



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1994

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1994

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BOGOR DECLARATION A HISTORIC STEP TOWARDS FREE TRADE IN THE REGION
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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR HAMISH MACLEOD, TODAY (TUESDAY) DESCRIBED THE BOGOR DECLARATION AS "A HISTORIC STEP TOWARDS FREE TRADE IN THE REGION."

SPEAKING IN JAKARTA AFTER ASIA PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION'S (APEC) ECONOMIC LEADERS MEETING AT BOGOR, SIR HAMISH SAID THE ATMOSPHERE HAD BEEN EXCELLENT AND THE DISCUSSION VERY FORWARD LOOKING.

"THIS WAS A VERY POSITIVE MEETING," SIR HAMISH SAID.

"WE HAVE MOVED FORWARD SOME CONSIDERABLE WAY FROM THE GENERAL DECISION MADE IN SEATTLE LAST YEAR. WE NOW HAVE ALL 18 ECONOMIES COMMITTED TO ACHIEVING FREE TRADE IN THE REGION BY THE YEAR 2020."

SIR HAMISH NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME CONCERNS AND RESERVATIONS EXPRESSED PRIOR TO THE MEETING, BUT LEADERS HAD SETTLED THESE AMICABLY, RECOGNISING THE OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE OF A STRONG DECLARATION ON FREEING UP TRADE AND INVESTMENT FLOWS THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

"THERE IS A TREMENDOUS DIVERSITY IN APEC. THIS DIVERSITY IS BOTH AN OPPORTUNITY AND A CHALLENGE. IT IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DEMONSTRATE HOW FREE TRADE BETWEEN DIFFERENT AND COMPLEMENTARY ECONOMIES CAN PRODUCE SIGNIFICANT GAINS FOR ALL. IT IS A CHALLENGE IN THAT WE MUST FIND WAYS OF ACCOMMODATING OUR DIFFERENCES AS WE MOVE TOWARDS THE GOAL."

SIR HAMISH HIGHLIGHTED FOUR POINTS ABOUT THE DECLARATION.

"FIRST, WE HAVE REACHED CONSENSUS ON THE WAY FORWARD; SECOND, WE HAVE ANNOUNCED TO THE WORLD AN UNAMBIGUOUS GOAL; THIRD, WE HAVE DIRECTED THAT MINISTERS AND SENIOR OFFICIALS DEVISE A DETAILED BLUE PRINT OF MEASURES NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THAT GOAL; AND FOURTH, WE HAVE RESOLVED NOT TO TAKE ANY NEW ACTION WHICH WOULD RESTRICT THE TRADE AND INVESTMENT FLOWS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY."

APEC IS AN INFORMAL FORUM FOR HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT DIALOGUE ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, AND COMPRISES 18 MEMBERS.

BESIDES HONG KONG, OTHER MEMBERS ARE: AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CANADA, CHILE (WHICH BECAME A MEMBER AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING), CHINA, INDONESIA, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, THE PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, CHINESE TAIPEI, THAILAND AND THE USA.

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GOVERNOR LAUNCHES HOLIDAY SEASON IN LOS ANGELES

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, ON MONDAY (LOS ANGELES TIME) BEGAN HIS WEEK-LONG VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES BY OFFICIATING AT THE WEST COAST'S LARGEST CELEBRATION OF HONG KONG CULTURE AND COMMERCE.

KICKING OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON IN LOS ANGELES' SANTA MONICA PLACE, MR PATTEN SWITCHED ON THE LIGHTS OF A 700-POUND CRYSTAL CHRISTMAS TREE AS PART OF THE "HELLO HONG KONG" CELEBRATION, ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

AT A RECEPTION CELEBRATING THE 24-DAY EXPO WHICH FEATURES MORE THAN 80 HONG KONG CULTURAL PERFORMANCES, DEMONSTRATIONS AND EXHIBITS, MR PATTEN WELCOMED THE CHANCE FOR CALIFORNIANS TO SEE QUALITY HONG KONG PRODUCTS AND DESIGN.

HE NOTED THAT TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES TOTALLED OVER US\$40 BILLION A YEAR, WITH ABOUT ONE-FIFTH OF THAT AS A RESULT OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CALIFORNIA.

"BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP IS BASED ON FAR MORE THAN THE COMMERCIAL TIES WHICH JOIN US," THE GOVERNOR SAID. "WE ALSO SHARE VALUES WHICH MAKE BOTH OUR SOCIETIES OPEN AND FREE AND TOLERANT AND I THINK THAT IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT WE ARE ABLE TO CELEBRATE - AS WELL AS OUR ECONOMIC LINKS - ON AN OCCASION LIKE THIS."

THE GOVERNOR STRESSED THAT HONG KONG EMBODIED MANY OF THE SAME VALUES THAT HAD MADE CALIFORNIA SO SUCCESSFUL: "THE SAME DEDICATION TO HARD WORK AND THE SAME ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT WHICH HAVE CREATED DECENT AND CIVILISED SOCIETIES TO BRING UP OUR CHILDREN AND OUR FAMILIES."

FOLLOWING THE TREE-LIGHTING CEREMONY, THE GOVERNOR ATTENDED A LUNCHEON WITH SEVERAL PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

THE GOVERNOR STARTED THE FIRST DAY OF HIS VISIT BY PROVIDING THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE LOS ANGELES TIMES WITH AN EXCLUSIVE BRIEFING.

IN THE AFTERNOON, MR PATTEN TRAVELLED SOUTH TO ORANGE COUNTY, HEADQUARTERS FOR MANY INTERNATIONAL U.S. COMPANIES, FOR A TOUR OF AST RESEARCH, THE WORLD'S FIFTH LARGEST PERSONAL COMPUTER MANUFACTURER WITH A NUMBER-ONE MARKET SHARE POSITION IN HONG KONG AND CHINA.

ON MONDAY EVENING, THE GOVERNOR WILL ADDRESS MORE THAN 500 ATTENDEES AT A DINNER HOSTED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL IN ANAHEIM.

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RELEASE OF 125 VMS FROM DETENTION

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT 125 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS HAD BEEN RELEASED FROM DETENTION.

ALL 125 VOLUNTEERED TO GO HOME AND HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR VARYING LENGTHS OF TIME FOR CLEARANCE OF THEIR RETURN BY THE VIETNAMESE AUTHORITIES.

"WE SHALL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO SECURE THEIR REPATRIATION BUT IN THE MEANTIME WE HAVE DECIDED TO RELEASE THEM ON THEIR OWN RECOGNISANCE. WE CANNOT JUSTIFY THEIR CONTINUED DETENTION IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

"ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THIS GROUP TO BE ACCOMMODATED IN THE PILLAR POINT OPEN CAMP. WHILE THERE, THEY WILL BE PERMITTED TO WORK."

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR, MR BRIAN BRESNIHAN, WILL MEET THE MEDIA AT 5 PM TODAY (TUESDAY) IN THE PRESS ROOM, GROUND FLOOR, MAIN WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER.

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APPLICATION FOR NOISE CONTROL EXEMPTION

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THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL HAS REJECTED AN APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM PROVISIONS OF THE NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE FROM THE ORGANISERS OF A CONCERT TO BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG STADIUM ON DECEMBER 25.

IN REACHING THE DECISION, ALL RELEVANT FACTORS, IN PARTICULAR THE IMPORTANCE TO OBSERVE THE LAW, HAVE BEEN FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: "THERE IS NO COMPELLING REASON TO WARRANT THE GRANTING OF AN EXEMPTION IN THE PRESENT CASE, WHICH JUST LIKE OTHER ENTERTAINMENT ACTIVITIES, REGARDLESS OF THE THEME, SHOULD BE HELD WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE LAW."

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT THE DECISION DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE CONCERT COULD NOT BE HELD.

"IT SIMPLY MEANS THAT THE ORGANISERS MUST COMPLY WITH THE LAW TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM NOISE NUISANCE WHEN THEY HOLD THE CONCERT."

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LAND REGISTRY REGISTERS 7,650 AGREEMENTS IN OCTOBER

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THE LAND REGISTRY REGISTERED LAST MONTH (OCTOBER) 7,650 SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS FOR BUILDING UNITS, WHICH INCLUDE RESIDENTIAL AND NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES.

THE FIGURE IS ALMOST THE SAME AS THAT RECORDED IN SEPTEMBER, AND AN INCREASE OF 7.2 PER CENT OVER THAT OF OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

THE TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF THE AGREEMENTS IN THE MONTH IS \$23.36 BILLION, UP 0.7 PER CENT AND 30.5 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THOSE FOR SEPTEMBER 1994 AND OCTOBER 1993 RESPECTIVELY.

THE FIGURES ARE CONTAINED IN THE MONTHLY STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE LAND REGISTRY ON DEEDS RELATING TO PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION IN THE URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES LAND REGISTRIES LAST MONTH.

RELEVANT STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1994 AND OCTOBER 1993 WERE PROVIDED FOR COMPARISON. FIGURES ON SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS RECEIVED FOR THE PAST 12 MONTHS AND THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF CHANGE WERE ALSO RELEASED.

THE OCTOBER STATISTICS GENERALLY RELATE TO LAND TRANSACTIONS EXECUTED UP TO FOUR WEEKS PRIOR TO THEIR SUBMISSION FOR REGISTRATION BECAUSE THERE IS USUALLY A TIME LAG BETWEEN THE EXECUTION OF DEEDS AND SUBMISSION FOR REGISTRATION.

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TAC WORKING GROUP ENDORSES FREIGHT TRANSPORT STUDY

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) DISCUSSED THE FINDINGS OF A WORKING GROUP IT SET UP TO EXAMINE IN DETAIL THE MAIN ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FREIGHT TRANSPORT STUDY.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE WORKING GROUP ENDORSED THE FINAL REPORT OF THE STUDY WHICH BROADLY ACHIEVED THE OBJECTIVES OF IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE FREIGHT INDUSTRY AND REDUCING THE IMPACT OF GOODS VEHICLE OPERATION IN HONG KONG.

THE FINAL REPORT SETS OUT 28 RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY AND OPERATION OF THE INDUSTRY WHICH ITSELF IS BEING CONSULTED BEFORE A FREIGHT TRANSPORT STRATEGY IS MAPPED OUT.

THE TAC WORKING GROUP SUPPORTED MOST OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE STUDY, BUT FELT THAT THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE MEASURES SHOULD ALSO BE EXPLORED:

- * ENCOURAGEMENT OF A TWO-WAY BOOKING SYSTEM FOR THE COLLECTION AND DELIVERY OF CONTAINERS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EMPTY CONTAINER VEHICLE TRIPS INTO AND OUT OF THE CONTAINER PORT.

- * MORE FLEXIBLE OPERATING HOURS AND NIGHT TIME USAGE OF GOODS VEHICLES IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS TO ENHANCE EFFICIENCY.
- * SEGREGATION OF PORT TRAFFIC FROM NON-PORT TRAFFIC TO MINIMISE THE IMPACT OF PORT TRAFFIC ON OTHER ROAD USERS.
- * NEGOTIATION WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON BORDER RESTRICTIONS, SO THAT CONTAINERS COULD BE TRANSPORTED TO CHINA FOR STORAGE SO AS TO CUT DOWN STORAGE COST AND REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EMPTY CONTAINER TRIPS ACROSS THE BORDER.

THE WORKING GROUP ALSO SUGGESTED THAT FUTURE UPDATING OF THE FREIGHT TRANSPORT STRATEGY SHOULD TAKE ACCOUNT OF ECONOMIC AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, MEMBERS ALSO RESOLVED TO HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO DISCUSS THE REPORT ON MEASURES TO ADDRESS TRAFFIC CONGESTION AS PART OF THE PROCESS IN FORMULATING THEIR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSALS IN THE REPORT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE ADMINISTRATION.

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MORE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS IN THIRD QUARTER 1994

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THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AND SUGGESTIONS RECEIVED BY THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT OF THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 1994 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1994 INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT TO 4,091 AS COMPARED WITH 3,557 IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

DURING THE PERIOD, THE MAJOR AREAS OF COMPLAINTS WERE RELATED TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT (62 PER CENT), ROAD TRAFFIC CONDITIONS (16 PER CENT) AND ENFORCEMENT (14 PER CENT).

THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT PUBLIC TRANSPORT INCREASED BY 21.2 PER CENT, FROM 2,109 IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER, TO 2,556.

THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST TAXIS (UP FROM 887 TO 1,274 CASES), FERRY SERVICES (UP FROM 53 TO 115), RAIL TRANSPORT (UP FROM 31 TO 60) AND GREEN MINI-BUSES (UP FROM 211 TO 272).

THERE WERE FEWER COMPLAINTS AGAINST KOWLOON MOTOR BUS CO. (DOWN FROM 388 TO 305) AND CITYBUS (DOWN FROM 74 TO 45). HOWEVER, THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS AGAINST CHINA MOTOR BUS CO. (UP FROM 260 TO 264).

COMPLAINTS ABOUT ROAD CONGESTION INCREASED BY 22.4 PER CENT TO 361 FROM 295 CASES IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ALSO INCREASED TO 119 FROM 97.

HOWEVER, COMPLAINTS AGAINST ENFORCEMENT ACTION DROPPED BY 13.9 PER CENT TO 587 CASES FROM 682 IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER. THESE COMPLAINTS WERE RELATED MAINLY TO ILLEGAL PARKING AND BREACH OF TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

ALL SUGGESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS RECEIVED BY THE TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS FOR INVESTIGATION.

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UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER
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THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 1994 WAS 2.3%, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.1%, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD OF AUGUST - OCTOBER 1994 WAS 2.2%, WHILE THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.3%.

THE LATEST FIGURES SUGGEST THAT THE LABOUR MARKET REMAINED GENERALLY TIGHT IN RECENT MONTHS.

DURING THE PERIOD OF JULY - SEPTEMBER 1994, THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, ADJUSTED FOR VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS, WAS ESTIMATED AT 68,600, WHILE THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS ESTIMATED AT 32,600.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR JULY - SEPTEMBER 1994 COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 12,500 HOUSEHOLDS OR 43,000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

RELEVANT DATA WAS OBTAINED BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER 1994 WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE BY THE END OF DECEMBER AT \$24 A COPY.

HARBOUR SAFETY - VISION FOR THE FUTURE

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT HAS STRANDS OF MARINE TRAFFIC CONTROL TO ENSURE A SAFE AND EFFICIENT PORT, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR ALLAN PYRKE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A CITY LIONS CLUB OF HONG KONG LUNCHEON, MR PYRKE SAID ONE OF MARINE DEPARTMENT'S PRIME FUNCTIONS WAS TO CONTROL THE SAFE AND EFFICIENT MOVEMENT OF ALL SHIPS THROUGH THE WATERS OF HONG KONG.

"THIS FUNCTION IS COMING INTO SHARPER FOCUS FOR TWO REASONS - THE BUILD-UP OF TRAFFIC AND THE REDUCTION IN WATER AREA DUE TO RECLAMATION," HE NOTED.

MR PYRKE POINTED OUT THAT ONE STRAND IN TRAFFIC CONTROL WAS THE VESSEL TRAFFIC SYSTEM (VTS) WHICH ALLOWED REGULATORS TO IDENTIFY AND TAG OCEAN-GOING SHIPS OVER 300 TONS WITHIN MOST OF HONG KONG WATERS AND SO MONITOR AND REGULATE THEIR MOVEMENT.

THE SYSTEM HAS SEVEN RADARS WITH MICROWAVE LINKS TO A CENTRAL CONTROL STATION ON THE OUTER ISLAND OF THE MACAU FERRY TERMINAL.

THE SYSTEM WAS BEING UPDATED BY INSTALLING AN ADDITIONAL RADAR IN 1995 ON KAU YI CHAU AT A COST OF \$80 MILLION, MR PYRKE SAID.

ONE FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE VTS IS TO INSTALL A RADAR ON PING CHAU TO COVER MIRS BAY WHICH IS CURRENTLY BLIND TO THE VESSEL TRAFFIC CENTRE RADARS.

HE SAID: "THERE WILL BE INCREASED OCEAN-GOING TRAFFIC IN THE BAY AS THE PORT OF YANTIAN BECOMES MORE POPULAR.

"THIS TRAFFIC MAY CONFLICT WITH SHIPS WHICH CARRY NAPHTHA TO THE TOWN GAS PLANT IN TOLO HARBOUR. NAPHTHA, OF COURSE, IS A FAIRLY DANGEROUS CARGO SO WE MUST ENSURE ITS SAFE PASSAGE."

NOTING THAT THE VTS IS GENERICALLY AN AID TO NAVIGATION, MR PYRKE SAID OTHER AIDS INCLUDED 265 LIGHT BEACONS AND 83 LIGHT BUOYS TO MARK VARIOUS DANGERS AND CHANNELS.

HE SAID ANOTHER STRAND IN TRAFFIC CONTROL WAS THE USE OF FAIRWAYS AND TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEMES WHICH WERE PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR THE PREVENTION OF COLLISIONS AT SEAS SPECIFYING BASICALLY WHICH SHIP WAS TO KEEP OUT THE WAY IN A COLLISION RISK SITUATION, TOGETHER WITH OTHER RULES OF BEHAVIOUR.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT INTRODUCED A TRAFFIC SEPARATION SCHEME IN THE EAST LAMMA AND TATHONG CHANNELS IN THE 1970S AND HAS RECENTLY EXTENDED THE LAMMA CHANNEL SCHEME TO COVER CONFLICT AREAS OFF CHESTERMAN ROCK AND PO TOI.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO INTRODUCED NEW FAIRWAYS AND ANCHORAGES IN THE WESTERN HARBOUR AREA TO REDUCE CONFLICTS THERE.

/MR PYRKE

MR PYRKE SAID: "NEXT YEAR WE WILL COMMISSION A CONTROL STATION AT GEMINI POINT AT MA WAN AT A COST OF \$34 MILLION. THIS IS NEEDED TO CONTROL LOCAL CRAFT THAT CAN HAZARD AN OCEAN-GOING VESSEL ROUNDING THE MA WAN BEND."

THE DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING FUNDS OF \$10 MILLION TO CARRY OUT A NAVIGATIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT WHICH WILL INCLUDE NEW FAIRWAY PATTERNS TO REDUCE THAT RISK IF SUCH IS WARRANTED ON A COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS.

REGARDING THE CONTROL OF LOCAL TRAFFIC, IT IS ACHIEVED BY ENFORCING RULES, SUCH AS THE FAIRWAY RULE, BY USING PATROL CRAFT.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IS IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETELY REORGANISING THE PATROLLING SERVICE FOR THE PORT BY THE REDEPLOYMENT OF CRAFT FROM OTHER SERVICES AND THE ACQUISITION OF NEW CRAFT, THUS ALLOWING INCREASED PATROLLING HOURS BY USING MORE CRAFT FOR LONGER HOURS.

CURRENTLY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ONLY HAS THREE HARBOUR SERVICES PATROL CRAFT OF WHICH ONLY ONE IS ON A 24-HOUR PATROL.

MR PYRKE SAID THE NEW SYSTEM SHOULD HAVE 11 CRAFT OF WHICH ABOUT HALF WOULD BE ON 24-HOUR PATROLS.

HE ALSO NOTED THAT IT WAS CONSIDERED MORE LOCAL CONTROL STATIONS LIKE GEMINI POINT WITH THEIR LOCAL RADAR SURVEILLANCE OF SMALL CRAFT AND THEIR DEDICATED PATROL WOULD BE NEEDED AT CONTAINER TERMINAL NINE, GREEN ISLAND AND MUCH LATER AT THE LANTAU PORT PENINSULA.

"THERE IS A LIMIT TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE STATIC SAFETY MEASURES AND MUCH DEPENDS ON SOFTWARE, THAT IS THE PEOPLE WHO MAN VESSELS USING THE PORT," MR PYRKE NOTED.

HE SAID ONE OF THE MAJOR SAFETY STRANDS ON THE SOFTWARE SIDE WAS PILOTAGE - A SYSTEM THAT MARINERS' WITH SPECIAL LOCAL KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE BOARD LARGE SHIPS AND GUIDE THEM SAFELY THROUGH THE BUSY AREAS OF HONG KONG WATERS.

PILOTAGE WAS MADE COMPULSORY FOR SHIPS OVER 10,000 TONS IN 1985. THE LIMIT HAS BEEN REDUCED OVER THE YEARS AND CURRENTLY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING TO REDUCE IT FURTHER TO 3,000 TONS.

RECENTLY THE SYSTEM OF PILOTAGE WAS REVIEWED BY OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS AND CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS WERE RECOMMENDED. ONE OF WHICH WAS THE RELOCATION OF THE PILOT BOARDING STATION FROM GREEN ISLAND TO ROUND ISLAND, MR PYRKE SAID.

HE SAID: "ONE OF THE EFFECTS OF THE CURRENT POSITION OF THE STATION USED TO BE SHIP 'RACING' TO GET TO THE STATION AND OFTEN WAITING FOR THEIR PILOTS, FOR EXAMPLE BUNCHING.

"THE VTS NOW REGULATES THAT TRAFFIC INTO A MOVING QUEUE TO ENSURE A PILOT AND A SHIP MEET IN THE CORRECT SEQUENCE."

MR PYRKE ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT HAD COUNTER-MEASURES IN HAND FOR A VERY DYNAMIC SITUATION IN HONG KONG WATERS BUT THERE WAS A NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON THE SOFTWARE SIDE AS WELL.

/HE SAID:

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HE SAID: "WE NEED TO EDUCATE ALL CRAFT NOT COVERED BY PILOTAGE OR THE VTC ON THE CORRECT BEHAVIOUR WE EXPECT FROM THEM WHILST THEY ARE IN HONG KONG WATERS.

"SUCH EDUCATION COSTS MONEY ESPECIALLY WHERE YOU NEED A SYSTEM TO CATCH AND PENALISE THE SLOW LEARNERS."

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HK AND CHINA STAMP SALES ARRANGEMENT

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THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE AND TELPO PHILATELIC COMPANY LTD (A SUBSIDIARY COMPANY OF THE CHINA NATIONAL PHILATELIC COMPANY OPERATING IN HONG KONG) TODAY (TUESDAY) SIGNED AN AGREEMENT FOR HONG KONG STAMPS TO BE SOLD IN CHINA AND CHINESE STAMPS IN HONG KONG POST OFFICE.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR MIKE PAGLIARI, SAID WITH EFFECT FROM THE ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG CORALS" SPECIAL STAMPS ON NOVEMBER 17, HONG KONG STAMPS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO COLLECTORS IN CHINA THROUGH THE DISTRIBUTION NETWORK OF THE CHINA NATIONAL PHILATELIC COMPANY.

SELECTED CHINESE STAMP PRODUCTS WILL BE PUT ON SALE AT THE FOLLOWING SIX PHILATELIC OFFICES FROM NOVEMBER 18:

BEACONSFIELD HOUSE POST OFFICE
GENERAL POST OFFICE
GRANVILLE ROAD POST OFFICE
PEAK POST OFFICE
SHA TIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE
TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE

THE CHINA STAMP PRODUCTS THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE ARE:

ITEM -----	UNIT PRICE -----
- 1993 PRESTIGE ANNUAL ALBUM	\$250
- 1993 ANNUAL PACK	\$ 80
- 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTHDAY OF MAO ZEDONG FOLDER	\$ 30
- WANG ZHAOJUN FOLDER	\$ 50

ON NOVEMBER 18, EACH CUSTOMER ON THE QUEUE CAN BUY UP TO TWO ITEMS PER PRODUCT.

"THE RECIPROCAL SALES ARRANGEMENT WILL BE A GREAT BOOST TO THE PHILATELIC INTERESTS IN HONG KONG. WE EXPECT THAT THE CHINESE STAMP PRODUCTS WILL SELL WELL HERE.

"THE HUGE PHILATELIC MARKET POTENTIAL IN CHINA SHOULD ALSO BRING SUBSTANTIAL BUSINESS TO THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE," MR PAGLIARI SAID.

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1994

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PUBLIC FORUM ON SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT
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THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY HAS RECENTLY APPOINTED DELOITTE TOUCHE TOHMATSU HK CANADA MANAGEMENT CONSULTING (IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATES) TO CONDUCT A CONSULTANCY STUDY.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY ARE TO REVIEW THE CURRENT MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK AND TO ADVISE THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCTION OF ECONOMIC TECHNIQUES TO SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT IN HONG KONG.

A PUBLIC FORUM WILL BE HELD BY THE OFFICE OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY FOR THE CONSULTANTS TO PRESENT THEIR PRELIMINARY FINDINGS AND PROPOSALS, AND TO COLLECT VIEWS AND COMMENTS FROM THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

DETAILS OF THE FORUM ARE:

DATE: MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

TIME: 9 AM - 1 PM

VENUE: SALON 5, JW MARRIOTT HOTEL,
PACIFIC PLACE, 88 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE PUBLIC FORUM.

AS SEATS ARE LIMITED, ADVANCE BOOKING IS NECESSARY. RESERVATION OF SEATS SHALL BE MADE BY TELEPHONE ON 961 6645 OR 961 6647 ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

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SEVEN NOMINATED FOR LAB ELECTION
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED FROM REGISTERED EMPLOYEE UNIONS SEVEN NOMINATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION AS EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD (LAB).

OF THE SEVEN CANDIDATES, FIVE WILL BE ELECTED TO THE BOARD FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM STARTING NEXT JANUARY.

THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 3 AT THE HAKING WONG TECHNICAL INSTITUTE IN CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON.

THE CANDIDATES ARE:

- * MR POON SIU-PING
HONG KONG STORE HOUSES AND TRANSPORTATION STAFF ASSOCIATION
- * MR CHAN YUN-CHE
HONG KONG AND KOWLOON MOTOR CAR DRIVERS' GENERAL UNION

/* MR LEUNG FU-WAH

- * MR LEUNG FU-WAH
HONG KONG AND KOWLOON RUBBER AND PLASTIC WORKERS' GENERAL UNION
- * MR WU MAN-LUNG
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT SURVEY OFFICERS (ESTATE)
- * MR CHEUNG KWOK-BUI
HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANTS' GENERAL UNION
- * MR LEUNG TSZ-LEUNG
HONG KONG BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' GENERAL UNION
- * MR CHU MING
HONG KONG PROSTHETISTS AND ORTHOTISTS ASSOCIATION

"MEANWHILE, ABOUT 260 EMPLOYEE UNIONS HAVE SO FAR REGISTERED WITH THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AS ELECTORS FOR THE COMING LAB ELECTION," A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"EACH ELECTOR MAY APPOINT UP TO TWO AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES, WHO MUST EITHER BE PAID-UP MEMBERS, OFFICERS OR PAID STAFF OF THE UNION, TO ATTEND THE ELECTION," HE ADDED.

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KUK PLAYS IMPORTANT CONSULTATIVE ROLE: RS

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THE HEUNG YEE KUK HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE TERRITORY'S CONSULTATIVE STRUCTURE FOR MANY YEARS, THE NEW REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR JOSEPH WONG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING DURING A VISIT TO THE KUK THIS AFTERNOON, MR WONG NOTED THAT THE KUK HAD ALL ALONG TAKEN ACCOUNT OF BOTH THE TRADITIONS AND INTERESTS OF THE RURAL PEOPLE AS WELL AS THE NEEDS OF THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

"YOUR VALUABLE OPINIONS AND ASSISTANCE HAVE LED TO THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF VARIOUS NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES BY THE GOVERNMENT," HE SAID.

MR WONG PLEDGED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE TO CONSULT THE KUK DURING THE FORMULATION AND BEFORE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY POLICIES THAT WOULD AFFECT THE NEW TERRITORIES.

HE APPEALED TO KUK MEMBERS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATE WITH VARIOUS DISTRICT OFFICES IN PROMOTING THE WELL-BEING OF NEW TERRITORIES' RESIDENTS.

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PIG FARMING DELEGATION OFF TO MALAYSIA

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A 21-MEMBER PIG FARMING DELEGATION WILL DEPART TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) FOR MALAYSIA TO STUDY PIG-RAISING AND RELATED TECHNIQUES AND TO SHARE EXPERIENCE WITH LIVESTOCK FARMERS THERE.

THE SIX-DAY STUDY VISIT IS ORGANISED BY THE FEDERATION OF PIG RAISING CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES OF HONG KONG, KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES, LIMITED (FEDERATION) AS ONE OF THE EVENTS TO CELEBRATE THE FEDERATION'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY.

TO MARK THE OCCASION, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, TODAY (TUESDAY) PRESENTED A BANNER TO THE FEDERATION'S CHAIRMAN, MR LEUNG CHIK, WHO IS ALSO THE DELEGATION LEADER.

DESCRIBING THE STUDY TOUR AS A MEANINGFUL ACTIVITY, DR LEE HOPED THE DELEGATION WOULD FOSTER CLOSER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FARMING ORGANISATIONS IN MALAYSIA AND HONG KONG WITH A VIEW TO PROMOTING PIG-RAISING INDUSTRIES IN BOTH TERRITORIES.

THE GROUP WILL VISIT MAJOR PIG FARMS, PIG-RAISING FEDERATIONS AS WELL AS LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PHARMACEUTICAL FACTORIES, HE SAID, ADDING THAT THIS WOULD GIVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HONG KONG PIG FARMERS TO STUDY MODERN PIG-RAISING METHODS AND NEW FACILITIES.

DR LEE SAID SINCE THE FEDERATION WAS ESTABLISHED 40 YEARS AGO, IT HAD HELPED PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL PIG-RAISING INDUSTRY AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUPPLY OF PREMIUM FRESH PORK WITH REASONABLE PRICES TO CONSUMERS.

"APART FROM ACTING AS A BRIDGE BETWEEN ITS MEMBERS AND THE GOVERNMENT, THE FEDERATION HAS BEEN MAKING GOOD EFFORTS IN PROMOTING LOCAL PIG FARMING.

"IT HAS ALSO RENDERED A VARIETY OF SERVICES TO ITS MEMBERS INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF LOW-INTEREST LOANS, BULK PURCHASE OF FEEDS AND ANIMAL DRUGS, INTRODUCTION OF OVERSEAS PREMIUM BREEDS AND THE ORGANISATION OF SEMINARS," HE ADDED.

154 VMS RETURN HOME

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A GROUP OF 154 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.

COMPRISING 55 MEN, 33 WOMEN, 34 BOYS AND 32 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 219TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BROUGHT TO 4,523 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAD RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 43,136 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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CLOSURE OF NORTH POINT ILLEGAL STRUCTURE SOUGHT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IN NORTH POINT SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE OCCUPANTS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE SINGLE-STOREY STRUCTURE USED FOR DWELLING IS LOCATED ON THE NINTH FLOOR OF A BUILDING AT THE JUNCTION OF 277-297 KING'S ROAD AND 4 - 6D JAVA ROAD.

A NOTICE APPLYING FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON JANUARY 17, 1995 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (TUESDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	15 NOV 94
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q446
AMOUNT APPLIED	HK\$3,370 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HK\$1,500 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	5.00 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	5.02 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 79 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	5.03 PCT

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 21 NOV 1994-

TENDER DATE	22 NOV 94	22 NOV 94
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q447	H478
ISSUE DATE	23 NOV 94	23 NOV 94
MATURITY DATE	22 FEB 95	24 MAY 95
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HK\$1,500 + 300 MN	HK\$800 + 160 MN

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,032	0930	+114
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,832	1000	-36
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO:		1100	-6
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	-5	1200	-5
LAF TODAY	-195	1500	-5
		1600	-5

LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER TWI 121.4 *+0.2* 15.11.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.18	18 MONTHS	2605	6.35	99.88	6.54
1 MONTH	4.53	23 MONTHS	3610	4.20	100.17	6.92
3 MONTHS	4.98	29 MONTHS	3704	6.15	97.80	7.27
6 MONTHS	5.40	36 MONTHS	3710	7.25	99.56	7.55
12 MONTHS	6.01	58 MONTHS	5909	7.45	97.58	8.22

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 21,568 MN

CLOSED 15 NOVEMBER 1994