



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1994

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
BUDGET IS PEOPLE-ORIENTED .....	1
PUBLIC URGED TO BACK BUDGET .....	1
BUDGET IS GOOD NEWS FOR GENERAL PUBLIC .....	2
DAYA BAY CONTINGENCY PLAN BOOKLET REPRINTED .....	3
CONSERVE COUNTRY PARKS BY PLANTING TREES .....	4
LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS SALE BY AUCTION .....	5
PREPARATION TO SET UP ADC NEARING COMPLETION .....	6
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS .....	8

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1994

- 1 -

BUDGET IS PEOPLE-ORIENTED

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S 1994/95 ESTIMATES CAN BE DESCRIBED AS A "PEOPLE-ORIENTED BUDGET", THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MS LINDA LAI, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT A FUN DAY FOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOL STAFF, MS LAI SAID FOR INSTANCE, GIVEN THE CONTINUED HEALTHY ECONOMY IN HONG KONG, THE GOVERNMENT FELT THAT PART OF THE HUGE SURPLUSES SHOULD BE GIVEN BACK TO ITS PEOPLE.

"THE CONCESSIONS IN THE SALARY TAX AND SOME OTHER AREAS HAVE IN FACT BENEFITED MOST PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP," SHE SAID.

ON THE EDUCATION FRONT, MS LAI POINTED OUT THAT THE TOTAL EXPENDITURE DURING THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR WOULD INCREASE BY 6.1 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

SHE SAID THERE WOULD BE AN INCREASE OF 980 GRADUATE TEACHERS FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND AN UPGRADING OF 370 GRADUATE TEACHERS TO SENIOR GRADUATE TEACHERS.

FURTHERMORE, MORE SUPPORT SERVICES WOULD BE PROVIDED TO BAND FIVE STUDENTS AND THE RATIO OF PUPILS TO TEACHERS WOULD ALSO BE REDUCED.

TURNING TO RECENT SINO-BRITISH RELATIONS, MS LAI HOPED THAT BRITAIN AND CHINA COULD PUT ASIDE THEIR DIFFERENCES ON ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS AND CO-OPERATE ON OTHER MATTERS IN THE INTERESTS OF HONG KONG PEOPLE.

"THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF WORK TO DO FOR A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND A LOT TO ACHIEVE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG," SHE ADDED.

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PUBLIC URGED TO BACK BUDGET

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD SUPPORT THE 1994/95 BUDGET WHICH PROPOSES A HOST OF TAX CONCESSIONS AND PUBLIC EXPENDITURE PROGRAMMES, WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PETER MANN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE ANNUAL ROAD SAFETY CARNIVAL AT SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND, MR MANN SAID THOSE IN THE MIDDLE AND LOWER INCOME GROUPS IN PARTICULAR WILL BENEFIT MOST FROM THE PROPOSALS.

AS TO THE CARNIVAL, HE HOPES IT WOULD REMIND BOTH PEDESTRIANS AND DRIVERS TO OBSERVE ROAD SAFETY RULES TO REDUCE ACCIDENTS.

/TODAY'S EVENT .....

- 2 -

TODAY'S EVENT KICKS OFF A PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AIMED AT SPREADING ROAD SAFETY MESSAGES THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

MEMBERS OF THE WAN CHAI ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN WORKING GROUP WILL DISTRIBUTE LEAFLETS AND SOUVENIRS TO PASSERS-BY AT THE BLACK SPOTS OF MAJOR ROADS IN THE DISTRICT DURING LUNCH HOURS.

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BUDGET IS GOOD NEWS FOR GENERAL PUBLIC

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THE 1994/95 BUDGET SHOULD BE GOOD NEWS TO THE GRASSROOTS AS WELL AS THE MIDDLE CLASS, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS ROSANNA URE, SAID TONIGHT (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF THE WAH FU RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION, MRS URE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S PROPOSAL OF A HUGE INCREASE IN THE BASIC ALLOWANCE FOR SALARIES TAX AND THE INTRODUCTION OF A DEPENDENT GRANDPARENT ALLOWANCE.

"SERVICES AND MANPOWER IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL WELFARE, EDUCATION AND MEDICAL CARE HAVE ALSO BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASED TO MEET THE NEED OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC," SHE SAID.

EARLIER, ADDRESSING THE DISTRICT INDUSTRIALIST ASSOCIATION, MRS URE SAID A ONE PERCENTAGE POINT CUT IN THE PROFITS TAX WOULD HELP BOOST HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVENESS IN THE ASIAN PACIFIC REGION.

"IT CAN ALSO PROMOTE BUSINESS AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE TERRITORY," SHE ADDED.

TURNING TO A NEW SCHEME WHICH ENABLES EMPLOYERS TO RECRUIT PROFESSIONALS DIRECTLY FROM CHINA, MRS URE BELIEVES THAT THE TRIAL RUN, TO BE INTRODUCED SHORTLY, CAN HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF MANPOWER SHORTAGE IN THE TERRITORY.

MRS URE ALSO CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO VOTE IN THE COMING DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1994

- 3 -

DAYA BAY CONTINGENCY PLAN BOOKLET REPRINTED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS REPRINTED A BOOKLET AND A LEAFLET EXPLAINING TO THE PUBLIC THE VARIOUS COUNTER-MEASURES TO BE TAKEN IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT AT THE GUANGDONG NUCLEAR POWER STATION (GNPS).

THE ADDITIONAL COPIES, IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH, ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT DISTRICT OFFICES AND PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE BOOKLET OUTLINES THE PRINCIPAL ELEMENTS OF THE CONTINGENCY PLAN DRAWN UP BY THE GOVERNMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE TO ENSURE THAT THERE WILL BE A QUICK AND TIMELY RESPONSE TO MINIMISE ANY POSSIBLE HEALTH RISKS TO THE HONG KONG PUBLIC IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT AT THE GNPS WHICH MAY LEAD TO A RADIOACTIVE RELEASE AFFECTING HONG KONG.

CONTENTS OF THE BOOKLET COVER:

- \* EARLY NOTIFICATION TO HONG KONG BY THE CHINESE EMERGENCY AUTHORITIES OF ACCIDENTS AT THE GNPS WHICH MAY GIVE RISE TO AN OFF-SITE RADIOLOGICAL RELEASE;
- \* CONTINUOUS TERRITORY-WIDE RADIATION MONITORING;
- \* RAPID ASSESSMENT OF THE INFORMATION GATHERED THROUGH THE ABOVE TWO OR OTHER MEANS, AND CONSIDERATION OF NECESSARY COUNTER-MEASURES;
- \* RAPID ALERT OF ALL DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN;
- \* THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COUNTER-MEASURES TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF ANY RADIOLOGICAL EXPOSURE; AND
- \* THE PROVISION OF ACCURATE AND TIMELY INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC ON THE DEVELOPING SITUATION, AND OF ADVICE ON WHAT TO DO.

THE BOOKLET WAS INITIALLY PUBLISHED IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR IN ADDITION TO THE LEAFLET WHICH HAD BEEN DISTRIBUTED IN SEPTEMBER THROUGH THE DISTRICT OFFICES, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE OFFICES AND SCHOOLS.

THE LEAFLET EXPLAINS HOW HONG KONG MIGHT BE AFFECTED AND WHAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO IN THE EVENT OF AN ACCIDENT AT THE NUCLEAR POWER STATION.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1994

- 4 -

CONSERVE COUNTRY PARKS BY PLANTING TREES

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ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY SHOULD HELP IN CONSERVING OUR COUNTRY PARKS BY PLANTING TREES, AND STOP LITTERING AND STARTING HILL FIRES.

THE APPEAL WAS MADE BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR CANICE MAK, WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE LAUNCHING FOR THIS YEAR'S "COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME" AT TUI MIN HOI, TSIU HANG SPECIAL AREA, SAI KUNG, THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING.

DURING THIS YEAR'S SCHEME, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN PLANT TREES AT FOUR COUNTRY PARKS.

MR MAK SAID TREES COULD PRESENT A VISUAL RELIEF TO OUR SURROUNDINGS, HELP PREVENT SOIL EROSION, PROVIDE SHELTER AND FOOD FOR WILDLIFE, AND INCREASE THE BIODIVERSITY AND CARRYING CAPACITY OF ECOLOGICAL HABITATS.

HE SAID: "TREE PLANTING, THEREFORE, IS AN ACT WHICH CAN BEST SIGNIFY THE COMMUNITY'S COMMITMENT TO NATURE CONSERVATION. THROUGH ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION, A SENSE OF RESPECT TO THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WILL BE DEVELOPED WITHIN THE COMMUNITY."

ON THE TERRITORY'S COUNTRY PARKS, MR MAK SAID THEIR HIGH PERCENTAGE (40 PER CENT) OF THE TOTAL LAND AREA WAS SOMETHING THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE SHOULD BE PROUD OF.

APART FROM THE PLAN TO EXTEND THE EXISTING COUNTRY PARKS AT TAI LAM AND SAI KUNG IN 1994, THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) IS ALSO STUDYING ANOTHER 12 SITES, COVERING MORE THAN 7,500 HECTARES, IN A BID TO DESIGNATE THEM AS COUNTRY PARKS OR SPECIAL AREAS IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, HE ADDED.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY, THE AFD DIRECTOR, DR LAWRENCE LEE, URGED ALL SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY, IN PARTICULAR THE YOUNGER GENERATION, TO BE INVOLVED IN PLANTING AND CARING OF TREES IN THE COUNTRY PARKS.

FROM TOMORROW (SUNDAY) TO APRIL 30, FOUR COUNTRY PARK TREE PLANTING SITES AT NAM SHAN ON LANTAU, TAI MO SHAN, LAU SHUI HEUNG IN PAT SIN LENG AND QUARRY BAY WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 10 AM TO 4 PM ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS TO PLANT TREES.

DR LEE SAID: "COUNTRY PARK STAFF WILL BE ON DUTY DURING THE PERIOD TO PROVIDE TREE SEEDLINGS, PLANTING TOOLS AND TECHNICAL ADVICE.

AS FOR INTERESTED SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS, DR LEE SAID THEY WERE WELCOME TO CONTACT AFD'S CONSERVATION EDUCATION UNIT ON TEL 733 2121 FOR SEPARATE ARRANGEMENTS ON PARTICIPATION IN THE PLANTING SCHEME. A TOTAL OF NINE SITES HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED FOR THIS PURPOSE.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE WITH THE TERRITORY'S LIONS CLUBS, ROTARY CLUBS, THE COMMUNITY CHEST, GREEN GROUPS AND MANY OTHER ORGANISATIONS, HE SAID.

/DR LEE .....

DR LEE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THIS YEAR'S SCHEME WOULD BE EVEN MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN THAT OF 1993. LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 28 000 PARTICIPANTS PLANTED OVER 36,000 TREES UNDER THE SCHEME, WHICH HAD BEEN GAINING INCREASING SUPPORT SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 1957.

THE DIRECTOR THANKED THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303, FRIENDS OF THE COUNTRY PARKS AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL FOR THEIR SUPPORT TO THE SCHEME OVER THE YEARS.

HE ALSO THANKED TELEVISION BROADCASTS LTD FOR ITS ASSISTANCE IN PUBLICISING THE SCHEME FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN SUCCESSION.

THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY TREE PLANTING SCHEME IS ORGANISED BY AFD WITH SUPPORT FROM THE FRIENDS OF THE COUNTRY PARKS (FCP).

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S LAUNCHING CEREMONY WERE A COUNTRY PARKS BOARD MEMBER, DR JIM CHI-YUNG; THE LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 303'S GOVERNOR, MR PATRICK CHENG WAI-CHUEN, FCP'S PRESIDENT, DR TAM WING-KUN AND AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, MR FRANK LAU.

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#### LUCKY CAR REGISTRATION MARKS SALE BY AUCTION

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ONE HUNDRED CAR REGISTRATION MARKS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION TODAY (SATURDAY) FOR A TOTAL OF \$4,903,000 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY AFTER DEDUCTION OF EXPENSES INCURRED.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION MARK \*FW1 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$1,100,000.

ANOTHER REGISTRATION MARK \*AL9 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$230,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1,000 EACH FOR FS1966, FS3923, FS706 AND FS1957.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S MORNING SESSION AUCTION:

	\$		\$		\$		\$
FP1668	30,000	FS928	30,000	FS332	16,000	FS129	15,000
FS7888	12,000	FP9998	17,000	AA8138	86,000	BH1289	11,000
*DL11	95,000	*AL9	230,000	*FV16	70,000	*AS8888	220,000
FS1328	15,000	FS819	8,000	FS668	100,000	FS986	10,000
FS6686	8,000	CT139	20,000	DR250	19,000	BB9281	10,000
AW362	14,000	FS826	12,000	FS398	20,000	FS8689	10,000
FS722	6,000	FR8113	7,000	XX113	202,000	FS9692	W/C
*3444	85,000	*DK20	90,000	*EE95	101,000	*AH4444	46,000
FS880	25,000	FS8863	6,000	FS1220	4,000	FS1966	1,000
FR275	3,000	XX102	35,000	FS817	15,000	FS3923	1,000
FS338	66,000	FS107	4,000	*FK14	22,000	AH2558	5,000
FS3001	5,000	AU1972	9,000	FS915	2,000	*DD5005	25,000
FS706	1,000	FS3927	2,000				

/FOLLOWING ARE .....

## FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AFTERNOON SESSION AUCTION:

	\$		\$		\$		\$
FT3338	30,000	FT283	21,000	FS1668	50,000	HK1018	100,000
FS998	40,000	BC180	62,000	AF831	21,000	FT918	14,000
*DL98	80,000	*DK16	56,000	*FV11	80,000	*FW1	1,100,000
FS4428	8,000	FT318	30,000	FT668	100,000	FT1299	6,000
CC317	26,000	FS2826	10,000	FT908	16,000	AW368	60,000
FT9228	16,000	AC811	60,000	AW6828	25,000	FT2863	6,000
FS8887	12,000	FT8863	20,000	FT138	150,000	FS871	5,000
*1383	200,000	*AL28	200,000	*FF8686	50,000	*BS1991	15,000
FT8818	21,000	FT986	10,000	AS9788	20,000	FS3122	4,000
FS9128	9,000	FS8898	62,000	FR9692	2,000	FT319	6,000
FT6066	4,000	AA908	82,000	*AL626	68,000	FT322	22,000
FT730	5,000	AH827	17,000	FS9867	2,000	*BB9595	60,000
CY6118	12,000	FS1957	1,000				

THERE WAS NO BIDDER FOR FS9692.

THIS CAR REGISTRATION MARK WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE ORIGINAL APPLICANT.

\* SPECIAL CAR REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)  
\* \* W/C:WITHDRAWN

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WERE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE CAR REGISTRATION MARKS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 216TH AND 217TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT REALISED SO FAR TO \$274,722,905.00.

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PREPARATION TO SET UP ADC NEARING COMPLETION

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THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WORKING GROUP IS ABOUT TO COMPLETE ITS TASK OF MAKING THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKING GROUP SAID THERE HAD BEEN MUCH DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE SELECTED, INCLUDING WHETHER ANY FORM OF ELECTIONS SHOULD BE HELD.

THIS WAS, IN PARTICULAR, A TOPIC OF DISCUSSION AT THE LAST OF THE WORKING GROUP'S PUBLIC FORUMS HELD ON FEBRUARY 19, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/THE GOVERNMENT'S .....

THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW IS THAT TO REPLACE THE APPOINTMENT SYSTEM WITH AN ELECTION SYSTEM WOULD HAVE WIDE IMPLICATIONS FOR THE EXISTING APPOINTMENT SYSTEM TO ITS MANY ADVISORY BODIES.

THE GOVERNMENT ALSO SEES PRACTICAL PROBLEMS. IT IS THE WORKING GROUP'S VIEW THAT THERE ARE PRACTICAL CONSTRAINTS, BEARING IN MIND THE DIVERSE, PLURALISTIC AND UNCO-ORDINATED NATURE OF THE ARTS COMMUNITY AT THIS MOMENT IN TIME, HE SAID.

TO HELP SELECT CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND ALSO FOR CO-OPTING ITS COMMITTEES, THE WORKING GROUP WOULD LIKE TO INVITE NOMINATIONS OF SUITABLE PEOPLE WITH PROFOUND INTEREST AND/OR EXPERTISE IN THE LITERARY, PERFORMING OR VISUAL ARTS, ARTS ADMINISTRATION OR ARTS EDUCATION TO BE PUT FORWARD TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

NOMINATIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO THE WORKING GROUP'S SECRETARIAT. THE ADDRESS AND OTHER DETAILS ARE:

HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
WORKING GROUP SECRETARIAT  
ROOM 4004, 40TH FLOOR  
REVENUE TOWER  
5 GLOUCESTER ROAD  
WAN CHAI  
HONG KONG  
TEL : 594 6668  
FAX : 519 9301

EACH NOMINATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE REASONS FOR NOMINATION OF THE NOMINEE, A BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE OF THE NOMINEE AND A STATEMENT THAT THE NOMINEE WOULD BE WILLING TO SERVE AS AN APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL ITSELF AND/OR AS A CO-OPTED MEMBER OF ONE OR MORE OF ITS COMMITTEES.

IN ADDITION, THE NOMINATOR SHOULD BRIEFLY DESCRIBE HIMSELF/HERSELF, THEIR POSITION AND ACTIVITIES IN THE ARTS WORLD AND WHETHER THEY ARE ACTING IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITIES OR ON BEHALF OF ANY ORGANISATION.

IF ACTING ON BEHALF OF AN ORGANISATION, THEN THAT ORGANISATION SHOULD ALSO BE BRIEFLY DESCRIBED.

NOMINATIONS WILL BE COLLATED BY THE WORKING GROUP SECRETARIAT AND FORWARDED TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

WHETHER OR NOT IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO SEEK NOMINATIONS IN FUTURE IS, OF COURSE, SOMETHING THAT WILL NEED TO BE REVIEWED IN DUE COURSE, TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE SITUATION AT THAT TIME, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1994

- 8 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
\* \* \* \* \*

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,218
REVERSAL OF LAF	+730
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,948
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-1,465
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,483
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 125.8 *+0.1* 5.3.94

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