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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## MONETARY STATISTICS FOR APRIL PUBLISHED

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HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED DURING APRIL, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH TODAY (MONDAY).

CONSISTENT WITH THIS, HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS ROSE DURING THE MONTH. HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS AND ADVANCES ALSO RECORDED AN INCREASE IN APRIL.

## DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, INCREASED BY 1.2% IN APRIL, FOLLOWING DECREASES OF 0.6% AND 0.8% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY.

OF THESE DEPOSITS, DEMAND DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 10.5% AND 3.7% RESPECTIVELY WHILE TIME DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 1.7% IN APRIL.

COMPARED WITH A YEAR AGO, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 14.5%.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS ROSE BY 0.6% IN APRIL, AFTER A DECREASE OF 0.4% IN FEBRUARY AND AN INCREASE OF 1.5% IN MARCH.

AMONG THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS AND NON-U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS ROSE BY 0.4% AND 0.7% RESPECTIVELY IN APRIL.

OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 21.9%.

DURING APRIL, DEPOSITS OF ALL CURRENCIES WITH LICENSED BANKS ROSE BY 1.3% WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY 6.8% AND 4.2% RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS INCREASED BY 20.6% WHILE THOSE WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY 1.5% AND 13.7% RESPECTIVELY.

## MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 4.2%, 0.9% AND 0.8% RESPECTIVELY IN APRIL, COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING DECLINES OF 6.0%, 1.2% AND 1.1% IN MARCH.

OVER THE YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES ROSE BY 18.0%, 15.6% AND 14.1% RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 ROSE BY 4.2%, 1.0% AND 0.8% RESPECTIVELY IN APRIL. THEIR CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN MARCH WERE -7.7%, 0.1% AND 0.3%.

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OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 GREW BY 18.8%, 20.0% AND 18.4% RESPECTIVELY.

#### LOANS AND ADVANCES

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TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 1.4% IN APRIL, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 0.9% IN FEBRUARY AND A DECREASE OF 1.2% IN MARCH.

OF THE TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS, THOSE DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS GREW BY 1.5% DURING APRIL, WHILE THOSE DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES ROSE BY 1.4%.

OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 15.1% AND 54.4% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG GREW BY 0.3% IN APRIL, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 0.4% AND 1.2% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 16.1%.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG GREW BY 0.4% IN APRIL FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.2% AND 2.9% RESPECTIVELY IN THE PRECEDING TWO MONTHS. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 15.9%.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG ROSE BY 8.6% IN APRIL, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 2.1% IN FEBRUARY AND A DECREASE OF 2.3% IN MARCH. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 79.1%.

LOANS TO FINANCE MERCHANDISING TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG ROSE BY 2.0% IN APRIL, AFTER DECLINES OF 8.1% AND 4.8% RESPECTIVELY IN THE PRECEDING TWO MONTHS. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS FELL BY 17.2%.

#### NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

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THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS DECLINED BY ONE TO 164 WHILE THAT OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY TWO TO 168. THE NUMBER OF RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 45.

#### NOTES :

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- (1) BEFORE FEBRUARY 1, 1990, "RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS" AND "DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES" WERE KNOWN AS "LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES" AND "REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES" RESPECTIVELY.
- (2) IN THE TEXT ABOVE, TOTAL HK\$ DEPOSITS, HK\$ TIME DEPOSITS, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS. TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS, US\$ DEPOSITS AND NON-US\$ DEPOSITS HAVE BEEN ADJUSTED TO EXCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS.

"SWAP DEPOSITS" ARE DEPOSITS INVOLVING CUSTOMERS BUYING FOREIGN CURRENCIES (MOSTLY U.S. DOLLARS) IN THE SPOT MARKET AND PLACING THEM AS DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT TO SELL SUCH FOREIGN CURRENCIES (PRINCIPAL PLUS INTEREST) FORWARD IN LINE WITH THE MATURITY OF SUCH DEPOSITS. FOR MOST ANALYTICAL PURPOSES, THEY SHOULD BE REGARDED AS HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS.

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - APRIL 1991

(HK\$mn)

| Money Supply  | Apr 1991  | Earlier months (% change to April 1991) |                     |                     |
|---|-----------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
|   |           | Mar 1991                                | Jan 1991            | Apr 1990            |
| M1 - HK\$   | 98,123    | 94,145 ( 4.2 %)                         | 97,062 ( 1.1 %)     | 83,189 ( 18.0 %)    |
| Foreign currency                                    | 14,234    | 13,689 ( 4.0 %)                         | 13,880 ( 2.6 %)     | 11,382 ( 25.1 %)    |
| Total   | 112,357   | 107,834 ( 4.2 %)                        | 110,942 ( 1.3 %)    | 94,571 ( 18.8 %)    |
| M2 - HK\$*  | 552,407   | 547,442 ( 0.9 %)                        | 552,058 ( 0.1 %)    | 477,996 ( 15.6 %)   |
| Foreign currency*                                   | 700,313   | 692,270 ( 1.2 %)                        | 684,895 ( 2.3 %)    | 565,514 ( 23.8 %)   |
| Total   | 1,252,720 | 1,239,712 ( 1.0 %)                      | 1,236,952 ( 1.3 %)  | 1,043,510 ( 20.0 %) |
| M3 - HK\$*  | 581,035   | 576,291 ( 0.8 %)                        | 582,345 ( -0.2 %)   | 509,437 ( 14.1 %)   |
| Foreign currency*                                   | 743,835   | 738,318 ( 0.7 %)                        | 730,851 ( 1.8 %)    | 609,774 ( 22.0 %)   |
| Total   | 1,324,869 | 1,314,609 ( 0.8 %)                      | 1,313,195 ( 0.9 %)  | 1,119,211 ( 18.4 %) |
| Notes and coins in circulation                      | 43,606    | 46,422 ( -6.1 %)                        | 45,802 ( -4.8 %)    | 39,747 ( 9.7 %)     |
| of which held by public                             | 37,954    | 39,687 ( -4.4 %)                        | 38,070 ( -0.3 %)    | 34,308 ( 10.6 %)    |
| Total Deposits                                      |           |   |                     |                     |
| Total Demand deposits                               | 74,403    | 68,146 ( 9.2 %)                         | 72,871 ( 2.1 %)     | 60,263 ( 23.5 %)    |
| Total Savings deposits                              | 239,595   | 231,006 ( 3.7 %)                        | 242,123 ( -1.0 %)   | 187,512 ( 27.8 %)   |
| Total Time deposits with licensed banks             | 883,742   | 883,716 ( 0.0 %)                        | 866,072 ( 2.0 %)    | 745,264 ( 18.6 %)   |
| Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks   | 40,350    | 43,305 ( -6.8 %)                        | 43,069 ( -6.3 %)    | 40,970 ( -1.5 %)    |
| Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies   | 28,717    | 29,963 ( -4.2 %)                        | 31,417 ( -8.6 %)    | 33,265 ( -13.7 %)   |
| HK\$ deposits*                                      | 530,077   | 523,581 ( 1.2 %)                        | 530,884 ( -0.2 %)   | 462,813 ( 14.5 %)   |
| US\$ deposits*                                      | 297,902   | 296,600 ( 0.4 %)                        | 304,014 ( -2.0 %)   | 266,945 ( 11.6 %)   |
| Other foreign currency deposits*                    | 438,829   | 435,956 ( 0.7 %)                        | 420,655 ( 4.3 %)    | 337,515 ( 30.0 %)   |
| All deposits  | 1,266,807 | 1,256,136 ( 0.8 %)                      | 1,255,553 ( 0.9 %)  | 1,067,274 ( 18.7 %) |
| Foreign currency swap deposits                      | 57,680    | 62,010 ( -7.0 %)                        | 65,278 ( -11.6 %)   | 66,290 ( -13.0 %)   |
| Total Loans and advances                            |           |   |                     |                     |
| To finance H.K.'s visible trade                     | 74,764    | 74,524 ( 0.3 %)                         | 73,287 ( 2.0 %)     | 64,405 ( 16.1 %)    |
| To finance merchandising trade<br>not touching H.K. | 8,264     | 8,103 ( 2.0 %)                          | 9,265 ( -10.8 %)    | 9,979 ( -17.2 %)    |
| Other loans for use in H.K.                         | 729,807   | 727,234 ( 0.4 %)                        | 698,148 ( 4.5 %)    | 629,498 ( 15.9 %)   |
| Other loans for use outside H.K.                    | 999,793   | 920,385 ( 8.6 %)                        | 923,020 ( 8.3 %)    | 558,243 ( 79.1 %)   |
| Other loans where the place of<br>use is not known  | 50,841    | 106,781 ( -52.4 %)                      | 138,028 ( -63.2 %)  | 88,182 ( -42.3 %)   |
| Loans in HK\$                                       | 648,518   | 638,725 ( 1.5 %)                        | 616,665 ( 5.2 %)    | 563,490 ( 15.1 %)   |
| Loans in foreign currencies                         | 1,214,950 | 1,198,303 ( 1.4 %)                      | 1,225,082 ( -0.8 %) | 786,816 ( 54.4 %)   |
| Total loans and advances                            | 1,863,468 | 1,837,027 ( 1.4 %)                      | 1,841,747 ( 1.2 %)  | 1,350,306 ( 38.0 %) |

\* Adjusted for foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

Note : 'Restricted licence banks' and 'deposit-taking companies' were known as 'licensed deposit-taking companies' and 'registered deposit-taking companies' respectively before 1 February 1990.

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## CASE OF LI QINGMING, LI BIN EXPLAINED

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IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CASE OF LI QINGMING AND LI BIN, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) DREW ATTENTION TO THE FACTS OF THE CASE AS DESCRIBED IN PROCEEDINGS OF THE HIGH COURT AND THE COURT OF APPEAL IN MARCH 1990 AND JUNE 1990 RESPECTIVELY.

AS RECOUNTED IN COURT, THE COUPLE ENTERED HONG KONG ILLEGALLY ON SEPTEMBER 2, 1989. THEY FIRST CAME INTO CONTACT WITH THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES ON DECEMBER 6, THREE MONTHS LATER, WHEN THEY WERE ARRESTED IN CONNECTION WITH A POLICE OPERATION AGAINST A FORGED PASSPORT SYNDICATE.

THE COUPLE SAID THEY WERE TRYING TO BUY FORGED THAI PASSPORTS. WHEN ARRESTED THEY HAD IN THEIR POSSESSION US\$77,000 AND HK\$28,000 IN CASH.

THE COUPLE SUBSEQUENTLY CLAIMED THAT THEY HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE RECENT POLITICAL PROTESTS IN CHINA DURING THE PERIOD APRIL TO JUNE 1989 AND THAT CONSEQUENTLY THEY FEARED THAT THEY WOULD BE PERSECUTED FOR POLITICAL REASONS UPON BEING RETURNED TO CHINA.

IN THE COURSE OF THE NEXT FEW WEEKS THIS CLAIM WAS THE SUBJECT OF DETAILED EXAMINATION AND SCRUTINY BY IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND SECURITY BRANCH OFFICIALS.

AS STATED IN COURT IT APPEARED TO THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED THAT THERE WERE MATERIAL SHORTCOMINGS AND SUSPECTED FABRICATIONS IN THEIR ACCOUNT, MORE PARTICULARLY IN MR LI'S ACCOUNT OF HIS ALLEGED MEDICAL QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE, THE APPLICANTS' CLAIMED INVOLVEMENT IN THE STUDENT MOVEMENT AND PROTESTS, AND THEIR FAILURE TO ACCOUNT ADEQUATELY FOR THE LARGE SUMS OF MONEY IN THEIR POSSESSION.

FOLLOWING THE DISMISSAL OF THE COUPLE'S CASE BY THE IMMIGRATION TRIBUNAL, THE HIGH COURT AND THE COURT OF APPEAL, THEY DECIDED TO RETURN TO CHINA IN JULY 1990.

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## USE OF WEAPONS IN CRIME A SERIOUS MATTER

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IN RESPONSE TO THE ROBBERY WHICH TOOK PLACE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN KWUN TONG, THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE USE OF WEAPONS IN THE COMMISSION OF ANY CRIME IS A SERIOUS MATTER.

HE SAID: "THE USE OF AN ASSAULT RIFLE IN THIS ROBBERY IS A MATTER OF PARTICULAR CONCERN.

"IT IS A PRIORITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ALL STEPS POSSIBLE TO CURTAIL THE IMPORTATION AND USE OF WEAPONS. THIS IS PRIMARILY A MATTER FOR THE POLICE.

"IT IS ALSO A SUBJECT WHICH WE HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN GUANGDONG PROVINCE WHO SHARE OUR OBJECTIVE OF PREVENTING THE IMPORTATION AND USE OF FIREARMS TO COMMIT CRIMES."

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COMMISSIONER OF POLICE COMMENTS ON ROBBERY CASE

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COMMENTING ON THE ROBBERY WHICH TOOK PLACE IN MUT WAH STREET, KWUN TONG, YESTERDAY IN WHICH GUNFIRE WAS EXCHANGED BETWEEN POLICE AND ROBBERS, THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR LI KWAN-HA, SAID (TODAY) THAT THE POLICE OFFICERS WHO WERE INVOLVED HAD CARRIED OUT THEIR DUTIES WITH GREAT EFFICIENCY AND IN THE FINEST TRADITION OF THE FORCE.

MR LI ALSO SAID THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ROBBERY WOULD BE HUNTED DOWN AND BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.

CID OFFICERS FROM THE ORGANISED AND SERIOUS CRIME GROUP WERE WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE REGIONAL CRIME UNIT IN KOWLOON ON THE CASE FOR WHICH A REWARD OF \$500,000 WAS BEING OFFERED, HE SAID.

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TAC SUPPORTS EMERGENCY PROCEDURES FOR  
HANDLING MAJOR DISRUPTION IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WAS TODAY (MONDAY) BRIEFED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND FINDINGS MADE BY A UK RAILWAY INSPECTOR FOLLOWING HIS INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION INTO THE MTR SERVICE DISRUPTION ON MARCH 11.

MEMBERS LEARNED THAT THE UK DEPUTY CHIEF INSPECTING OFFICER OF RAILWAYS, MR ALAN COOKSEY, WAS SATISFIED THAT THE EQUIPMENT FAILURES WHICH CAUSED THE INCIDENT WERE NOT ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE MTRC'S STANDARD OF MAINTENANCE, NOR COULD THEY BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE AGE OF THE SYSTEM.

ON THE CAUSES OF THE MARCH 11 INCIDENT, MR COOKSEY CONFIRMED THAT THE DISRUPTION WAS INSTIGATED BY A FRACTURED INSULATOR WHICH CAUSED A SERIES OF DAMAGES TO THE PANTOGRAPHS OF PASSING TRAINS.

TO GUARD AGAINST THE RECURRENCE OF SIMILAR INCIDENTS AND TO IMPROVE THE FUTURE HANDLING OF LARGE SCALE SERVICE DISRUPTIONS, MR COOKSEY HAD MADE A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS COVERING PREVENTIVE MEASURES, CRISIS MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION.

AS ADDED PREVENTIVE MEASURES, THE RAILWAY INSPECTOR RECOMMENDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF MORE RELIABLE METHODS FOR DETECTING FAULTY INSULATORS AND THE USE OF AUTO-LOWERING PANTOGRAPHS TO AVOID THE SPREADING OF SECONDARY DAMAGES.

TO MINIMISE THE RECOVERY TIME REQUIRED, MR COOKSEY RECOMMENDED THE DRAWING UP OF A FAULT ANALYSIS MANUAL WHICH WILL ASSIST STAFF IN THE MTR CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM TO IDENTIFY MORE QUICKLY THE LIKELY CAUSES OF DISRUPTIONS AND ENABLE A MORE EFFECTIVE RESPONSE TO BE MADE.

/HE ALSO .....

HE ALSO RECOMMENDED THE APPOINTMENT OF AN OPERATION OFFICER WITH AUTHORITY TO REVIEW AND DEVELOP LONGER TERM RELIEF PLANS, THEREBY ALLOWING STAFF IN THE MTR CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM TO CONCENTRATE ON HANDLING IMMEDIATE EVENTS DURING SERVICE DISRUPTIONS.

TO SPEED UP THE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC, SO THAT INTENDING PASSENGERS COULD CHANGE THEIR JOURNEYS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY, THE RAILWAY INSPECTOR CONSIDERED THAT MTRC SHOULD GIVE DIRECT NOTIFICATIONS TO THE MEDIA IN CASE OF MAJOR SERVICE DISRUPTIONS.

ONCE THE MESSAGE OF A SERVICE DISRUPTION IS OUT, MR COOKSEY FELT THAT FURTHER DIALOGUE BETWEEN DIFFERENT TRANSPORT OPERATORS SHOULD EITHER BE CO-ORDINATED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT OR CHANNELLED THROUGH A COMMUNICATION DEVICE CAPABLE OF SENDING INFORMATION TO ALL OTHER PARTIES SIMULTANEOUSLY, THUS ENABLING MTRC STAFF TO GIVE FULL ATTENTION TO MANAGING THE INCIDENT.

AS REGARDS MTRC'S INTERNAL COMMUNICATION ARRANGEMENTS, MR COOKSEY ENDORSED THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY MTRC'S OWN INQUIRY PANEL, WHICH INCLUDE A SYSTEM ALLOWING DIRECT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE CENTRAL CONTROL ROOM AND PASSENGERS ON TRAINS, AND ENHANCEMENT OF EXISTING PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS AT STATION CONCOURSES AND STATION ENTRANCES.

TAC MEMBERS NOTED THAT, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SERVICE DISRUPTION ON MARCH 11, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAD CONDUCTED A REVIEW OF THE EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS FOR HANDLING MAJOR TRANSPORT DISRUPTIONS.

THE COMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT THE REVISED EMERGENCY HANDLING PROCEDURES RESULTING FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S REVIEW HAD BEEN TESTED IN A DRILL STAGED IN LATE APRIL, AND THAT FURTHER DRILLS WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AT REGULAR INTERVALS.

IN HIS REPORT, MR COOKSEY AGREED WITH THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S PROPOSAL THAT, AS AN ADDED PRECAUTION, ALL RELEVANT PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATORS SHOULD BE ALERTED ONCE THERE ARE SIGNS OF A SERVICE DISRUPTION DURING THE PEAK<sup>1</sup> HOURS, INSTEAD OF WAITING UNTIL THE POINT WHERE THE SITUATION COULD QUICKLY ESCALATE AND DEVELOP INTO A MAJOR INCIDENT.

MEANWHILE, TAC MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CROSS HARBOUR PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES STUDY 1991-2001 COMMISSIONED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

THE STUDY PREDICTS THAT BETWEEN 1991 AND 1996, DEMAND FOR CROSS HARBOUR TRAVEL BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES WILL INCREASE FROM 1.25 MILLION TRIPS PER DAY TO 1.44 MILLION.

UNDER DIFFERENT PLANNING SCENARIOS, THE CONSULTANTS STUDIED LIKELY CHANGES TO THE DEMAND FOR AND THE MARKET SHARE OF DIFFERENT TRANSPORT MODES NOW CROSSING THE HARBOUR, INCLUDING THE MTR, FERRIES AND TUNNEL BUSES.

BASED ON THE STUDY RESULTS, THE CONSULTANTS RECOMMENDED A STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CROSS HARBOUR PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES UP TO AND BEYOND 1996.

THE TAC NOTED THAT, IN FORMULATING THE RECOMMENDED STRATEGY, THE CONSULTANTS HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE LIKELY IMPACT OF PLANNED DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HARBOUR ON THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF FERRY SERVICES, THE NEED TO HELP RELIEVE THE MTR NATHAN ROAD CONGESTION, AND THE TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING AREAS.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, THE TAC ALSO DISCUSSED THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATEI FERRY COMPANY'S PROPOSAL TO WITHDRAW THREE FRANCHISED FERRY SERVICES IN 1991 AND ITS FORWARD PLANNING PROGRAMME (FPP) FOR 1991-95.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT HYF'S FERRY PATRONAGE WAS HARD HIT BY THE OPENING OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING IN LATE 1989. REVENUE FROM HYF'S INNER HARBOUR SERVICES AS A WHOLE DROPPED 14.8 PER CENT IN 1990.

TO RELIEVE UPWARD PRESSURE ON FARES, AND TO AVOID EXCESSIVE CROSS-SUBSIDISATION BETWEEN THE INNER HARBOUR SERVICES AND THE RECREATIONAL SERVICES TO THE OUTLYING ISLANDS, ONGOING EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO RATIONALISE HYF'S SERVICES IN KEEPING WITH DEMAND.

ON HYF'S FPP, TAC NOTED THAT THE COMPANY PROPOSED TO FURTHER RATIONALISE ITS INNER HARBOUR SERVICES BETWEEN 1991 AND 1995, HAVING REGARD TO THE LIKELY IMPACT OF PLANNED RECLAMATIONS ON INDIVIDUAL FERRY ROUTES, AND COMPETITION FROM OTHER MODES.

THE TAC WAS INFORMED THAT FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SERVICE RATIONALISATION PROGRAMME WOULD ALLOW HYF TO CONCENTRATE ITS RESOURCES ON IMPROVING SERVICES FOR WHICH THERE IS DEMONSTRABLE DEMAND, INCLUDING THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO THE OUTLYING ISLANDS.

AT THE MEETING, THE TAC RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ON STEPS BEING TAKEN TO MONITOR THE FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE TAXI TRADE FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF THE \$1 FUEL SUPPLEMENT.

IN ADDITION, THE COMMITTEE WAS BRIEFED ON THE POSITION OF LOCAL OIL COMPANIES REGARDING THE FUTURE MOVEMENT OF THE RETAIL PRICES OF DIESEL FUEL AND THE LIKELIHOOD OF THE OIL COMPANIES LOWERING THE DIESEL PRICE IN THE COMING WEEKS.

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MANUFACTURERS MUST UPGRADE QUALITY TO ADAPT  
TO CHANGING MARKET CIRCUMSTANCES

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TO REMAIN COMPETITIVE AND INCREASE MARKET SHARE, HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS MUST ADAPT TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES IN OVERSEAS MARKETS BY UPGRADING THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS AND GIVING QUALITY STANDARD ASSURANCE, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. CHAU, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

MR CHAU WAS SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE HONG KONG QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY'S FIRST ISO 9000 QUALITY ASSURANCE CERTIFICATE ISSUED TO A LOCAL MANUFACTURING COMPANY, ELECTRONICS DEVICES LIMITED (EDL).

HE SAID ONE OF THE "CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES" WAS THE EVER INCREASING EXPECTATION OF BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CUSTOMERS FOR BETTER QUALITY PRODUCTS.

"IN SOME CASES, SUCH CUSTOMER DEMANDS AND REQUIREMENTS ARE WRITTEN INTO NATIONAL STANDARDS WHICH MUST BE MET BY MANUFACTURERS.

"A GOOD EXAMPLE IS THE ISO 9000 SERIES OF QUALITY STANDARD WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED AS THE NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD IN MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING OUR MAJOR OVERSEAS MARKETS, SUCH AS THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT, IN HELPING THE LOCAL MANUFACTURING SECTOR TO ACQUIRE RECOGNITION FOR QUALITY STANDARD ASSURANCE, COMMISSIONED CONSULTANTS TO MAKE AN IN-DEPTH STUDY OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIES IN 1987, AND THEN PROPOSED A QUALITY STRATEGY FOR HONG KONG PRODUCTS AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES, MR CHAU SAID.

THIS EVENTUALLY LED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT IN 1989 OF A GOVERNMENT SUBVENTED AGENCY CALLED THE HONG KONG QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY (HKQAA).

"THE AGENCY IS TASKED WITH OPERATING A VOLUNTARY QUALITY ASSURANCE CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR LOCAL COMPANIES," HE SAID.

"UNDER THE SCHEME, CERTIFICATES WILL BE ISSUED TO ORGANISATIONS WHOSE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS CONFORM WITH THE ISO 9000 SERIES.

"THE AGENCY ALSO WORKS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF SOUND QUALITY ASSURANCE PRACTICES IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MR CHAU SAID THE HKQAA HAD ACQUIRED CONSIDERABLE EXPERTISE IN ISO 9000 AUDITING THROUGH CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH THE BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTION.

"IT HAS ALSO TRAINED A NUMBER OF LOCAL QUALITY ASSURANCE AUDITORS TO CONDUCT AUDITS INDEPENDENTLY," HE SAID.

/MR CHAU .....

MR CHAU CONGRATULATED EDL FOR BEING THE FIRST COMPANY IN HONG KONG TO RECEIVE AN ISO 9000 CERTIFICATE.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF HKQAA'S GOVERNING COUNCIL, DR JOHN LO, SAID THE AGENCY WAS PRESENTLY DEALING WITH OVER 250 COMPANIES PREPARING FOR CERTIFICATION.

"SOME OF THESE ARE IN THE FINAL STAGES OF PREPARATION, AND WE EXPECT TO HAVE WELL OVER 100 COMPANIES CERTIFIED WITHIN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS," HE SAID.

DR LO SAID MORE THAN 100 OF THE 250 COMPANIES WORKING ON CERTIFICATION WERE IN THE ELECTROTECHNICAL BUSINESS SECTOR.

"TRADING AND SERVICES ORGANISATIONS PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR HONG KONG INDUSTRY HAVE SHOWN A KEEN INTEREST RECENTLY, AND THE INVOLVEMENT OF WATCH AND CLOCK MANUFACTURERS IS INCREASING," HE SAID.

THERE WAS ALSO GROWING DEMAND FOR CERTIFICATION FROM TWO OF HONG KONG'S LARGEST INDUSTRIAL SECTORS, TOYS AND TEXTILES.

"WITH THE DEVELOPMENTS I HAVE DESCRIBED, HONG KONG IS SET TO BECOME THE LEADER IN QUALITY SYSTEMS CERTIFICATION IN ASIA - BUT, I MUST ADD, WE ARE BEING CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION," HE SAID.

ACCORDING TO DR LO, IT TAKES BETWEEN ONE AND THREE YEARS FOR A COMPANY TO PREPARE FOR CERTIFICATION.

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#### SUBSIDY SCHEME FOR WELFARE SERVICES

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NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS (NGO'S) AND NON-PROFIT-MAKING ORGANISATIONS ARE INVITED TO CONSIDER TRYING OUT A SUBSIDY SCHEME IN SOME OF THEIR WELFARE SERVICE UNITS.

THE SCHEME, AN ALTERNATIVE MODE FOR FINANCING WELFARE SERVICES, HAS THREE MAIN FEATURES:

- \* FIRSTLY, THE MONITORING OF RESOURCE INPUT SUCH AS SURPLUS ASSESSMENT IS DISPENSED WITH;
- \* SECOND, MONITORING OF SERVICE OUTPUT SUCH AS THE CLIENTS SERVED, THE SERVICE ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IS EMPHASISED; AND
- \* THIRD, DURING THE CONTRACT PERIOD, THERE WILL BE NO CLAWING BACK OR TOPPING UP OF FUNDS PROVIDED.

THE PRICE OF THE SERVICE AND THE PERIOD OF THE CONTRACT ARE SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE BUYER AND THE SELLER, THAT IS THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND THE AGENCY CONCERNED.

/SPEAKING AT .....

SPEAKING AT THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE TODAY (MONDAY), THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SUBVENTIONS), MR CARLOS LEUNG, POINTED OUT THAT THIS MODE OF FINANCING PROVIDED GREATER FLEXIBILITY FOR THE SERVICE OPERATORS IN THE DEPLOYMENT OF RESOURCES AND WOULD REDUCE THE WORKLOAD ARISING FROM THE MONITORING OF INPUTS.

"THE SWD BELIEVES THAT THIS ALTERNATIVE MODE COULD BE AN OPTION FOR ALL SUBVENTED NGO'S," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG EXPLAINED THAT THE SCHEME WAS EVOLVED FROM A THREE-YEAR EXPERIMENT TO PURCHASE CARE AND ATTENTION PLACES IN FOUR SHELTERS OF THE HELPING HAND -- A NON-SUBVENTED CHARITABLE ORGANISATION.

"DURING THE EXPERIMENTAL PERIOD, THE SCHEME WAS FINANCED BY THE LOTTERIES FUND.

"AN EVALUATION CONDUCTED ON THE SCHEME AT THE COMPLETION OF THE EXPERIMENT CONFIRMED THAT THE FOUR SHELTER HOMES HAD PROVIDED GOOD QUALITY OF SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS," HE SAID.

MR LEUNG SAID THEORETICALLY, THE SUBSIDY SCHEME COULD BE EXTENDED TO ALL SERVICES, DAY OR RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR WHICH A UNIT COST COULD BE WORKED OUT AND WHERE THE LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE WAS ESTABLISHED.

"THE SCHEME IS APPLICABLE TO EXISTING FACILITIES AS WELL AS NEW PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE. HOWEVER, ITS APPLICABILITY IN THE RESIDENTIAL SERVICE FOR THE ELDERLY HAS BEEN WELL DEMONSTRATED," HE SAID.

"TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN IMPLEMENTING THIS SCHEME, IT IS RECOGNISED THAT THE STANDARD OF SERVICE TO BE OFFERED BY THE PROSPECTIVE SERVICE PROVIDER IS THE PARAMOUNT ELEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

"SINCE THE TARGET GROUP FOR THIS SCHEME IS BASICALLY THE SUBVENTED NGO'S, THE SWD HAS FULL CONFIDENCE IN THEIR STANDARD OF SERVICE.

"CORRESPONDINGLY, THE DEPARTMENT WILL STEP UP ITS EVALUATION EFFORTS TO MONITOR THE SERVICE OUTPUT IN LINE WITH THE WHITE PAPER'S RECOMMENDATIONS SUCH AS TO OBTAIN GREATER CONSUMER FEEDBACK ON SERVICES," HE ADDED.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 160 NGO'S RECEIVING GOVERNMENT SUBVENTION FROM THE SWD FOR THE OPERATION OF 1,564 SERVICE UNITS.

IN 1990-91, RECURRENT SUBVENTION TO NGO'S AMOUNTED TO \$1,168.3 MILLION.

MONDAY, JUNE 10, 1991

- 11 -

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES OF AIR CRASH VICTIMS  
\* \* \* \* \*

FAMILY MEMBERS OF A NEWLY-WEDDED COUPLE WHO WAS KILLED IN THE LAUDA AIR CRASH IN THAILAND LAST MONTH HAVE BEEN OFFERED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.

FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS WERE OFFERED A TOTAL OF \$8,000 IN CASH GRANT FROM THE TANG HO CHARITABLE FUND TO HELP THEM COPE WITH THE HARDSHIP ARISING FROM THE TRAGEDY.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT SOCIAL WORKERS CONTACTED THE CONCERNED FAMILIES IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE INCIDENT.

"THE SERVICES OF SWD WERE INTRODUCED TO THEM DURING OUR HOME VISITS AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WAS OFFERED SUBSEQUENTLY," HE SAID.

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LEGCO TO DEBATE ON LRT SERVICES  
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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK NINE QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 11 BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 12).

OF THE 11 BILLS, SIX WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. DEBATES ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE THE BANKRUPTCY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1991, EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

DEBATES ON THE OTHER FIVE BILLS WILL BE RESUMED AND EACH IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THEY ARE THE LAW AMENDMENT AND REFORM (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, ROAD TUNNELS (GOVERNMENT) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND SUPPLEMENTARY MEDICAL PROFESSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

IN ADDITION, THE HON TAI CHIN-WAH WILL RAISE UNDER STANDING ORDER 9 (5) THE MATTER OF "SERVICES OF THE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM IN NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES" FOR ADJOURNMENT DEBATE.

/ALSO, TWO .....

ALSO, TWO REPORTS -- THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE FUND ANNUAL REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE INCORPORATED FOR THE YEAR FROM APRIL 1, 1989 TO MARCH 31, 1990 AND THE REPORT BY THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WELFARE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1990 -- WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR SEATS IN THE PUBLIC GALLERIES BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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JAMES SO TAKES UP SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE POST

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MR JAMES SO, FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, HAS TAKEN UP THE POST OF SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE AS FROM JUNE 8.

HE HAS SUCCEEDED MR AUGUSTINE CHUI, WHO WILL TAKE UP THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION LATER THIS MONTH.

MR SO JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT IN 1962. HE HAS SERVED IN A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES, INCLUDING THE FORMER HOME AFFAIRS AND RESETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, FINANCE BRANCH, SECURITY BRANCH, ADMINISTRATIVE AND INFORMATION SERVICES BRANCH, CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND TRANSPORT BRANCH.

MR SO WAS APPOINTED COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT IN MAY 1987 AND TOOK UP THE POST OF DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES IN AUGUST 1989.

MEANWHILE, MR PAUL LEUNG, FORMER DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE, HAS ALSO JOINED THE BRANCH RECENTLY AS DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, TAKING OVER FROM MRS SHELLEY LAU.

IN THIS POST MR LEUNG ALSO BECOMES COMMISSIONER FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, OVERSEEING MATTERS RELATING TO RECREATION, CULTURE, SPORTS, ARTS AND MUSIC.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 24.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 144.746 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 254.295 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 43.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

HKEF

\* \* \* \* \*

|   | DATE    | \$ MILLION |
|---|---------|------------|
|   | ----    | -----      |
| CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON         | 8.6.91  | 380        |
| EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON       | 10.6.91 | -79        |
| EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING         |         | +79        |
| EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON       |         | NEUTRAL    |
| TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 114.5 *+0.2* 10.6.91 |         |            |

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND BILLS  
10 JUNE 1991

## CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

|             |           |          |
|-------------|-----------|----------|
| MATURING ON | 1 WEEK    | 7.73 PCT |
|             | 1 MONTH   | 7.64 PCT |
|             | 3 MONTHS  | 7.58 PCT |
|             | 6 MONTHS  | 7.57 PCT |
|             | 12 MONTHS | 7.61 PCT |

TOTAL BILL TRANSFER - 1,676 MN

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## JOINT SCHOOL CONCERT OF CHINESE MUSIC

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THE MUSIC OFFICE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG (CUHK) AND THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS (APA), WILL PRESENT A CONCERT OF CHINESE MUSIC ON JULY 7. IT WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM.

THE CONCERT IS PART OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE 31ST WORLD CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TRADITIONAL MUSIC (ICTM), TO BE HELD IN HONG KONG FROM JULY 3 TO 9.

UNDER THE BATON OF MR TONG LEUNG-TAK, THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA AND MUSIC STUDENTS OF APA AND CUHK WILL PRESENT A NUMBER OF FAMOUS CHINESE CLASSICAL PIECES INCLUDING "INTERLOCKING RINGS", "THE SORROW OF LADY ZHAO JUN", "HAPPY SPRING EVENING" AND "THE RITUAL FIRE DANCE".

MR TONG IS THE PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA. UNDER HIS BATON, THE ORCHESTRA HAS PERFORMED IN A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES INCLUDING AUSTRALIA, SINGAPORE, CHINA, CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES IN RECENT YEARS.

ABOUT 150 DELEGATES FROM NEARLY 20 COUNTRIES ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WILL ALSO BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE CONCERT.

TICKETS FOR THE CONCERT AT \$20 AND \$30 EACH ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT ALL URBIX OUTLETS. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 722 6240.

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