



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1990

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FS TO PRESENT BUDGET ON WEDNESDAY

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HONG KONG'S BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1990-91 WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 7).

THE PROCEEDINGS WILL START AT 2.30 PM, WHEN THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS, MOVES THE FIRST AND SECOND READINGS OF THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1990, AND OUTLINES THE ESTIMATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR 1990-91.

THE HEADS OF EXPENDITURE WERE SET OUT IN THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1990 WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE ON FRIDAY.

DEBATE ON THE BILL WILL BE ADJOURNED UNTIL APRIL 25 AND 26, WHEN MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON THE BUDGET PROPOSALS.

OFFICIALS WILL REPLY ON MAY 9 TO POINTS RAISED BY MEMBERS.

ON MAY 16, THE BILL IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S SPEECH ON WEDNESDAY WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE BY RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG'S RADIO 5 (CHINESE) AND RADIO 3 (ENGLISH).

RADIO 5 AND RADIO 3 WILL ALSO BROADCAST LIVE THE OTHER BUDGET SITTINGS ON APRIL 25 AND 26 AND MAY 9 AND 16.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

GIS WILL PROVIDE FACILITIES ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 7) TO ENABLE REPRESENTATIVES TO START WORK ON THEIR BUDGET STORIES EARLY.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE GIVEN ADVANCE COPIES OF THE BUDGET SPEECH AND ECONOMIC PROSPECTS AT 12 NOON, BUT THEY MUST STAY AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM (FIFTH FLOOR OF BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL) TO WORK ON THEIR COPIES AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE UNTIL AFTER THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS CONCLUDED HIS SPEECH.

CONTACTS OF ANY KIND WITH THE OUTSIDE, SUCH AS TELEPHONE OR COMPUTER LINKS, WILL NOT BE PERMITTED DURING THE "LOCK-IN". ALSO, MOBILE TELEPHONES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INTO THE CONFERENCE ROOM.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH AND THE FINANCE BRANCH WILL BE ON HAND TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM FROM 12.30 PM. THEY ARE NOT THERE TO GIVE INTERVIEWS, AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE QUOTED.

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND SANDWICHES WILL BE SERVED AND GIS OFFICERS WILL BE ON HAND TO OFFER HELP.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR JANUARY PUBLISHED

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BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED IN JANUARY 1990 COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1989, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH.

REFLECTING THE INCREASE IN CASH DEMAND DURING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR, THE NARROWEST DEFINITION OF MONEY SUPPLY, HK\$M1, ROSE SUBSTANTIALLY DURING JANUARY.

THE BROADER DEFINITIONS, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 ALSO REGISTERED INCREASES DURING THE MONTH.

TOTAL LOANS AND ADVANCES FELL DURING JANUARY, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE SEASONAL DECLINE IN OFFSHORE LOANS.

DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 0.3 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1990, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 2.2 PER CENT AND 1.4 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1989 RESPECTIVELY. THE SLOWER INCREASE WAS A REFLECTION OF THE LARGE WITHDRAWAL OF CASH FROM DEPOSITS FOR USE DURING CHINESE NEW YEAR.

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEMAND DEPOSITS DECLINED BY 1.5 PER CENT, WHILE SAVINGS AND TIME DEPOSITS ROSE BY 0.3 PER CENT AND 0.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1990, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 9.6 PER CENT, AND WHEN SWAP DEPOSITS ARE INCLUDED, BY 12.9 PER CENT, LARGELY IN LINE WITH THE GROWTH IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS ROSE BY 3.5 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1990, AFTER INCREASES OF 3.4 PER CENT AND 2.5 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1989 RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS ROSE BY 0.2 PER CENT WHILE NON-U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 7.1 PER CENT.

OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 25.1 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1990, AFTER A DECLINE OF 0.8 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND AN INCREASE OF 2.7 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1989.

/ADJUSTED TO

ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THESE DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS ROSE BY 0.3 PER CENT IN JANUARY AND BY 12.9 PER CENT COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS, ADJUSTED TO EXCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, INCREASED BY 3.9 PER CENT IN JANUARY AND BY 23.8 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR.

DEPOSITS OF ALL CURRENCIES WITH BANKS ROSE BY 2.7 PER CENT IN JANUARY WHILE THOSE WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES RECORDED A DECLINE OF 3.1 PER CENT. FOR THE YEAR AS A WHOLE, THE FORMER ROSE BY 19.8 PER CENT WHILE THE LATTER GREW BY 5.5 PER CENT.

MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 8.0 PER CENT, 2.1 PER CENT AND 2.0 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN JANUARY 1990. THESE COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING RATES OF -0.6 PER CENT, +2.1 PER CENT AND +1.8 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1989.

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JANUARY 1990, HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 ROSE BY 5.3 PER CENT, 12.1 PER CENT AND 10.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

ADJUSTED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF SWAP DEPOSITS, HK\$M2 INCREASED BY 1.8 PER CENT IN JANUARY AND BY 15.0 PER CENT COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER. HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 1.7 PER CENT IN JANUARY AND BY 13.3 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR.

TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 ROSE BY 9.2 PER CENT, 3.3 PER CENT AND 2.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN JANUARY. THEIR CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN DECEMBER WERE 0.3 PER CENT, 2.4 PER CENT AND 2.2 PER CENT.

OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 GREW BY 6.8 PER CENT, 19.8 PER CENT AND 18.6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS DECLINED BY 0.8 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1990, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 2.2 PER CENT AND 6.0 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1989 RESPECTIVELY.

OF THE TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS, THOSE DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS GREW BY 2.6 PER CENT WHILE THOSE DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES DECREASED BY 3.2 PER CENT.

/LOANS TO

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG FELL BY 0.8 PER CENT IN JANUARY 1990, FOLLOWING A DECLINE OF 1.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND AN INCREASE OF 0.5 PER CENT IN DECEMBER 1989 RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 8.2 PER CENT.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG GREW BY 2.5 PER CENT IN JANUARY COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 2.3 PER CENT AND 1.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 26.9 PER CENT.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG DECREASED BY 3.9 PER CENT IN JANUARY, FOLLOWING A STRONG INCREASE OF 8.1 PER CENT IN DECEMBER. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 26.2 PER CENT.

LOANS TO FINANCE MERCHANDISING TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG DECLINED BY 22 PER CENT IN JANUARY, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 3.6 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND A ZERO GROWTH IN DECEMBER. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS DECLINED BY 9.5 PER CENT. IN TERMS OF RELATIVE SHARE, HOWEVER, THESE LOANS ACCOUNTED FOR ONLY A SMALL PROPORTION OF TOTAL LOANS.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 165. THE NUMBER OF LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED BY ONE TO 37 WHILE THAT OF REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY TWO TO 200.

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TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - JANUARY 1990

(HK\$mn)

	Jan 1990	Earlier months (% change to January 1990)		
	-----	Dec 1989	Oct 1989	Jan 1989
Money Supply				
M1 - HK\$	92,014	85,183 (8.0 %)	82,441 (11.6 %)	87,362 (5.3 %)
Foreign currency	11,554	9,675 (19.4 %)	9,178 (25.9 %)	9,608 (20.3 %)
Total	103,568	94,858 (9.2 %)	91,619 (13.0 %)	96,970 (6.8 %)
M2 - HK\$	412,321	403,987 (2.1 %)	386,216 (6.8 %)	367,752 (12.1 %)
Foreign currency	608,851	584,849 (4.1 %)	552,309 (10.2 %)	484,985 (25.5 %)
Total	1,021,172	988,836 (3.3 %)	938,525 (8.8 %)	852,737 (19.8 %)
M3 - HK\$	442,867	434,376 (2.0 %)	418,370 (5.9 %)	401,177 (10.4 %)
Foreign currency	647,517	625,831 (3.5 %)	591,129 (9.5 %)	518,007 (25.0 %)
Total	1,090,384	1,060,207 (2.8 %)	1,009,499 (8.0 %)	919,184 (18.6 %)
Notes and coins in circulation	48,563	39,670 (22.4 %)	36,565 (32.8 %)	39,975 (21.5 %)
of which held by public	41,811	34,192 (22.3 %)	31,843 (31.3 %)	33,838 (23.6 %)
Total Deposits				
Total Demand deposits	61,757	60,666 (1.8 %)	59,776 (3.3 %)	63,132 (-2.2 %)
Total Savings deposits	194,619	193,186 (0.7 %)	179,977 (8.1 %)	171,225 (13.7 %)
Total Time deposits with banks	706,270	683,802 (3.3 %)	649,924 (8.7 %)	568,984 (24.1 %)
Total Time deposits with dtcs	67,868	70,004 (-3.1 %)	69,039 (-1.7 %)	64,313 (5.5 %)
HK\$ deposits	388,897	387,640 (0.3 %)	373,929 (4.0 %)	354,856 (9.6 %)
US\$ deposits	325,845	325,088 (0.2 %)	308,162 (5.7 %)	266,761 (22.1 %)
Other foreign currency deposits	315,771	294,929 (7.1 %)	276,626 (14.2 %)	246,037 (28.3 %)
All deposits	1,030,512	1,007,658 (2.3 %)	958,716 (7.5 %)	867,654 (18.8 %)
Foreign currency swap deposits	63,033	63,122 (-0.1 %)	61,954 (1.7 %)	45,527 (38.5 %)
Total Loans and advances				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	63,024	63,562 (-0.8 %)	63,899 (-1.4 %)	58,239 (8.2 %)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	8,134	10,427 (-22.0 %)	10,066 (-19.2 %)	8,988 (-9.5 %)
Other loans for use in H.K.	599,267	584,594 (2.5 %)	564,974 (6.1 %)	472,311 (26.9 %)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	485,628	505,396 (-3.9 %)	456,347 (6.4 %)	384,775 (26.2 %)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	105,411	107,920 (-2.3 %)	78,506 (34.3 %)	56,012 (88.2 %)
Loans in HK\$	538,757	525,239 (2.6 %)	507,919 (6.1 %)	419,770 (28.3 %)
Loans in foreign currencies	722,708	746,659 (-3.2 %)	665,873 (8.5 %)	560,556 (28.9 %)
Total loans and advances	1,261,465	1,271,899 (-0.8 %)	1,173,792 (7.5 %)	980,326 (28.7 %)

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APPOINTMENTS TO PORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THE FIRST STEPS IN THE FORMATION OF THE PORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR TONY CLARK, HAS BEEN APPOINTED SECRETARY TO THE BOARD; AND A PRINCIPAL MARINE OFFICER, MR IAN DALE, DEPUTY SECRETARY.

IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 11 LAST YEAR, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID A NON-STATUTORY PORT DEVELOPMENT BOARD WOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO BRING TOGETHER THE INTERESTS OF BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE OPERATORS, AND TO ADVISE ON THE PLANNING AND LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT OF THE PORT.

"DETAILED TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE BOARD ARE NOW BEING DRAWN UP WITH A VIEW TO ITS ESTABLISHMENT DURING 'APRIL,'" A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IT IS INTENDED THAT THE BOARD WILL COMPRISE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND KEY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED WITH THE PORT.

"THE CHAIRMAN WILL BE DRAWN FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR," HE SAID.

PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS SECRETARY TO THE BOARD, MR CLARK WAS PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOVERNMENT'S SHIPPING POLICY.

MR DALE WAS PRINCIPAL MARINE OFFICER, PORT SERVICES, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT OF SHIPPING.

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BENEFITS OF EFFECTIVE QUALITY STRATEGY
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QUALITY IN MANUFACTURING MUST BE SEEN AS A POTENTIAL WEAPON, RATHER THAN MERELY A PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID THIS (MONDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SEMINAR ON "MAKING QUALITY HAPPEN" AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, MR BARMA SAID CHAIRMEN AND MANAGING DIRECTORS OF COMPANIES MUST BE CONVINCED OF THE NEED TO PURSUE AN EFFECTIVE QUALITY STRATEGY.

"AND THEY MUST BE INVOLVED PERSONALLY BY ENSURING THAT THIS STRATEGY IS INCORPORATED INTO THEIR COMPANIES' BUSINESS PLANS.

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"SO, WHILE ADEQUATE FINANCE AND OTHER RESOURCES WILL THEREFORE NEED TO BE MADE AVAILABLE, THE RETURNS ON SUCH INVESTMENT CAN BE SUBSTANTIAL.

"RECOGNITION OF THESE FACTORS IS CRITICAL TO A LONG TERM, OVERALL INDUSTRIAL QUALITY STRATEGY FOR HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALREADY KEENLY AWARE OF THE NEED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURED GOODS TO ENABLE COMPANIES TO SURVIVE AND THRIVE IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

FOR ITS PART, THE GOVERNMENT HAD SINCE THE EARLY 1980'S DEVELOPED A WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES TO ASSIST MANUFACTURERS IN THEIR PURSUIT OF IMPROVED QUALITY IN PRODUCTION, AND SUCH QUALITY SERVICES WERE WELL DEVELOPED AND HAD ACHIEVED INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION.

FURTHER SUPPORT HAD BEEN GIVEN IN THE FORM OF A COMPREHENSIVE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME WHICH WOULD ALLOW FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF EXISTING QUALITY SERVICES, THE PROMOTION OF QUALITY THROUGH THE LAUNCHING OF AN ONGOING QUALITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A QUALITY MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION SCHEME FOR MANUFACTURING COMPANIES.

MR BARMA SAID THE AIM OF THE SEMINAR WAS TO PROVIDE AN INSIGHT INTO THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY NECESSARY FOR IMPROVEMENT IN QUALITY.

"FURTHER SEMINARS AND EXHIBITIONS, TOGETHER WITH THE PROVISION OF TRAINING MATERIAL COVERING VARIOUS ASPECTS OF QUALITY ASSURANCE THEORY AND PRACTICE, WILL BE ARRANGED AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ONGOING QUALITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN," HE SAID.

THE SEMINAR, IN WHICH 300 COMPANY EXECUTIVES ARE PARTICIPATING, WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AND WEDNESDAY.

THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS WAS GIVEN TODAY BY MR RON MORTIBOYS, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF MORTIBOYS TOTAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT LTD OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

OTHER SPEAKERS ARE MR JOHN EARLY, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE JURAN INSTITUTE OF THE UNITED STATES; MR ERIC WILLIAMS, CHAIRMAN OF THE INSTITUTE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM; MR ERNEST EVANS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (QUALITY SERVICES) IN THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT; AND MR KEITH NEWTON, DIRECTOR (EXPORTS) IN THE UNITED KINGDOM DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

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CSD DONATES OVER \$500,000 TO ORGANISATIONS
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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT DONATED A TOTAL OF \$500,000 TO 21 CHARITABLE AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS CLOSELY CONNECTED TO THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT AT ITS HEADQUARTERS THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

THEY INCLUDE THE SOCIETY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS, HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR REHABILITATION, THE PRISONERS FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION, HONG KONG CHRISTIAN KUN SUN ASSOCIATION, CARITAS LOK HEEP CLUB, INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE, SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND, HONG KONG CHRISTIAN AID TO REFUGEES, THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE SCOUT ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD, THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND, THE DEPARTMENT'S STAFF WELFARE FUND AND PRISONERS WELFARE FUND.

THE SUM CAME FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE AUTUMN FAIR ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION AT STANLEY IN NOVEMBER.

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IMMIGRATION OFFICERS ON ATTACHMENT TO UK
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FOUR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS WILL LEAVE FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM NEXT WEEK FOR A SIX-WEEK ATTACHMENT PROGRAMME WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM IMMIGRATION SERVICE.

THE FOUR OFFICERS ARE ACTING SENIOR IMMIGRATION OFFICERS, MR TAM WING-YIN, MR CHAN WING-CHEONG AND MRS CHUI CHAN WAI-KUEN, AND AN ACTING IMMIGRATION OFFICER, MR WONG WING-CHUNG.

THEY WILL VISIT BRANCHES OF THE HOME OFFICE HANDLING IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY MATTERS AS WELL AS IMMIGRATION OFFICES AND PORTS.

AT A BRIEFING TODAY (MONDAY) FOR THE OFFICERS, THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR LAURENCE LEUNG, SAID IMMIGRATION WORK HAD BECOME MORE COMPLEX AND MEMBERS OF THE SERVICE WERE REQUIRED TO BE VIGILANT AND ALERT TOWARDS CHANGES THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE.

"THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT PLACES GREAT IMPORTANCE ON GIVING ITS STAFF PROFESSIONAL TRAINING," HE SAID

"I HOPE THE ATTACHMENT WOULD ENABLE THE OFFICERS TO WIDEN THEIR HORIZON AND TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORK OF THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM," HE ADDED.

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500 MUSICIANS TO PERFORM AT GALA

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MORE THAN 500 TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL BE PERFORMING IN A GALA CONCERT TO BE HELD AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE ON SUNDAY (MARCH 11).

THE 1990 ANNUAL GALA WILL BE A REVIEW OF THE TRAINEES' ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PAST YEAR UNDER THE INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TRAINING SCHEME RUN BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH.

THE HIGHLIGHTS WILL BE PERFORMANCES BY THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA AND THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA.

A NUMBER OF THE MEMBERS OF THE TWO ORCHESTRAS WERE WINNERS IN THE SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL IN RECENT YEARS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC OFFICE SAID TODAY (MONDAY): "IT IS A CHALLENGE FOR THE TRAINEES WHO HAVE BEEN REHEARSING HARD DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS FOR THIS GALA PERFORMANCE."

UNDER THE BATON OF THE ASSISTANT MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR OF THE MUSIC OFFICE, MR THOMAS WANG, THE 500 YOUNGSTERS WILL PLAY A NUMBER OF FAMOUS PIECES INCLUDING HAYDN'S "TE DEUM", CHINESE TRADITIONAL "HAPPY SPRING EVENING" AND SOUTH AMERICAN FOLK SONG "LA CAMPARSITA".

SIMILAR TO A SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY, THE ANNUAL GALA IS ONE OF THE MAJOR MUSICAL ACTIVITIES ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE TO PROVIDE ITS TRAINEES WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO PERFORM BEFORE THEIR PARENTS IN PUBLIC.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID WHEN PARENTS WATCH THEIR CHILDREN PERFORM ON STAGE AND PARTICULARLY BEFORE A LARGE AUDIENCE, THEY FEEL PROUD OF THE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE YOUNGSTERS.

"IT IS A SATISFYING FEELING YOU HAVE TO EXPERIENCE FOR YOURSELF," HE ADDED.

THE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL OF THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, DR HELMUT SOHMEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT A PRESENTATION CEREMONY DURING WHICH OUTSTANDING TRAINEES, ORCHESTRAL, CHOIR AND BAND MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF MERIT OR AWARDS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS.

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SIX FARMS COMPLETED WASTE TREATMENT DEMONSTRATION
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SIX OF THE NINE PRIVATE FARMS PARTICIPATING IN THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON LIVESTOCK WASTE TREATMENT METHODS HAVE COMPLETED THE SIX-MONTH DEMONSTRATION PERIOD, MEMBERS OF THE STEERING GROUP ON DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON PRIVATE FARMS LEARNT TODAY (MONDAY).

AT THE GROUP'S MEETING THIS AFTERNOON, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) BRIEFED MEMBERS ON THE PROGRESS OF THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON VARIOUS TREATMENT METHODS WHICH CAN ENABLE LIVESTOCK FARMERS TO COMPLY WITH ANTI-POLLUTION REQUIREMENTS STIPULATED UNDER THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME.

MEMBERS LEARNT THAT ANALYSIS BY EPD CONFIRMED THAT THE TREATED EFFLUENT OF THE PIG FARM IN MA ON SHAN, WHICH JUST COMPLETED ITS DEMONSTRATION PERIOD LAST MONTH, COMPLIED WITH THE ANTI-POLLUTION REQUIREMENTS.

THE FARM OPERATOR WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH THE OPERATION OF THE HYBRID SYSTEM, AND WOULD CONTINUE TO USE THE SYSTEM AFTER THE DEMONSTRATION PERIOD. THE OPERATOR HAD ALSO SUCCESSFULLY MADE USE OF THE SLUDGE PRODUCED TO FERTILISE FRUIT TREES, AN EPD REPRESENTATIVE ADDED.

THE PIG-ON-LITTER WASTE TREATMENT SYSTEM IN ANOTHER PIG FARM IN TA KWU LING WAS HANDED OVER TO THE OPERATOR LAST MONTH AND IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR DEMONSTRATION.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING GROUP, MR LEO KWAN, SAID ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR LIVESTOCK FARMERS WHO WISH TO CONTINUE BUSINESS IN CONTROL AREAS TO VISIT THE FARM TO SEE HOW THE SYSTEM OPERATES.

MR KWAN SAID INDIVIDUAL FARMERS ARE WELCOME TO REGISTER THEIR INTEREST IN VISITING THE FARM WITH THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION'S HOTLINES: 6754664 FOR FARMERS IN THE NORTH DISTRICT, 4792261 EXT. 216 FOR YUEN LONG DISTRICT, AND 8351533 FOR OTHER DISTRICTS.

AS FOR THE REMAINING TWO FARMS PARTICIPATING IN THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS, THE EPD REPRESENTATIVE SAID THEY WILL BE READY FOR DEMONSTRATION SHORTLY.

THE MEMBERS WERE ALSO INFORMED THAT THE CONSULTANT'S REPORT ON THE PROJECTS IS EXPECTED TO BE READY FOR CONSULTATION IN MAY THIS YEAR.

AFTER THE MEETING, MEMBERS OF THE STEERING GROUP WENT TO TA KWU LING TO INSPECT THE OPERATION OF THE PIG-ON-LITTER SYSTEM.

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TSUEN WAN DB TO DISCUSS METROPLAN

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THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE METROPLAN AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

A TOWN PLANNER FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, MR CHUNG PUI-KAI, WILL BE PRESENT TO BRIEF MEMBERS.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE FUNCTIONS OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL. MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF TSUEN WAN.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE REPORTS ON THE WORK OF THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND THE VARIOUS DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, SECOND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, TSUEN WAN.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES

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THE ISLANDS DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE PROPOSED COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD IN 1990-91 AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMITTEE'S WORKING GROUP ON APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS TO ORGANISE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSS EVALUATION REPORTS ON SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES HELD.

THEY WILL ALSO DISCUSS ANOTHER SITE VISIT TO THE DISTRICT AS THE ONE ORIGINALLY ARRANGED IN EARLY MARCH WAS CANCELLED DUE TO BAD WEATHER.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ISLAND DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, 20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.20 PM.

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MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1990

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL POSITION

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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCE AND GENERAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE BOARD AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

IT WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE ESTIMATES FOR NEXT YEAR'S EXPENDITURE AND A REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON PUBLIC RELATIONS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCE AND GENERAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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FUNDING PROCEDURES ON DB AGENDA

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THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW FUNDING PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR VETTING APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS AT A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE COMMITTEE'S PROPOSED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1990-91.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE THE REPORTS ON A "SPECIAL OFFER DAY FOR THE ELDERLY" AND DISTRICT BOARD-FUNDED COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FOURTH FLOOR, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1990

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COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE TO REVIEW WORK
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THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD WILL REVIEW THE WORK OF ITS WORKING GROUPS IN THE PAST YEAR AT A MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO CONSIDER A NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS TO ORGANISE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING A TRAINING COURSE FOR OFFICE-BEARERS OF MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS, A "CREATIONS BY YOUTH" PROJECT AND A FUN FAIR.

OTHER ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE A REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMMITTEE, AND THE ZONTA CLUB YOUTH DISTRICT LEADER AWARD 1990.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 4 PM TOMORROW IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, 21ST FLOOR, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS JOSS STICKS BURNING
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THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS AN IMPROVED MODEL OF A FURNACE WHICH WILL REDUCE THE ENVIRONMENTAL NUISANCE CAUSED BY BURNING OF JOSS STICKS AND INCENSE PAPERS AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

ALSO ON THE AGENDA ARE REPORTS ON MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND ON THE COMMITTEE'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF YAU MA TEI DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, 490 NATHAN ROAD.

THE MEETING WILL START AT 2.30 PM.

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MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1990

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SURVEY REPORT ON COMMUNITY CARE NEEDS
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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS A PRELIMINARY SURVEY REPORT ON THE COMMUNITY CARE NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN THE DISTRICT AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO LOOK INTO THE PROVISION OF GOVERNMENT MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

THE PRINCIPAL MEDICAL AND HEALTH OFFICER (NEW TERRITORIES EAST) OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, DR DEBORAH LEUNG, WILL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

IN ADDITION, THE COMMITTEE WILL FOLLOW UP A REQUEST FOR SETTING UP A FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION CLINIC IN THE DISTRICT.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 40.0 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 234.555 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 212.165 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 36.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1990

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WATER CUTS IN SHAM SHUI PO AND KWUN TONG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 7) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THE PREMISES BOUNDED BY CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, NAM CHEONG STREET, LAI CHI KOK ROAD, WONG CHUK STREET, INCLUDING SHEK KIP MEI STREET, YU CHAU STREET, KI LUNG STREET AND TAI NAN STREET.

ON THURSDAY (MARCH 8), FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWUN TONG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT THE PREMISES BOUNDED BY WAN HON STREET, HIP WO STREET, KWUN TONG ROAD, HONG NING ROAD AND HONG NING RECREATION GROUND.

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TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURE ON SHA TIN ROAD

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT ABOUT 200 METRES LONG OF THE SLOW LANE OF SHA TIN ROAD NORTHBOUND NEAR SHA TIN WAI WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 9 AM ON MARCH 7 (WEDNESDAY) TO 9 AM ON MARCH 10 BECAUSE OF ROAD RESURFACING WORKS.

MOTORISTS ARE URGED TO DRIVE WITH CARE AND PATIENCE. APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC AIDS WILL BE PROVIDED TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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