IS DUE TO BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS ON DECEMBER 4.

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TAXPAYERS CO-OPERATE WITH IRD ON FIELD AUDIT

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THERE HAS BEEN A SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF CO-OPERATION FROM BOTH TAXPAYERS AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES SINCE THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT (IRD) STARTED THE FIELD AUDIT PROGRAMME IN JUNE THIS YEAR, THE COMMISSIONER OF INLAND REVENUE, MR ANTHONY AU-YEUNG SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ADDRESSING THE HONG KONG MANGEMENT ASSOCIATION LUNCHEON MEETING ON THE PROGRESS OF THE AUDIT PROGRAMME, MR AU-YEUNG SAID HIS DEPARTMENT HAD COMPLETED A NUMBER OF CASES AND CURRENTLY SOME 40 CASES WERE IN PROGRESS.

HE SAID CO-OPERATION FROM TAXPAYERS WAS IMPORTANT IF THE IRD WAS TO ACHIEVE THE TARGET OF COMPLETING EACH AUDIT WITHIN A PERIOD OF 14 WORKING DAYS.

"IN MOST CASES WE HAVE ACHIEVED THE TARGET. I SHOULD ALSO STRESS THAT THE DEGREE OF CO-OPERATION IS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN CONSIDERATION IS GIVEN TO THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTY," HE SAID.

MR AU-YEUNG SAID TAXPAYERS AUDITED TO DATE HAD BEEN DRAWN FROM A DIVERSE SPREAD OF SMALL TO MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES.

HE SAID NOT ALL CASES HAD RESULTED IN ADJUSTMENTS AND IN A FEW CASES THE TAXPAYERS CONCERNED HAD GOT IT RIGHT.

"THIS IS ENCOURAGING IN ITSELF AND WE HOPE, AS THE MESSAGE SPREADS, THAT AN INCREASING NUMBER OF TAXPAYERS WILL FALL WITHIN THIS CATEGORY," HE ADDED.

/THE COMMISSIONER

THE COMMISSIONER SAID FIELD AUDIT WAS PART OF IRD'S ON-GOING EFFORTS TO COMBAT TAX EVASION AND PROMOTE A GREATER DEGREE OF VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE.

"PRIMARILY AUDIT INVOLVES THE REDEPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF FROM THE "OFFICE" TO THE "FIELD" TO VERIFY THE ACCURACY OF TAX RETURNS FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT," HE EXPLAINED.

HE SAID IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S "BELT-TIGHTENING" POLICY AND THE DEPARTMENT'S INCREASING WORKLOADS, THE TRADITIONAL ASSESSING APPROACH OF CHECKING IN DETAIL THE ACCURACY OF INFORMATION DISCLOSED IN TAX RETURNS AND USING THIS TO DETERMINE REVENUE COLLECTIONS WAS NO LONGER WHOLLY APPROPRIATE.

"WE HAVE HAD TO RE-THINK THE WAY WE DO OUR JOB," THE COMMISSIONER REMARKED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THE RETURNS IRD RECEIVED, AND VIRTUALLY ALL CORPORATION RETURNS, WERE LODGED BY PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS.

"DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THESE RETURNS CAN RESULT IN ONE ACCOUNTANT DOUBLE CHECKING THE WORK OF ANOTHER - IN MANY CASES THIS IS NOT A PRODUCTIVE EXERCISE," HE SAID.

MR AU-YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT EXPERIENCES BOTH IN HONG KONG AND OVERSEAS HAD CONFIRMED THAT WHERE PROBLEMS EXISTED IT WAS USUALLY BECAUSE OF A FAILURE TO DISCLOSE INFORMATION.

IT MEANT THAT PROBLEMS WERE CENTRED NOT AROUND WHAT WAS REPORTED IN RETURNS, BUT IN WHAT IS OMITTED, INCORRECTLY CLASSIFIED OR OVERCLAIMED, HE NOTED, ADDING THAT FIELD AUDIT WAS AIMED AT ADDRESSING THIS SITUATION BY GOING TO THE HEART OF THE PROBLEM.

TO ACHIEVE THIS NEW DIRECTION, MR AU-YEUNG SAID THE IRD'S PROFITS TAX UNIT WOULD BECOME INCREASINGLY MORE AUDIT-ORIENTATED IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS AND WOULD COMPLEMENT THE COMPREHENSIVE INVESTIGATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT'S INVESTIGATIONS UNIT.

"THIS, WE EXPECT, WILL RESULT IN A MORE PRODUCTIVE USE OF OUR LIMITED STAFF RESOURCES. EVEN NOW, WITH AUDIT STILL IN ITS INFANT STAGE, WE ARE BEGINNING TO SEE RETURNS FOR OUR EFFORTS," HE SAID.

CONCURRENTLY WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF FIELD AUDIT, THE COMMISSIONER SAID HIS DEPARTMENT WAS TAKING STEPS TO STREAMLINE ITS ASSESSING PROCEDURES.

HE EXPLAINED THAT ALL RETURNS WERE NOW SUBJECT TO A SELECTION PROCESS WHICH DETERMINED WHETHER THEY WERE ALLOCATED TO ONE OF THE FOLLOWING THREE CATEGORIES :

- * THE NORMAL LANE FOR RETURNS INDICATING THE NEED FOR IN-DEPTH EXAMINATION AND ASSESSMENT;
- * THE FAST LANE FOR RETURNS REQUIRING RELATIVELY STRAIGHTFORWARD TECHNICAL ADJUSTMENTS; AND

* THE THIRD CATEGORY FOR VERY STRAIGHTFORWARD CASES WHICH WERE INPUT DIRECTLY TO THE COMPUTER WITHOUT ADDITIONAL SCRUTINY.

"FIELD AUDIT AND IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATIONS WILL TOGETHER SERVE A QUALITY CONTROL ROLE IN RELATION TO THIS SELECTION PROCESS," HE SAID.

AT PRESENT, THERE WERE 24 PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS IN THE AUDIT GROUP OF IRD'S PROFITS TAX UNIT. MR AU-YEUNG SAID HE HOPED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER TO AT LEAST 36 NEXT YEAR AS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S ON-GOING REDEPLOYMENT OF STAFF INTO AUDIT.

ON CASE SELECTION CRITERIA, MR AU-YEUNG SAID SO FAR CASES HAD BEEN ONLY CHOSEN FOR AUDIT WHERE THEY HAD EXHIBITED CHARACTERISTICS OF POSSIBLE NON-COMPLIANCE.

OUTLINING HOW THE AUDIT WAS CONDUCTED, THE COMMISSIONER SAID AT THE CONCLUSION OF A CASE CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES.

"WHERE THERE IS REASONABLE EXCUSE FOR ANY OMISSION OF INCOME OR OVERSTATEMENT OF A DEDUCTION, THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF PENALTIES.

"SIMILARLY, FOR A TRIVIAL DISCREPANCY, WE WILL ISSUE A WARNING LETTER TO THE TAXPAYER.

"HOWEVER, WHERE SUBSTANTIAL DISCREPANCY CANNOT BE REASONABLY EXPLAINED, AN ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY AND, IN APPROPRIATE CASES, PROSECUTION WILL BE CONSIDERED," HE ADDED.

MR AU-YEUNG STRESSED THAT HIS DEPARTMENT HOPED TO OPERATE THE AUDIT PROGRAMME ON THE BASIS OF MUTUAL CO-OPERATION.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THE IRD WOULD NOT BE FRUSTRATED IN ITS EFFORTS BY DELIBERATELY UNCOOPERATIVE TAXPAYERS.

"IF IT DOES BECOME NECESSARY, WE WILL USE THE FULL EXTENT OF THE LAW TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES.

"I AM CONFIDENT, HOWEVER, THAT THIS SITUATION WILL NOT OFTEN ARISE," HE SAID.

LOOKING AHEAD, THE COMMISSIONER SAID HIS DEPARTMENT HAD IN MIND TO SELECT SOME CASES FOR AUDIT ON AN INDUSTRY BASIS.

"BY USING THIS APPROACH WE HOPE TO SYSTEMATICALLY DEVELOP OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE BY VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

"THIS, IN TURN, SHOULD ENABLE US TO IDENTIFY COMMON PROBLEM AREAS AND INCREASE OUR COVERAGE.

IN THE LONGER TERM, HE SAID THE IRD EXPECTED TO BE BETTER PLACED TO SELECT SUITABLE AUDIT TARGETS AND THE REFINEMENT OF SELECTION CRITERIA SHOULD ULTIMATELY LEAD TO A HIGHER LEVEL OF COMPLIANCE.

HE SAID AS THE IRD'S EXPERTISE DEVELOPED, IT WOULD MOVE ON TO LARGER BUSINESSES AND HE INTENDED TO EXTEND THE FIELD AUDIT PROGRAMME INTO OTHER AREAS OF THE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS SALARIES TAX AND PROPERTY TAX.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1991

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TENDERS INVITED FOR SUPPLY OF POLICE TRAINING FACILITY

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THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF AN EXTENSIVE AUDIO AND VISUAL SYSTEM TO ENHANCE THE TRAINING FACILITIES OF THE POLICE FORCE.

THE SYSTEM, TO BE USED SPECIFICALLY FOR TRAINING POLICE OFFICERS USING LIVE AMMUNITION, WILL BE INSTALLED IN THE CLOSE QUARTER BATTLE HOUSE (CQBH) WHICH IS BEING BUILT IN THE POLICE TACTICAL UNIT (PTU) COMPOUND IN FANLING.

THE COMPLICATED AUDIO AND VISUAL SYSTEM, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND TO BE PURCHASED BY THE FORCE, IS TO BE DELIVERED AND INSTALLED IN PHASES BETWEEN APRIL AND DECEMBER NEXT YEAR.

IT SHOULD COMPRISE NUMEROUS SOPHISTICATED SUB-SYSTEMS WHICH WILL FACILITATE THE TRAINING OF LIVE SHOOTING TECHNIQUE IN VARIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES.

THROUGH THE PRESENTATION OF SLIDE OR VIDEO SCENARIOS AS TARGETS, THE SYSTEM CAN CONTROL AND MONITOR THE TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN RESPECT OF MOVING TARGET PROJECTION, AIRCRAFT MOCK UP, ATTACK AND INCIDENT, AND INTERACTIVE VIDEO SHOOTING.

MEANWHILE, THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS ALSO INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF PADDED ENVELOPES AND CARTONS TO THE POST OFFICE AND THE SUPPLY OF PLYWOOD LAUAN AND PEAK PLYWOOD TO THE GOVERNMENT.

TENDER NOTICES FOR THE INTENDED PURCHASE OF THESE MATERIALS AS WELL AS THE AUDIO AND VISUAL SYSTEM WILL BE PUBLISHED IN TOMORROW'S (FRIDAY) GAZETTE.

TENDER FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE PROCUREMENT DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, SIXTH FLOOR, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT; THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL; AND THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, MONG KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES, GROUND FLOOR, 30 LUEN WAN STREET.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF PLYWOOD IS NOON ON DECEMBER 20, WHILE THE CLOSING DATES AND TIMES FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY OF PADDED ENVELOPES AND CARTONS AND THE SUPPLY OF THE AUDIO AND VISUAL SYSTEM ARE 9 AM AND NOON ON DECEMBER 27 RESPECTIVELY.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1991

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SAI KUNG TO STAGE FIGHT CRIME SPECTACULAR
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THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT "FIGHT CRIME STAR", MISS CHAN SAU-MAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT AN ANTI-CRIME SPECTACULAR ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 16) NIGHT.

ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE SHOW WILL BEGIN AT 7.45 PM AT THE SAI KUNG JOCKEY CLUB TOWN HALL IN SAI KUNG TOWN.

IT WILL INCLUDE A LION DANCE, KARATE DEMONSTRATIONS, DANCING, DRAMA, PIANO PERFORMANCE AND POP SONGS.

AMONG THE OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR CHEUNG CHUN-HOI; SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PARRISH NG; AND THE WONG TAI SIN POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR PAANG KUI-SAN.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SAI KUNG JOCKEY CLUB TOWN HALL AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE'S PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF PO LING HOUSE, PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O.

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FIGHT CRIME FILM SHOW FOR MONG KOK RESIDENTS
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A FILM SHOW TO CONVEY THE ANTI-SHOPLIFTING MESSAGE TO RESIDENTS WILL BE HELD IN MONG KOK ON DECEMBER 7 (SATURDAY) AT THE EMPIRE THEATRE.

THE FILM IS "ROAD WARRIOR", STARRING FAMOUS KUNG FU ACTOR DANNY LEE CHAU-YIN. THE SHOW IS ORGANISED BY THE MONG KOK DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS, AT THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE OF THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, MONG KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 30 LUEN WAN STREET.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1991

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SOUTHERN DISTRICT SEMINAR ON WORK OF THREE-TIER COUNCILS

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE ABLE TO GAIN INSIGHTS INTO THE WORK AND ROLE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND DISTRICT BOARDS AT A SOUTHERN DISTRICT SEMINAR ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 16).

THEY CAN ALSO DISCUSS WAYS TO MONITOR THE PERFORMANCES OF MEMBERS OF THESE ASSEMBLIES.

ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT'S COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION, THE SEMINAR WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM IN THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL, AP LEI CHAU ESTATE.

DISCUSSIONS WILL FOCUS ON "THE OPERATIONS OF THE VARIOUS COUNCILS UNDER THE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT SYSTEM" AND "DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS' EXPECTATIONS OF THESE BODIES".

THE PANELISTS WILL INCLUDE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR DR YEUNG SUM; URBAN COUNCILLOR MR JOSEPH CHAN YUEK-SUT; SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR HUI YUNG-CHUNG; CHAIRMAN OF THE AP LEI CHAU KAIFONG ASSOCIATION, MR HO CHUN-TUNG; AND A CITY POLYTECHNIC LECTURER, MR KAM PING-KWONG.

THE THREE-HOUR SEMINAR WILL ALSO INCLUDE A DISCUSSION SESSION FOR PARTICIPANTS TO RAISE QUESTIONS AND EXPRESS OPINIONS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT SEMINAR ON THE REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT SYSTEM ON SATURDAY (NOVEMBER 16). IT WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM IN THE AP LEI CHAU COMMUNITY HALL, AP LEI CHAU ESTATE.

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THREE COMPENSATION OFFICES ON MOVE

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THREE LABOUR DEPARTMENT COMPENSATION OFFICES WILL MOVE TO NEW PREMISES TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION OFFICE WILL BE RELOCATED FROM THE 15TH FLOOR TO THE FIRST FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

ITS NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 852 4822.

/THE OFFICE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1991

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THE OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSISTING PNEUMOCONIOSIS PATIENTS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS IN OBTAINING COMPENSATION FROM THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS FUND BOARD.

THE FATAL CASES OFFICE, WHICH HELPS DEPENDANTS OF EMPLOYEES KILLED IN WORK ACCIDENTS TO OBTAIN COMPENSATION, WILL MOVE FROM CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO THE 15TH FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 852 4030.

ALSO MOVING WILL BE THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ASSISTANCE OFFICE WHICH WILL BE REPROVISIONED ON THE FOURTH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE OFFICE REFERS EMPLOYEES IN DEFAULT COMPENSATION CASES TO THE EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION ASSISTANCE FUND BOARD FOR PAYMENT. ITS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 368 8353.

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NO NOMINATION RECEIVED TODAY FOR LEGCO BY-ELECTION

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NO NOMINATION IS RECEIVED TODAY (THURSDAY) FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BY-ELECTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WEST CONSTITUENCY.

THE NOMINATION PERIOD FOR THE BY-ELECTION, TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 8, WILL CLOSE ON NOVEMBER 18.

THREE NOMINATIONS HAVE SO FAR BEEN RECEIVED SINCE THE NOMINATION STARTED ON NOVEMBER 4.

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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	13.11.91	500
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	14.11.91	+327
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-327
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 111.1 *-0.1* 14.11.91		

/HONG KONG

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

		14.11.91	13.11.91
MATURING IN	1 WEEK	3.57 PCT	3.40 PCT
	1 MONTH	3.53 PCT	3.49 PCT
	3 MONTHS	3.90 PCT	3.90 PCT
	6 MONTHS	4.15 PCT	4.16 PCT
	12 MONTHS	4.93 PCT	4.87 PCT
TOTAL TURNOVER		5,210 MN	3,813 MN