DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK'S EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR APRIL RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN APRIL THIS YEAR, AT $149,598 MILLION, INCREASED BY 19% IN VALUE AS COMPARED WITH APRIL LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 3% TO $17,718 MILLION WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 28% TO $53,330 MILLION.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 19% TO $71,048 MILLION.

MEANWHILE, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 19% TO $78,551 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS THIS YEAR, AT $535,873 MILLION, INCREASED BY 21% AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED MARGINALLY BY 0.4% TO $66,424 MILLION, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 32% TO $192,942 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 22% TO $259,366 MILLION WHILE THAT OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 21% TO $276,507 MILLION.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING APRIL 1992 WITH APRIL 1991, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN (BY 23%), CHINA (BY 13%), SINGAPORE (BY 10%) AND THE UNITED STATES (BY 4%).

HOWEVER, SUBSTANTIAL DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO GERMANY (-43%), FRANCE (-27%), THE NETHERLANDS (-25%), JAPAN (-18%) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (-16%).

COMPARING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS IN 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA, CANADA, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN AND THE UNITED STATES INCREASED BY 15%, 12%, 8%, 5% AND 5% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO GERMANY, FRANCE, THE NETHERLANDS, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND JAPAN DECREASED, BY 33%, 17%, 17%, 15% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS IN 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRIC CURRENT (BY $222 MILLION OR 85%); MÅCHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY $217 MILLION OR 28%); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY $165 MILLION OR 3%); CLOTHING (BY $111 MILLION OR 1%); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES OF MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES (BY $91 MILLION OR 1%).

/HOWEVER, DECREASES .....

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $1,027 MILLION OR 21%); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $851 MILLION OR 13%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $116 MILLION OR 2%); AND TEXTILES (BY $79 MILLION OR 2%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING APRIL 1992 WITH APRIL 1991, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, JAPAN, GERMANY, CHINA AND SINGAPORE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 30%, 30%, 26%, 20% AND 20% RESPECTIVELY.

THOSE FROM TAIWAN, THE UNITED KINGDOM, ITALY AND SWITZERLAND ALSO INCREASED, BY 17%, 15%, 14% AND 8% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES DECREASED BY 1%.

COMPARING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS IN 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS: JAPAN (BY 28%), GERMANY (BY 27%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (BY 26%), CHINA (BY 25%), ITALY (BY 22%), TAIWAN (BY 20%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (BY 10%), SWITZERLAND (BY 5%), THE UNITED STATES (BY 5%) AND SINGAPORE (BY 4%).

TABLE 4 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS IN 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES OF MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY $4,774 MILLION OR 33%); CLOTHING (BY $4,058 MILLION OR 22%); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY $4,019 MILLION OR 23%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY $3,773 MILLION OR 17%); AND TEXTILES (BY $3,320 MILLION OR 12%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE RECORDED IN PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (BY $1,685 MILLION OR 33%); AND OTHER TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (BY $1,665 MILLION OR 72%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING APRIL 1992 WITH APRIL 1991, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE UNITED STATES, CHINA, ITALY, TAIWAN AND JAPAN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 41%, 39%, 37%, 30%, 27% AND 27% RESPECTIVELY. THOSE TO SINGAPORE AND FRANCE ALSO INCREASED, BY 19% AND 12% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO GERMANY AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DECREASED BY 8% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY.

/COMPARING THE .....

COMPARING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS IN 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, CHINA, ITALY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE AND JAPAN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 47%, 41%, 39%, 33%, 30% AND 25% RESPECTIVELY. THOSE TO SINGAPORE AND TAIWAN ALSO INCREASED, BY 18% AND 14% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO GERMANY DECREASED BY 6%.

TABLE 6 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS IN 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES OF MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY $7,606 MILLION OR 46%); CLOTHING (BY $4,145 MILLION OR 23%); FOOTWEAR (BY $3,382 MILLION OR 53%); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY $3,205 MILLION OR 58%); AND TEXTILES (BY $3,113MILLION OR 20%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN FISH, CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES, AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY $119 MILLION OR 9%); AND OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUITS (BY $103MILLION OR 56%).

STARTING FROM JANUARY THIS YEAR, THE THIRD REVISION OF THE STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC REV. 3) HAS BEEN ADOPTED IN HONG KONG IN PLACE OF THE SECOND REVISION FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF TRADE STATISTICS BY COMMODITY.

TO ACHIEVE COMPARABILITY, THE COMMODITY TRADE STATISTICS FOR 1991 PRESENTED HERE HAVE BEEN RE-CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO THE NEW SYSTEM.

ALL THE TRADE STATISTICS DESCRIBED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON.

A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN APRIL1992 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY JULY.

DETAILED TRADE STATISTICS ANALYSED BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE PUBLISHED IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

THE APRIL 1992 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN APRIL 1992 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT $52.00 PER COPY AROUND JUNE 22.

THE REPORT CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, OR THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

/ENQUIRIES REGARDING .....

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL NO. 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL NO. 582 4915).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	APR 92 OVER APR 91 (%)	JAN-APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 92 OVER JAN-APR 91 (%)
CHINA	5,363	+ 13	17,261	+ 15
UNITED STATES	4,420	+ 4	16,766	+ 5
GERMANY	845	- 43	4,270	- 33
JAPAN	835	- 18	3,566	- 2
UNITED KINGDOM	858	- 16	3,508	- 15
SINGAPORE	805	+ 10	3,012	+ 8
TAIWAN	674	+ 23	2,106	+ 5
NETHERLANDS	343	- 25	1,545	- 17
CANADA	307	- 2	1,509	+ 12
FRANCE	243	- 27	1,000	- 17

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	APR 92 OVER APR 91 (%)	JAN-APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 92 OVER JAN-APR 91 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,292	- 5	19,520	+ 1
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	1,769	- 12	6,915	+ 1

/OFFICE MACHINES .....

OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	1,513	*	5,947	+ 3
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,676	+ 5	5,689	- 2
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,491	- 20	5,621	- 13
TEXTILE YARN,FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,790	+ 15	5,096	- 2

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	APR 92 OVER APR 91 (%)	JAN-APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 92 OVER JAN-APR 91 (%)
CHINA	28,463	+ 20	100,760	+ 25
JAPAN	13,660	+ 30	48,208	+ 28
TAIWAN	7,320	+ 17	25,221	+ 20
UNITED STATES	5,576	- 1	19,533	+ 5
REP OF KOREA	4,221	+ 30	13,655	+ 26
SINGAPORE	2,857	+ 20	10,623	+ 4
GERMANY	1,795	+ 26	6,388	+ 27
UNITED KINGDOM	1,755	+ 15	6,121	+ 10
ITALY	1,181	+ 14	4,319	+ 22
SWITZERLAND	1,071	+ 8	3,844	+ 5

/TABLE 4 .....

TABLE 4: IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	APR 92 OVER APR 91 (%)	JAN-APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 92 OVER JAN-APR 91 (%)
TEXTILE YARN,FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	10,390	+ 20	30,358	+ 12
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	7,781	+ 28	26,422	+ 17
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	5,801	+ 16	22,360	+ 22
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	6,142	+ 20	21,710	+ 23
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES,TOYS,GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	4,979	+ 15	19,335	+ 33
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3,848	+ 14	13,735	+ 17

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	APR 92 OVER APR 91 (%)	JAN-APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 92 OVER JAN-APR 91 (%)
CHINA	17,296	+ 37	58,379	+ 41
UNITED STATES	10,169	+ 39	38,639	+ 47
JAPAN	2,859	+ 27	10,830	+ 25
GERMANY	2,381	- 8	9,764	- 6
TAIWAN	2,641	+ 27	8,916	+ 14

/UNITED KINGDOM .....

UNITED KINGDOM	1,397	+ 41	4,958	+ 33
REP OF KOREA	1,277	- 2	4,484	+ 1
SINGAPORE	1,141	+ 19	4,197	+ 18
FRANCE	892	+ 12	3,386	+ 30
ITALY	890	+ 30	3,334	+ 39

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	APR 92 OVER APR 91 (%)	JAN-APR 1992 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 92 OVER JAN-APR 91 (%)
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES,TOYS,GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	6,328	+ 25	24,234	+ 46
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	5,107	+ 20	21,851	+ 23
TEXTILE YARN,FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6,233	+ 29	18,850	+ 20
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	4,266	+ 18	14,732	+ 21
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	4,158	+ 34	14,646	+ 26
FOOTWEAR	2,286	+ 43	9,797	+ 53

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FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TODAY (THURSDAY) LAUNCHED A THREE-MONTH TERRITORY-WIDE FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN TO REMIND PEOPLE IN THE FOOD TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO OBSERVE GOOD FOOD HYGIENE PRACTICES TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC HEALTH.

ENTITLED "FOOD HYGIENE IS OUR TALKING POINT", THE CAMPAIGN WAS ORGANISED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE URBAN COUNCIL (UC) AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL (RC) AND WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE FOOD TRADE.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE UC'S PUBLIC HEALTH SELECT COMMITTEE, PROFESSOR LEUNG PING-CHUNG, SAID FOOD POISONING AND FOOD-BORNE DISEASES COULD BE PREVENTED IF PEOPLE KNEW ABOUT THE CAUSES AND CHANNELS OF FOOD CONTAMINATION.

"PROPER PREVENTIVE MEASURES CAN BE TAKEN DURING FOOD PREPARATION, THUS BREAKING THE CRUCIAL LINK OF CONTAMINATION AND MAKING THE FOOD MUCH SAFER FOR CONSUMPTION," PROFESSOR LEUNG SAID.

HE SAID THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAVE ALL ALONG BEEN MONITORING THE HYGIENE CONDITION OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOOD SAFETY.

THEY HAVE ALSO ACTIVELY EDUCATED THE PUBLIC ON THE GENERAL AND CORRECT KNOWLEDGE IN HYGIENE AND SANITATION, HE ADDED.

LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 225 FOOD POISONING CASES AFFECTING 761 PEOPLE, 1,297 CASES OF HEPATITIS A, 442 CASES OF DYSENTERY AND FIVE CASES OF CHOLERA WERE REPORTED.

HOWEVER, PROFESSOR LEUNG SAID MANY OF THESE CASES WERE RESULTED FROM THE CONSUMPTION OF CONTAMINATED AND IMPROPERLY TREATED FOOD.

AT THE SAME CEREMONY, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE RC'S ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE SELECT COMMITTEE, MR YEUNG FUK-KWONG, SAID LEGISLATION HAD BEEN ENACTED ON THE MONITORING OF HYGIENIC CONDITIONS OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOOD SAFETY.

"EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS WILL ACT AS A DETERRENT TO IMPROPER PRACTICES SUCH AS RUNNING A FOOD ESTABLISHMENT WITHOUT A LICENCE, ILLEGALLY EXTENDING THE BUSINESS PREMISES TO SOLICIT MORE CUSTOMERS AND ABUSING THE USE OF FOOD ADDITIVES.

MR YEUNG HOPED THAT THE CAMPAIGN WOULD ENABLE PEOPLE TO HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LEGISLATION AND ENHANCE THE AWARENESS OF GOOD FOOD HYGIENE PRACTICES.

HE CALLED FOR THE CO-OPERATION AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE PUBLIC TO JOIN HANDS WITH THE AUTHORITIES TO ENSURE FOOD SAFETY.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, 24 FOOD HYGIENE SEMINARS WILL BE HELD FOR PEOPLE IN THE FOOD TRADE, INCLUDING LICENSEES AND STAFF OF LICENSED FOOD PREMISES, COOKED FOOD STALLS AND CANTEENS AT CONVENIENTLY LOCATED VENUES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

/THE SEMINARS .....

THE SEMINARS, WHICH ARE EDUCATIONAL IN NATURE, WILL EACH COMPRISE A TALK, A SLIDE SHOW AND A FILM ON FOOD CONTAMINATION AND ITS PREVENTION, FOLLOWED BY AN OPEN DISCUSSION.

PRINTED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO SUPPLEMENT THE TALK.

AT THE END OF THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, EACH PARTICIPANT WILL BE AWARDED A CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE.

WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, FOUR OTHER SEMINARS WILL BE ORGANISED FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS, WHO WILL IN TURN CONVEY THE MESSAGES TO THEIR STUDENTS.

TO DRIVE HOME THE FOOD HYGIENE MESSAGE, A TELEVISION AND RADIO APIS (ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST) WILL BE SHOWN AND BROADCAST AND A ROUND-THE-CLOCK HEALTH EDUCATON HOTLINE (723 0013) WILL BE SET UP TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES ON FOOD HYGIENE MATTERS.

A BROADCASTING VAN WILL BE DEPLOYED TO STEP UP PUBLICITY AT VARIOUS STRATEGIC LOCALITIES.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S CEREMONY WAS THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH (HYGIENE), DR MAHOMMED BIN ALI.

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GOVT FAVOURS ORGAN DONATION BY CHOICE AND CONSCIOUS ACT

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THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, TONIGHT (THURSDAY) DISMISSED THE ADOPTION OF A STATUTORY "OPTING-OUT" SYSTEM TO SECURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF ORGANS FOR TRANSPLANT IN HONG KONG AS ADVOCATED BY SOME PEOPLE.

UNDER THIS SYSTEM, SHE EXPLAINED, ORGANS WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPLANT UPON ONE'S DEATH UNLESS ONE HAD SPECIFICALLY OPTED TO THE CONTRARY.

"WE BELIEVE THIS TO BE AN EVENTUAL GOAL," SHE STATED.

HOWEVER, GIVEN PREVAILING PUBLIC ATTITUDES, SUCH LEGISLATION WAS AT PRESENT SIMPLY NOT ACCEPTABLE, SHE ADDED.

"WE ARE AWARE THAT OFTEN THE NEXT-OF-KIN OF THE DECEASED RESENT THE REMOVAL OF ORGANS FROM THEIR DEAR DEPARTED.

"WE MUST ALWAYS RESPECT THE WISHES OF THE BEREAVED AND NOT ADD TO THE PAIN OF THEIR BEREAVEMENT.

"SO, WE FAVOUR DONATION BY CHOICE AND CONSCIOUS ACT; THEN LATER, THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION AND ATTITUDE CHANGE, WE CAN GO FURTHER FORWARD."

/SPEAKING AT .....

SPEAKING AT THE LIONS KIDNEY EDUCATIONAL CENTRE AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION DIRECTORS' DINNER MEETING, MRS WONG SAID 1,124 PEOPLE DIED OF RENAL FAILURE IN 1990.

AND AT THE END OF FEBRUARY THIS YEAR, SOME 600 PATIENTS WERE ON THE WAITING LIST FOR TRANSPLANT.

THE GOVERNMENT, SHE SAID, WAS ENDEAVOURING TO INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF ORGANS AND TO INTRODUCE SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ABUSE AS WELL AS FOR PATIENT SAFETY.

ON THE SUPPLY OF ORGANS, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS LAUNCHED A MULTI-MEDIA CAMPAIGN TO MOTIVATE MORE PEOPLE TOWARDS ORGAN DONATION, TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT AND TO REMOVE MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANT.

"MANY HONG KONG PEOPLE IN RECENT MONTHS HAVE DEMONSTRATED A SOCIAL CONSCIENCE AND A BIG CARING HEART OVER, FOR EXAMPLE, LITTLE GORDON OR FLOODS IN CHINA," MRS WONG SAID.

"WE ARE CONVINCED THAT WE CAN WIN OVER MORE AND MORE PEOPLE TO DONATE THEIR ORGANS AND TO SAVE OTHERS."

AS REGARDS LEGISLATION, THE HUMAN ORGAN TRANSPLANT BILL WHICH IS BEING STUDIED BY A LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AD HOC GROUP, SEEKS TO BAN ADVERTISING AND SOLICITATION RELATING TO COMMERCIAL ORGAN TRADING.

IT ALSO AIMS TO CONTROL THE TRANSPLANTING OF ORGANS FROM UNRELATED LIVING DONORS, AND ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY BOARD TO CONSIDER SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ORGANS TO BE TAKEN FROM UNRELATED LIVING DONORS.

MRS WONG ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE LIONS KIDNEY EDUCATIONAL CENTRE AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR HAVING SET A GOOD EXAMPLE IN REACHING OUT THROUGH EDUCATION, PUBLICITY AND PERSUASION.

SHE BELIEVED THAT THEIR HARD WORK WOULD ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR THOSE WITH RENAL PROBLEMS.

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CAPUT SCHOOLS

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"THERE ARE ESTABLISHED RULES GOVERNING PRIVATE NON-PROFIT-MAKING SCHOOLS RECEIVING THE PER CAPUT GRANT UNDER THE BOUGHT PLACES SCHEME.

THE GRANT AIMS MAINLY TO HELP THESE SCHOOLS TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN QUALIFIED TEACHERS BY SUPPLEMENTING THEIR SALARIES TO A LEVEL COMPARABLE TO THOSE IN AIDED SCHOOLS, AND TO HELP IMPROVE FACILITIES OR EQUIPMENT.

/THE RULES .....

THE RULES STIPULATE THAT NOT LESS THAN 65% OF THE GRANT SHOULD BE USED ON SUPPLEMENTING TEACHERS' SALARIES AND THAT NOT MORE THAN 35% SHOULD BE USED ON IMPROVEMENTS.

CAPUT SCHOOLS ARE REQUIRED, UNDER THE RULES, TO KEEP RECORDS AND ACCOUNTS WHICH ARE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT ANY TIME, AND COPIES ARE SUBMITTED ANNUALLY TOGETHER WITH THE AUDITED ACCOUNTS TO THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. THESE ARE CHECKED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

UNLIKE AIDED SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE A CODE OF AID UNDER WHICH THE DISMISSAL OF STAFF FOLLOWS A SET OF PROCEDURES, THE RULES GOVERNING CAPUT SCHOOLS REFER ONLY TO CONDITIONS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF TEACHING STAFF.

HOWEVER, SINCE EARLY LAST YEAR CAPUT SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT WHEN ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE PROVIDED TO THEM, PROBABLY IN 1993, TO BRING THEM UP TO AIDED SCHOOL STANDARD, THEY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO FOLLOW THE CODE OF AID PROCEDURES FULLY WHEN APPOINTING AND DISMISSING TEACHERS.

IN TERMS OF LAW, CONTRACTS OF EMPLOYMENT ARE GOVERNED BY THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE. IN DISMISSING TEACHERS, THE EDUCATION REGULATIONS ALSO REQUIRE THE AGREEMENT OF THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

IT HAS BEEN COMPLIED WITH IN THIS CASE. IN MONITORING THE SCHOOL, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD ALSO ADVISED THE SUPERVISOR THAT THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED."

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ED STATEMENT ON INQUEST

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IN REPSONSE TO MEDIA ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE INQUEST INTO THE DEATH OF A 13-YEAR-OLD STUDENT, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID:

THE DEPARTMENT WAS NOT INFORMED BEFOREHAND THAT A CORONER'S COURT WOULD BE HELD AND THAT NO SUMMONS FOR AN OFFICER TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COURT YESTERDAY (JUNE 10) WAS RECEIVED.

A SUMMONS WAS RECEIVED ONLY YESTERDAY THAT AN OFFICER SHOULD APPEAR TODAY AND THIS HAS BEEN COMPLIED WITH.

THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL NOT COMMENT ON THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE COURT BUT WILL STUDY THE CORONER'S REPORT WHEN IT IS RECEIVED AND WILL GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO THE RIDERS CONTAINED THEREIN.

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PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL

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APPROVAL HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE BILL WAS TO EXCLUDE APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS OF CIVIL SERVANTS WORKING IN THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (HA) AND THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL (VTC) FROM THE PURVIEW OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

THE VTC AND HA TOOK OVER THE OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING DEPARTMENT (TEITD) AND THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD) IN AUGUST AND DECEMBER LAST YEAR RESPECTIVELY.

"CIVIL SERVANTS WORKING IN THESE ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT THEIR PROSPECTS FOR APPOINTMENT OR PROMOTION IN THESE ORGANISATIONS WILL BE PRESERVED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ON BEING SELECTED BY THE VTC OR HA FOR APPOINTMENT TO HIGHER RANKS WITHIN THESE ORGANISATIONS, CIVIL SERVANTS WILL BE PROMOTED UNDER A SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROMOTION SCHEME WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE."

FOLLOWING THE ENACTMENT OF THE BILL, THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION WILL NOT ADVISE ON THE SUITABILITY OF THE CIVIL SERVANTS SELECTED FOR APPOINTMENT UNDER THIS SCHEME AS THE SELECTION IS MADE BY EITHER THE VTC OR HA.

"THE COMMISSION WILL, HOWEVER, CONTINUE TO ADVISE ON MATTERS RELATING TO CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE IN RESPECT OF CIVIL SERVANTS WORKING IN THESE TWO ORGANISATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE BILL WILL BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READING ON JULY 1.

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AMENDMENT TO COMPLAINTS ORDINANCE

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE INCLUSION OF THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE AND THE REPLACEMENT OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT IN THE LIST OF DEPARTMENTS AND ORGANISATIONS TO WHICH THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS ORDINANCE APPLIES.

"FOLLOWING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEPARATE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE FROM JUNE 1, 1992 AS PART OF THE REORGANISATION OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, AND THE CHANGE OF THE TITLE OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, THE AMENDMENT TO THE LIST IS NECESSARY TO ENABLE THE COMMISSIONER TO DEAL WITH COMPLAINTS RELATING TO THESE TWO ORGANISATIONS," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

THE CHANGES WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW UNDER THE COMAC ORDINANCE (AMENDMENT OF SCHEDULE 1) ORDER 1992.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR PURCHASE OF "RODGERS" ORGAN

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THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A "RODGERS" ORGAN MODEL 110E AND ACCESSORIES FROM CITY HALL OF URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE ORGAN HAS SERVED THE CONCERT HALL OF CITY HALL FOR ABOUT 16 YEARS AND HAS NOW BECOME SURPLUS TO REQUIREMENT.

A TECHNICAL CHECK WAS CONDUCTED AND REVEALED THAT THE INSTRUMENT IS STILL SERVICEABLE AND HAS RESALE VALUE.

TENDER NOTIFICATIONS FOR THIS PURCHASE WILL BE GAZETTED AND PRINTED IN SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, WAH KIU YAT PO, ECONOMIC JOURNAL AND ECONOMIC TIMES ON FRIDAY (JUNE 12).

TENDER FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT PROCUREMENT DIVISION, 6/F, GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT, HONG KONG.

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TEMPORARY POST OFFICE FOR LIONS CONVENTION

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR M. PAGLIARI, ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT A TEMPORARY POST OFFICE WILL BE SET UP AT LEVEL 1 OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, WAN CHAI FOR THE 75TH LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FROM JUNE 22 TO 26 TO SERVE DELEGATES ATTENDING THE CONVENTION.

THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE TEMPORARY POST OFFICE WILL BE:

9 AM TO 5 PM (JUNE 22 TO 25)
9 AM TO 3 PM (JUNE 26)

A SET OF FIVE SOUVENIR COVERS ISSUED BY THE ORGANISERS OF THE CONVENTION WILL BE PUT ON SALE AT $30 PER SET AT THE TEMPORARY POST OFFICE FROM JUNE 22 TO 26 AND AT THE FOLLOWING PHILATELIC OFFICES FROM JUNE 18 TO 26:

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

A SPECIAL DATESTAMP WILL BE INTRODUCED.

A HAND-BACK SERVICE USING THE SPECIAL DATESTAMP WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE TEMPORARY POST OFFICE AND THE SEVEN PHILATELIC OFFICES FROM JUNE 22 TO 26 FOR PRIVATELY MADE COVERS BEARING INDICATION OF THE CONVENTION.

/A SOUVENIR .....

A SOUVENIR STAMP PACK TO MARK THE OCCASION WILL BE PUT ON SALE AT THE TEMPORARY POST OFFICE AND THE SEVEN PHILATELIC OFFICES AS FROM JUNE 22 AT $47 EACH. THE PACK CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING SETS OF SPECIAL STAMPS:

- YEAR OF THE MONKEY
- HONG KONG PEOPLE
- 100 YEARS OF TRANSPORT IN HONG KONG
- HONG KONG LANDMARKS (ONLY THE $1.70 STAMP WHICH DEPICTS THE PEAK LIONS CLUB PAVILION)

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234 VMS RETURNED TODAY
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A GROUP OF 234 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (THURSDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 96 MEN, 55 WOMEN, 47 BOYS AND 36 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 106TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 4,683 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 18,662 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THE GRADING WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT BIWEEKLY INTERVALS DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT E.COLI DATA OBTAINED BY THE EPD IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME.

AS WITH LAST YEAR, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH WHICH HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

/THE GRADING .....

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

"BEACHES WITH HIGHLY DEVELOPED HINTERLANDS ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE POLLUTED THAN THE GRADES SUGGEST DURING AND AFTER HEAVY RAIN. BATHERS SHOULD AVOID SUCH BEACHES FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS AFTER A STORM, LONGER IF THE WEATHER REMAINS OVERCAST OR LESS IF THERE IS STRONG SUNSHINE."

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

* GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.

* GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

* GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

* GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS VERY POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "4" GRADE OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, THE REOPENING OF A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "3" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, TWO BATHING BEACHES, NAMELY CASTLE PEAK AND OLD CAFETERIA, HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM IN THE WATER AT THESE TWO BEACHES.

/IN ADDITION .....

IN ADDITION, ROCKY BAY BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. THESE THREE BEACHES ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING LIST.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG TODAY ARE LISTED BELOW:

BEACH	PREVIOUS GRADING (AS AT 28.5.92)	PRESENT GRADING (AS AT 11.6.92)
HONG KONG SOUTH		
BIG WAVE BAY	2	2
CHUNG HOM KOK	2	2
DEEP WATER BAY	1	1
HAIRPIN	1	1
MIDDLE BAY	1	1
REPULSE BAY	1	1
SHEK O	2	2
SOUTH BAY	1	1
ST. STEPHEN'S	1	1
TURTLE COVE	1	1
STANLEY MAIN	2	2
ROCKY BAY	X	X
TO TEI WAN*	1	1
TUEN MUN DISTRICT		
OLD CAFETERIA	X	X
NEW CAFETERIA	2	2
CASTLE PEAK	X	X
KADOORIE	3	3
BUTTERFLY	3	2

/SAI KUNG .....

SAI KUNG DISTRICT

CAMPERS	2	2
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	2	2
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	2	2
HAP MUN BAY	1	1
KIU TSUI	1	1
PAK SHA CHAU	1	1
SILVERSTRAND	3	3
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	2	2

ISLANDS DISTRICT

CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	2	2
DISCOVERY BAY*	3	3
HUNG SHING YEH	2	1
KWUN YAM WAN	2	2
TONG FUK	1	1
LO SO SHING	1	1
PUI O	2	1
SILVERMINE BAY	3	2
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	2	2
TUNG O*	1	1

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT

ANGLERS'	3	3
APPROACH	3	4
CASAM	3	4

GEMINI	3	3
HOI MEI WAN	3	4
LIDO	3	3
TING KAU	4	4
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	2	3

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.
* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES.

THE FOLLOWING BEACHES HAVE CHANGED GRADING ON THIS OCCASION:

HUNG SHING YEH, PUI O FROM "2" TO "1"; SILVERMINE BAY, BUTTERFLY FROM "3" TO "2"; TUNG WAN, MA WAN FROM "2" TO "3"; APPROACH, CASAM, HOI MEI WAN FROM "3" TO "4".

THE CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF THESE BEACHES.

THE VERY POOR WATER QUALITY AT TING KAU, APPROACH, CASAM AND HOI MEI WAN BEACHES IS DUE TO THE RECENT HEAVY RAINFALL WHICH HAD CAUSED THE POLLUTANTS IN THE BEACH HINTERLAND TO BE FLUSHED INTO THE SEA WATER.

IN ADDITION TO THE ROUTINE MONITORING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY (DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND FAMILY MEDICINE AND DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY) WILL CONDUCT AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL-MICROBIOLOGICAL STUDY AT REPULSE BAY BEACH AND BUTTERFLY BEACH STARTING JUNE THIS YEAR.

THE STUDY AIMS TO IDENTIFY AND QUANTIFY THE PATHOGENS THAT MIGHT CAUSE DISEASES AMONG BATHERS SWIMMING IN POLLUTED BEACH WATER, SO THAT APPROPRIATE STANDARD CAN BE USED AND EFFECTIVE POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES CAN BE DEVISED.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, MR EDMOND HO, ON TEL 835 1234.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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11 JUNE 1992

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,238 MN
REVERSAL OF LAF	-250 MN
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	988 MN
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	NIL
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	988 MN

LAF RATE 2.50 BID/4.50 OFFER TWI 111.2 *-0.1* 11.6.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.29 PCT
1 MONTH	2.99 PCT
3 MONTHS	2.93 PCT
6 MONTHS	3.26 PCT
12 MONTHS	3.96 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
18 MONTHS	2311	6.25	102.27	4.65
21 MONTHS	2402	5.50	101.03	4.91
24 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.74	5.16

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 5,498 MN

CLOSED 11 JUNE 1992

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