



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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| <u>CONTENTS</u> | <u>PAGE NO.</u> |
|--|-----------------|
| CIVIL SERVICE PLANS PROGRAMMES LONG AFTER 1997 | 1 |
| WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDS 28 LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENT MEASURES | 2 |
| NEW NAVY CAPTAIN FOR HONG KONG | 6 |
| SPONSORED VISIT BY A GOVT DELEGATION | 6 |
| HONG KONG 'S EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR MAY 1994 | 7 |
| SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION RESULTS OUT TOMORROW | 16 |
| MARINERS REMINDED TO USE PUBLIC LANDING STEPS PROPERLY | 17 |
| RATES FOR THIRD QUARTER DUE END-JULY | 17 |
| WATER ENQUIRY CENTRE IN TAI PO CLOSED FOR RENOVATION | 19 |
| WATER STORAGE FIGURE | 20 |
| HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS | 20 |

CIVIL SERVICE PLANS PROGRAMMES LONG AFTER 1997

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MUCH OF THE CIVIL SERVICE'S EFFORT IS FOCUSED ON PROGRAMMES THAT WILL KEEP HONG KONG AS A FLEXIBLE, ADAPTABLE ECONOMY, A GOOD HOME AND AN ENJOYABLE CITY, LONG AFTER 1997, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"THE WORK THAT WE ARE DOING ON THE NEW AIRPORT AND ON URBAN DEVELOPMENT IS HIGHLY VISIBLE, BUT NO LESS IMPORTANT IS THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION, THE IMPROVEMENT OF SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, PLANS FOR PENSION, NEW HOUSING, AND, NOT LEAST, THE TRAINING OF NEW GENERATIONS OF PUBLIC SERVANTS," MR PATTEN SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE 30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTES OF ADMINISTRATION, THE GOVERNOR SAID HONG KONG OFFERED A TREMENDOUS EXAMPLE OF WHAT A PRUDENT, IMAGINATIVE AND DEDICATED ADMINISTRATION COULD ACHIEVE.

HE SAID IN THE PAST 50 YEARS, THE TERRITORY HAD BEEN FACED BY CHALLENGES AND CHANGES FAR MORE FUNDAMENTAL THAN THE CHANGE OF SOVEREIGNTY THAT WOULD TAKE PLACE IN 1997.

"THE COMPETENCE AND COMMITMENT OF ITS ADMINISTRATION HAD GUIDED IT THROUGH TWO COMPREHENSIVE REALIGNMENTS OF ITS ECONOMIC ACTIVITY - A CHANGE FROM ENTREPOT TO MANUFACTURING CENTRE AFTER 1949, AND FROM SIMPLE MANUFACTURER TO REGIONAL CENTRE FOR FINANCE AND SERVICE SINCE 1978.

"HUGE FLOODS OF REFUGEES THAT DOUBLED AND TRIPLED THE POPULATION IN A FEW YEARS HAVE BEEN WELCOMED INTO THE COMMUNITY, HAVE BEEN HOUSED, HAVE BEEN GIVEN EDUCATION FOR THEIR CHILDREN, HAVE BEEN GIVEN SECURITY TODAY AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE," MR PATTEN SAID.

MR PATTEN NOTED THAT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS COULD LEARN FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND VICE VERSA.

"I BELIEVE THAT CIVIL SERVANTS CAN TEACH THE PRIVATE SECTOR A GREAT DEAL IN THE OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY WITH WHICH THEY CARRY OUT THEIR ACTIVITIES AND FROM THE FUNDAMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS NOW BEING MADE IN MANY ASPECTS OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION."

MR PATTEN CITED HONG KONG AS AN EXAMPLE, SAYING THAT IN THE 18 MONTHS SINCE THE LAUNCH OF A QUALITY SERVICE AND PERFORMING PLEDGE PROGRAMME, SOME 40 DEPARTMENTAL PLEDGES ON QUALITY OF SERVICE HAD BEEN MADE.

HE ADDED THAT 31,000 FRONT LINE STAFF HAD BEEN GIVEN TRAINING IN CUSTOMER RELATIONS AND 64 DEPARTMENTS WERE CARRYING OUT PROJECTS TO IMPROVE THEIR SERVICE ENVIRONMENT AND EQUIPMENT.

"THAT PROGRAMME IS A CLEAR SIGN OF OUR COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE GOOD SERVICE AND RESPOND BETTER TO THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDS 28 LANGUAGE IMPROVEMENT MEASURES

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BETTER CO-ORDINATION OF LANGUAGE POLICIES, MORE LOCAL RESEARCH ON LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION, AND IMPROVED LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES ARE PROPOSED IN A REPORT BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) FOR A THREE-MONTH PERIOD OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION.

"THE REPORT ANALYSES HONG KONG'S PRESENT LANGUAGE SITUATION IN DETAIL, AND MAKES 28 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SHORT TERM AND LONG TERM IMPROVEMENTS," THE WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN, MRS ANGELA CHEUNG, SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE REPORT.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN GROUPED UNDER SEVEN HEADINGS: -

- * POLICY FORMULATION AND CO-ORDINATION;
- * LANGUAGE GOALS AND RELATED AREAS;
- * LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES;
- * MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION;
- * SUPPORT SERVICES FOR LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION;
- * SCHOOL STAFFING; AND
- * TEACHER EDUCATION.

POLICY FORMULATION AND CO-ORDINATION

"THE REPORT HIGHLIGHTS THE NEED FOR MORE SYSTEMATIC WAYS TO FORMULATE LANGUAGE POLICIES, AND TO CO-ORDINATE LANGUAGE-IN-EDUCATION ACTIVITIES," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"WE THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT A NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE SHOULD BE CREATED, UNDER THE EDUCATION COMMISSION, TO FOCUS ON LANGUAGE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH.

"WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT A CENTRE FOR LANGUAGE-IN-EDUCATION SHOULD BE CREATED IN A LOCAL TERTIARY INSTITUTION, TO UNDERTAKE POLICY RELATED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

"WE WANT TO SEE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES GIVE MORE ATTENTION TO LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION, BY DESIGNATING SPECIFIC MEMBERS OF STAFF AS LANGUAGE CO-ORDINATORS.

"WE PROPOSE THAT EVERY SCHOOL DESIGNATE AN EXPERIENCED TEACHER AS LANGUAGE ACROSS THE CURRICULUM CO-ORDINATOR.

"SIMILAR RESPONSIBILITIES SHOULD BE DEFINED IN TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND INSTITUTES, TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, AND THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE."

LANGUAGE GOALS AND RELATED AREAS

THE REPORT NOTES THAT LANGUAGE GOALS AND LANGUAGE NEEDS IN HONG KONG ARE NOT CLEARLY DEFINED AT PRESENT.

"WE NEED A CLEARER PICTURE OF THE LANGUAGE GOALS THAT THE COMMUNITY WANTS OUR SCHOOLS TO ACHIEVE," SAID MRS CHEUNG.

"WE ALSO NEED MORE LOCAL RESEARCH ON LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT. HONG KONG CHILDREN FACE PARTICULAR CHALLENGES IN MEETING THE LANGUAGE NEEDS OF THE SOCIETY.

"OUR POLICIES AND PRACTICES MUST BUILD ON A SOUND UNDERSTANDING OF CHILD LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ACQUISITION OF BI-LINGUAL SKILLS, IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT WHERE CHINESE AND ENGLISH ARE BOTH SO IMPORTANT."

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

THE REPORT PROPOSES THAT CHILDREN IN KINDERGARTEN AND THE EARLY YEARS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL SHOULD ACQUIRE A SOUND FOUNDATION OF MOTHER-TONGUE SKILLS.

"AT PRESENT A LOT OF SCHOOL TIME IS TAKEN UP WITH LANGUAGE LESSONS IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE," SAID MRS CHEUNG, "BUT MANY CHILDREN FIND IT HARD TO COPE WITH BECOMING LITERATE IN THESE TWO VERY DIFFERENT LANGUAGES AT THE SAME TIME.

"THE OUTCOME AFTER SIX YEARS OF PRIMARY SCHOOL IS NOT ALWAYS IMPRESSIVE IN TERMS OF LANGUAGE SKILLS, AND SOME CHILDREN EXPERIENCE A SENSE OF FAILURE AND REJECTION BECAUSE OF LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES.

"THE WORKING GROUP FEELS THAT MORE ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO MOTHER-TONGUE DEVELOPMENT AT THE UNDER-EIGHT STAGE."

THE COMMISSION CHAIRMAN, PROFESSOR ROSIE YOUNG, POINTED OUT THAT THE WORKING GROUP'S VIEWS TALLIED WITH THE FINDINGS OF SUCCESSFUL BI-LINGUAL EDUCATION PROJECTS IN EUROPE.

"DURING THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S RECENT VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM, WE FOUND THAT THESE COUNTRIES ALSO EMPHASISE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MOTHER-TONGUE AS A FOUNDATION FOR LEARNING A SECOND LANGUAGE, AND FOR EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS IN GENERAL," PROFESSOR YOUNG SAID.

THE REPORT PROPOSES THAT DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED IN KINDERGARTENS AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

"PARENTS COULD THEN CHOOSE FROM VARIOUS LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT MODELS," MRS CHEUNG SAID. "THIS WOULD ALSO HELP IN IDENTIFYING MODELS MORE LIKELY TO LEAD TO DESIRED OUTCOMES IN TERMS OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY AND EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS."

ON PUTONGHUA, THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT SECONDARY STUDENTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO DEVELOP THEIR SKILLS BY AIMING FOR AN OPTIONAL PUTONGHUA PAPER IN THE CHINESE LANGUAGE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (HKCE) EXAMINATION.

"THE WORKING GROUP WOULD LIKE PUTONGHUA TO BE INCORPORATED INTO REGULAR CHINESE LANGUAGE LESSONS," MRS CHEUNG EXPLAINED.

"WE REALISE THAT FEW CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS WOULD FEEL CONFIDENT IN DOING SO AT PRESENT, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT IN FUTURE, THIS APPROACH WILL BE SEEN AS NATURAL AND DESIRABLE. WE NEED TO ENCOURAGE TEACHERS TO DEVELOP THEIR PUTONGHUA SKILLS."

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

THE REPORT NOTES THAT MEASURES TO IMPLEMENT THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT FOUR POLICY ON MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION HAVE LED TO WIDESPREAD PUBLIC INTEREST AND A GROWING AWARENESS OF THE EDUCATIONAL ISSUES INVOLVED.

"TO KEEP UP THE IMPETUS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE, THE WORKING GROUP WOULD LIKE THE PUBLIC TO HAVE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS POSSIBLE ABOUT SCHOOL LANGUAGE POLICIES, AND ABOUT THE PROPORTIONS OF STUDENTS WHO CAN FIND A PLACE WHICH MATCHES THEIR LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"THIS WILL GIVE PARENTS AND STUDENTS A BETTER BASIS FOR CHOOSING THE RIGHT SCHOOL."

MRS CHEUNG ADDED THAT ACTUAL LANGUAGE USE IN CLASS SHOULD BE MONITORED, TO ENSURE THAT MIXED CODE IS REDUCED IN FAVOUR OF EITHER CHINESE OR ENGLISH AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION.

SUPPORT SERVICES

THE REPORT RECOMMENDS SETTING UP A CENTRAL LANGUAGE RESOURCE CENTRE FOR CHINESE TEACHERS, AND ANOTHER FOR ENGLISH TEACHERS.

"THESE CENTRES SHOULD PROVIDE BOTH PHYSICAL ACCESS TO LANGUAGE LIBRARIES AND RESOURCE MATERIALS, AND COMPUTER ACCESS TO PROFESSIONAL ADVICE AND ON-LINE DATABASES," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"WE ALSO RECOMMEND A REVIEW OF AUDIO-VISUAL AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES IN SCHOOLS, TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF RAPID TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"TO PROMOTE INNOVATIVE USES OF MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT THE LEARNING OF LANGUAGES AND OTHER SUBJECTS, WE RECOMMEND THE CREATION OF A COMPUTERS IN THE CLASSROOM FUND, ON THE SAME LINES AS THE LANGUAGE FUND."

SCHOOL STAFFING

TO ENSURE THAT SCHOOLS STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS CAN PROVIDE ADEQUATELY FOR LANGUAGE TEACHING, THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT FUNCTIONAL SENIOR TEACHER POSTS FOR PANEL CHAIRS IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

IT ALSO RECOMMENDS A REVIEW OF THE WORKLOAD OF LANGUAGE TEACHERS TO ENSURE THAT, OVERALL, IT IS GENERALLY NO GREATER THAN THAT OF OTHER TEACHERS.

TEACHER EDUCATION

THE REPORT PROPOSES THAT MINIMUM LANGUAGE COMPETENCY STANDARDS SHOULD BE SET FOR NEW TEACHERS ENTERING THE PROFESSION.

"ALL THOSE COMPLETING AN INITIAL COURSE OF TEACHER EDUCATION SHOULD HAVE DEMONSTRATED THEIR COMPETENCY TO TEACH IN THE MEDIUM OF CHINESE, OR ENGLISH, OR BOTH," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"SERVING TEACHERS SHOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITIES TO UPGRADE THEIR LANGUAGE QUALIFICATIONS, THROUGH CREDIT-BEARING IN-SERVICE LANGUAGE COURSES, AS RECOMMENDED IN EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT FIVE."

CONSULTATION ON THE REPORT

PROFESSOR YOUNG SAID, WITH THIS REPORT, THE COMMISSION HAD ADOPTED A NEW APPROACH TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION.

"FIRSTLY, THE WORKING GROUP WHICH WROTE THE REPORT INCLUDED CO-OPTED MEMBERS AS WELL AS COMMISSION MEMBERS," SHE SAID. "THIS ENABLED US TO DRAW ON A WIDE RANGE OF EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE.

"SECONDLY, THE REPORT IS PUBLISHED AS A WORKING GROUP REPORT. THE COMMISSION HAS NOT YET TAKEN A VIEW ON THE WORKING GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT WILL CONSIDER THE PUBLIC RESPONSE BEFORE MAKING ITS FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT."

AS FOR THE TWO OTHER STUDIES CONDUCTED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY STUDY, PROFESSOR YOUNG SAID REPORTS ON THESE WOULD BE PUBLISHED LATER.

"ALL THREE STUDIES COVER COMPLEX ISSUES, SO THE COMMISSION THOUGHT IT BETTER TO FOCUS ON ONE REPORT AT A TIME. WE EXPECT TO PUBLISH THE REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, AND THE REPORT ON SCHOOL FUNDING A FEW MONTHS AFTER THAT," SHE SAID.

MRS CHEUNG SAID THE WORKING GROUP WOULD CONDUCT A BUSY PROGRAMME OF SEMINARS AND BRIEFINGS DURING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD, FOR EDUCATORS, LANGUAGE EXPERTS, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL EDUCATION PANEL, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

A BRIEFING FOR EDUCATIONAL BODIES AND LANGUAGE EXPERTS WOULD BE HELD ON JULY 22 (FRIDAY) AT 10 AM IN THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT CONFERENCE HALL.

INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE MAIN BODIES. ANY INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS CAN CONTACT THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION TO RESERVE A SEAT.

COPIES OF THE REPORT HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALL SCHOOLS, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER CONCERNED BODIES. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN OBTAIN COPIES FROM DISTRICT OFFICES, DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICES, OR THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS ON OCTOBER 15. WRITTEN COMMENTS CAN BE SENT BEFORE THEN TO: THE SECRETARY, WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARIAT, NINTH FLOOR, WEST WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG. ITS ENQUIRY NO. IS 810 3031 AND FAX NO. 537 4591.

NEW NAVY CAPTAIN FOR HONG KONG

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CAPTAIN PETER MELSON RN HAS TAKEN OVER AS CHIEF OF STAFF, AND THEREFORE DEPUTY TO THE COMMANDER BRITISH FORCES HONG KONG.

AS SUCH, WITH THE DEPARTURE OF CAPTAIN TOM SUNTER, FORMERLY CAPTAIN-IN-CHARGE ROYAL NAVY HONG KONG, HE BECOMES THE SENIOR NAVAL OFFICER IN HONG KONG.

HOWEVER, AS A HEADQUARTERS STAFF OFFICER, CAPTAIN MELSON WILL NOT HAVE OVERALL DAY-TO-DAY CONTROL OF ROYAL NAVY OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG. THAT RESPONSIBILITY FALLS TO COMMANDER BERRY REEVES RN, FORMERLY THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER HMS TAMAR AND CAPTAIN SUNTER'S DEPUTY.

CAPTAIN MELSON, 47, FIRST WENT TO SEA AS A DECK APPRENTICE WITH SHELL TANKERS IN 1961, HAVING GAINED A SCHOLARSHIP TO THE THAMES NAUTICAL TRAINING COLLEGE, HMS WORCESTER AND AT THE SAME TIME ENTERED THE ROYAL NAVAL RESERVE AS A MIDSHIPMAN.

HE TRANSFERRED TO THE ROYAL NAVY IN 1968, HAVING SERVED ON A NUMBER OF MERCHANT SHIPS, ATTAINING THE RANK OF SECOND OFFICER.

HIS FIRST POSTING TOOK HIM TO THE FRIGATE HMS YARMOUTH AS DEPUTY ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE OFFICER.

FOLLOWING THIS, CAPTAIN MELSON SERVED ON HMS EASTBOURNE AND HMS LEANDER BEFORE JOINING THE ROYAL NAVY'S LAST BIG DECK CARRIER HMS ARK ROYAL IN 1977 FOR HER FINAL COMMISSIONING.

IN 1979, HE BECAME EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF HMS ANTELOPE AFTER A SEVEN-MONTH TECHNICAL COURSE AT THE ROYAL NAVAL ENGINEERING COLLEGE.

IN 1981, CAPTAIN MELSON WAS APPOINTED TO COMMAND THE NEW OFFSHORE PATROL VESSEL, HMS LEEDS CASTLE AND ON PROMOTION TO COMMANDER AT THE END OF THE YEAR, ASSUMED COMMAND OF THE FRIGATE HMS SIRIUS, WHICH SAW SERVICE IN THE FALKLANDS LATE IN 1982.

AFTER AN APPOINTMENT IN CHARGE OF ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE TRAINING AT THE SCHOOL OF MARITIME OPERATIONS, CAPTAIN MELSON WAS APPOINTED COMMANDER SEA TRAINING AND, ON PROMOTION TO CAPTAIN IN 1988, JOINED THE STAFF OF THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER EUROPE.

CAPTAIN MELSON'S WIFE, JANET, IS A FORMER WREN AND THEIR SHARED INTERESTS INCLUDE SKIING AND OFFSHORE SAILING.

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SPONSORED VISIT BY A GOVT DELEGATION

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THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, WILL BE VISITING BEIJING AND CHENGDU FROM JULY 21 TO 30 AT THE INVITATION OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

MR SO WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY SEVEN OTHER HONG KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

THIS IS ONE IN A SERIES OF CHINA VISITS STARTED IN 1988 FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERAL FAMILIARISATION.

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HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR MAY 1994

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED DETAILED STATISTICS ON EXTERNAL TRADE WITH BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY/TERRITORY AND COMMODITY FOR MAY 1994.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN MAY 1994, AT \$75.9 BILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 13% OVER MAY 1993.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, INCREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDE WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO MOST OF THE MAIN DESTINATIONS: JAPAN (+26%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+20%), SINGAPORE (+16%), CHINA (+15%), THE NETHERLANDS (+14%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+13%), THE UNITED STATES (+12%), FRANCE (+4.0%) AND GERMANY (+2.4%).

NEVERTHELESS, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 2.5%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAIN DESTINATIONS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WAS \$348.0 BILLION, 13% HIGHER THAN THAT IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN (+25%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+21%), CHINA (+16%), THE UNITED STATES (+13%), THE NETHERLANDS (+13%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+11%), SINGAPORE (+9.5%), GERMANY (+5.6%) AND FRANCE (+0.3%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN DECREASED MILDLY BY 3.9%.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF THE 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, INCREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDE WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF ALL PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

MORE NOTABLE INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$9.9 BILLION OR 40%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$4.4 BILLION OR 17%); TEXTILES (BY \$3.2 BILLION OR 12%); FOOTWEAR (BY \$2.6 BILLION OR 14%); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$2.5 BILLION OR 24%) AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING MAINLY OF BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$2.5 BILLION OR 6.7%).

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN MAY 1994, AT \$17.7 BILLION, DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 2.4% OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO GERMANY (-13%), TAIWAN (-8.7%), CANADA (-7.5%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (-4.0%), CHINA (-2.5%), SINGAPORE (-2.2%), MALAYSIA (-1.7%) AND THE UNITED STATES (-1.2%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN AND THE NETHERLANDS INCREASED BY 10% AND 3.2% RESPECTIVELY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAIN DESTINATIONS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, DECREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDE WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MOST OF THE MAIN DESTINATIONS: CANADA (-16%), GERMANY (-12%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (-9.9%), CHINA (-9.3%), TAIWAN (-5.6%), THE NETHERLANDS (-5.5%), JAPAN (-4.6%), THE UNITED STATES (-3.1%) AND MALAYSIA (-0.9%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE INCREASED BY 0.9%.

TAKING ALL DESTINATIONS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994, AT \$79.1 BILLION, DECREASED BY 6.6% OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993. THIS REFLECTED PARTLY THE CONTINUED STRUCTURAL SHIFT TO RE-EXPORTS AND PARTLY THE WEAK DEMAND IN THE OVERSEAS MARKETS.

TABLE 4 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$1.1 BILLION OR 15%); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1.0 BILLION OR 18%); TEXTILES (BY \$917 MILLION OR 13%); CLOTHING (BY \$840 MILLION OR 3.6%); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$678 MILLION OR 11%); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING MAINLY OF JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES (BY \$270 MILLION OR 3.5%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A MODERATE INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$374 MILLION OR 4.1%).

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN MAY 1994, AT \$104.3 BILLION, INCREASED BY 15% OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE 10 MAIN SUPPLIERS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING MAY 1994 WITH MAY 1993, SHARP INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE (+41%), ITALY (+37%), TAIWAN (+22%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+22%), GERMANY (+19%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+18%), CHINA(+18%) AND MALAYSIA (+18%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN DECREASED BY 9.1% AND 0.7% RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM MOST OF THE MAIN SUPPLIERS SHOWED INCREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDE : ITALY (+27%), MALAYSIA (+25%), SINGAPORE (+21%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+15%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+14%), CHINA (+13%), TAIWAN (+9.4%), GERMANY (+6.2%) AND JAPAN (+1.2%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES DECREASED MARGINALLY BY 0.6%.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994, AT \$462.1 BILLION, INCREASED BY 11% OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993. THIS WAS SUPPORTED LARGELY BY THE GROWTH IN HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE.

TABLE 6 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF THE 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF MOST PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

MORE NOTABLE INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$11.1 BILLION OR 34%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$6.8 BILLION OR 16%); TEXTILES (BY \$6.3 BILLION OR 16%); NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY \$2.6 BILLION OR 20%); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$2.6 BILLION OR 18%); FOOTWEAR (BY \$2.4 BILLION OR 15%); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING MAINLY OF BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$1.9 BILLION OR 6.8%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$4.9 BILLION OR 21%).

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 VOLUME AND PRICE MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR MAY 1994 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY AUGUST 1994.

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

THE MAY 1994 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN MAY 1994 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT \$86 PER COPY FROM JULY 21.

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

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG ON TEL 842 8802 AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4915.

TABLE 1 : RE-EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAIN DESTINATIONS

| DESTINATION | MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | MAY 94 OVER MAY 93 (% CHANGE) | JAN-MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | JAN-MAY 94 OVER JAN-MAY 93 (% CHANGE) |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| CHINA | 27,187 | + 15.0 | 123,184 | + 16.4 |
| UNITED STATES | 16,543 | + 11.6 | 71,400 | + 13.4 |
| JAPAN | 3,775 | + 25.9 | 19,444 | + 25.2 |
| GERMANY | 3,159 | + 2.4 | 15,909 | + 5.6 |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 2,070 | + 20.0 | 9,889 | + 20.7 |
| TAIWAN | 1,918 | - 2.5 | 8,824 | - 3.9 |
| SINGAPORE | 1,575 | + 16.1 | 7,377 | + 9.5 |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA | 1,516 | + 12.9 | 6,699 | + 10.6 |
| NETHERLANDS | 1,059 | + 13.6 | 5,234 | + 13.2 |
| FRANCE | 1,099 | + 4.0 | 5,190 | + 0.3 |

/TABLE 2

TABLE 2 : RE-EXPORTS OF THE TEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS

| COMMODITY DIVISION | MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | MAY 94 OVER MAY 93 (% CHANGE) | JAN-MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | JAN-MAY 94 OVER JAN-MAY 93 (% CHANGE) |
|---|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS) | 9,196 | + 11.9 | 39,302 | + 6.7 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT | 7,383 | + 34.8 | 34,649 | + 39.8 |
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES | 6,553 | - 1.1 | 33,104 | + 3.2 |
| TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 7,704 | + 20.9 | 30,624 | + 11.8 |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF | 6,657 | + 21.8 | 29,632 | + 17.2 |
| FOOTWEAR | 4,356 | + 13.5 | 20,647 | + 14.1 |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS | 3,125 | + 6.5 | 15,059 | + 12.2 |
| ROAD VEHICLES | 2,114 | - 32.0 | 14,173 | + 1.3 |
| OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES | 2,786 | + 32.8 | 13,218 | + 23.5 |
| TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS | 2,683 | + 14.1 | 11,651 | + 12.7 |

TABLE 3 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAIN DESTINATIONS

| DESTINATION | MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | MAY 94 OVER MAY 93 (% CHANGE) | JAN-MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | JAN-MAY 94 OVER JAN-MAY 93 (% CHANGE) |
|----------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| CHINA | 5,337 | - 2.5 | 22,944 | - 9.3 |
| UNITED STATES | 4,710 | - 1.2 | 19,886 | - 3.1 |
| SINGAPORE | 975 | - 2.2 | 4,642 | + 0.9 |
| GERMANY | 934 | - 13.0 | 4,363 | - 12.3 |
| JAPAN | 786 | + 10.0 | 3,864 | - 4.6 |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 763 | - 4.0 | 3,537 | - 9.9 |
| TAIWAN | 457 | - 8.7 | 2,341 | - 5.6 |
| NETHERLANDS | 322 | + 3.2 | 1,627 | - 5.5 |
| CANADA | 327 | - 7.5 | 1,423 | - 15.7 |
| MALAYSIA | 245 | - 1.7 | 1,155 | - 0.9 |

/TABLE 4

TABLE 4 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE TEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS

| COMMODITY DIVISION | MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | MAY 94 OVER MAY 93 (% CHANGE) | JAN-MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | JAN-MAY 94 OVER JAN-MAY 93 (% CHANGE) |
|--|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES | 5,287 | + 0.8 | 22,312 | - 3.6 |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF | 2,123 | + 12.1 | 9,424 | + 4.1 |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES) | 1,550 | - 3.9 | 7,428 | - 3.5 |
| OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES | 1,314 | - 11.6 | 6,424 | - 14.8 |
| TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 1,394 | - 9.6 | 5,892 | - 13.5 |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS | 1,292 | - 0.6 | 5,758 | - 10.5 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT | 1,036 | - 12.8 | 4,542 | - 18.1 |
| MANUFACTURES OF METALS | 382 | - 0.4 | 1,796 | - 3.3 |
| PLASTICS IN PRIMARY FORMS | 333 | + 28.0 | 1,469 | + 5.3 |
| MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES | 286 | - 14.7 | 1,320 | - 11.1 |

TABLE 5 : IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAIN SUPPLIERS

| SUPPLIER | MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | MAY 94 OVER MAY 93 (% CHANGE) | JAN-MAY 1994 (HKD MN.) | JAN-MAY 94 OVER JAN-MAY 93 (% CHANGE) |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| CHINA | 38,044 | + 17.7 | 168,229 | + 13.5 |
| JAPAN | 14,941 | - 0.7 | 73,383 | + 1.2 |
| TAIWAN | 9,848 | + 22.5 | 40,633 | + 9.4 |
| UNITED STATES | 7,208 | - 9.1 | 32,379 | - 0.6 |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA | 5,396 | + 22.2 | 22,681 | + 15.4 |
| SINGAPORE | 5,970 | + 40.8 | 22,163 | + 20.8 |
| GERMANY | 2,402 | + 18.6 | 10,697 | + 6.2 |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 1,951 | + 18.2 | 9,475 | + 14.2 |
| ITALY | 1,916 | + 37.3 | 8,360 | + 26.6 |
| MALAYSIA | 1,753 | + 17.6 | 7,763 | + 24.6 |

/TABLE 6

TABLE 6: IMPORTS OF THE TEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS

| COMMODITY DIVISION | MAY 1994 | MAY 94 OVER 1993 | JAN-MAY 1994 | JAN-MAY 94 OVER 1993 |
|---|-----------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| (% CHANGE) | (HKD MN.) | (% CHANGE) | (HKD MN.) | (% CHANGE) |
| ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF | 11,415 | 23.7 | 49,868 | 15.7 |
| TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS | 12,099 | 30.7 | 46,871 | 15.6 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT | 9,233 | 27.1 | 43,582 | 34.0 |
| ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES | 7,204 | 2.2 | 34,054 | 4.6 |
| MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS) | 7,004 | 9.6 | 30,625 | 6.8 |
| PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS | 4,234 | 0.7 | 20,233 | 7.5 |
| ROAD VEHICLES | 4,141 | -21.0 | 18,945 | -20.6 |
| FOOTWEAR | 3,848 | 15.7 | 18,332 | 14.9 |
| OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES | 3,970 | 37.0 | 16,795 | 18.0 |
| NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES | 3,098 | 10.6 | 15,776 | 20.1 |

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SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION RESULTS OUT TOMORROW

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REMINDED PARENTS OF PRIMARY SIX PUPILS TO COLLECT THE RESULTS OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION FOR THEIR CHILDREN FROM THEIR SCHOOLS TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID PUPILS SHOULD FOLLOW THE ARRANGEMENTS SET DOWN BY THEIR SCHOOLS AND RETURN TO COLLECT THE ADMISSION SLIP AND ALLOCATION SLIP (ATTACHED TO THEIR PRIMARY SIX IDENTIFICATION FORM) FROM THEIR SCHOOLS.

THE REGISTRATION PERIOD THIS YEAR IS FROM JULY 18 TO 19.

ALL PUPILS MUST REPORT DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL MEAN THAT THEY HAVE CHOSEN NOT TO TAKE UP THE PLACES ALLOCATED.

IN CASE BOTH THE PUPILS AND THE PARENT/GUARDIAN ARE AWAY FROM HONG KONG DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD, THEY SHOULD AUTHORISE IN WRITING REPRESENTATIVES TO COMPLY WITH THE REGISTRATION PROCEDURES ON THEIR BEHALF.

COPIES OF LETTERS OF AUTHORISATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THEIR PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADS.

IN CASE OF GENUINE DIFFICULTIES, THE PARENTS OR PUPILS CONCERNED SHOULD INFORM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SECTION BEFORE THE END OF THE REGISTRATION PERIOD SO THAT ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.

PARENTS SEEKING TRANSFERS FOR THEIR CHILDREN SHOULD DIRECTLY APPLY TO THE SCHOOLS THEY PREFERRED.

ACCEPTANCE IS AT THE SOLE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOLS CONCERNED. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS HAVE TO RETRIEVE THE ADMISSION SLIPS FROM THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS AT WHICH THEY HAVE REGISTERED DURING THE REGISTRATION PERIOD AND HAND THEM TO THE SCHOOLS THEY WISH TO TRANSFER TO.

PARENTS/PUPILS ARE REMINDED THAT BY RETRIEVING THEIR ADMISSION SLIPS, THEIR REGISTRATION WITH THE SCHOOLS WILL BE CANCELLED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID AMONG THE 85,263 PUPILS ALLOCATED SECONDARY ONE PLACES THIS YEAR, 9,940 PUPILS (11.7 PER CENT) WERE ALLOCATED PLACES IN SCHOOLS WHICH ADOPT CHINESE AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION EXCEPT FOR THE ENGLISH SUBJECT.

A TOTAL OF 24,193 PUPILS (28.5 PER CENT) WERE GIVEN PLACES IN ENGLISH-MEDIUM SCHOOLS WHERE ALL SUBJECTS, OTHER THAN CHINESE AND CHINESE HISTORY, ARE TAUGHT IN ENGLISH.

ANOTHER 23,860 PUPILS (28.1 PER CENT) RECEIVED PLACES IN SCHOOLS AT WHICH MOST SUBJECTS ARE TAUGHT IN ENGLISH. EXCEPTIONS ARE CHINESE AND CHINESE HISTORY, CULTURAL SUBJECTS SUCH AS PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND MUSIC, AND PRACTICAL SUBJECTS SUCH AS HOME ECONOMICS AND DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY.

A TOTAL OF 3,764 PUPILS (4.4 PER CENT) WERE ALLOCATED PLACES IN SCHOOLS WHERE THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION IS DETERMINED BY CLASS AND 22,481 (26.5 PER CENT) TO SCHOOLS WHERE THE TEACHING MEDIUM IS DETERMINED BY SUBJECT.

MONDAY, JULY 11, 1994

- 17 -

A TOTAL OF 632 PUPILS (0.7 PER CENT) WILL GO TO SCHOOLS WHERE THE TEACHING MEDIUM IS DETERMINED BY BOTH CLASS AND SUBJECT.

ENQUIRIES CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION RESULTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON TEL 891 2200 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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MARINERS REMINDED TO USE PUBLIC LANDING STEPS PROPERLY

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT REQUESTS VESSELS NOT TO LIE ALONGSIDE PUBLIC LANDING STEPS EXCEPT WHEN THEY ARE DIRECTLY ENGAGED IN EMBARKING OR DISEMBARKING PASSENGERS AND THEIR BAGGAGE.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED OWNERS, OPERATORS, MASTERS, COXSWAINS AND PERSONS-IN-CHARGE OF VESSELS TO NOTE THE DIRECTIONS FOR THE PROPER USE OF PUBLIC LANDING STEPS.

HE SAID THE DIRECTIONS WERE DISPLAYED ON MARINE NOTICE BOARDS CONSPICUOUSLY ERECTED NEAR PUBLIC LANDING STEPS. THESE DIRECTIONS SHOULD BE OBSERVED TO ENSURE THE FACILITIES WERE AVAILABLE FOR USE AT ALL TIMES.

VESSELS WAITING TO USE PUBLIC LANDING STEPS SHOULD DO SO BY STAYING WELL CLEAR IN ORDER TO ALLOW VESSELS WHICH WERE LEAVING SUFFICIENT SEA ROOM TO MANOEUVRE SAFELY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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RATES FOR THIRD QUARTER DUE END-JULY

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RATES FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF THE YEAR ARE DUE AT THE END OF THE MONTH.

PAYMENT MAY BE MADE BY THE PAYMENT BY PHONE SERVICE, OR BY POST ADDRESSED TO THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES, PO BOX 8000, GPO, HONG KONG, OR IN PERSON AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * THE TREASURY HEADQUARTERS COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OFFICE, IMMIGRATION TOWER, FIRST FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG;
- * THE CENTRAL SUB-TREASURY, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG;
- * THE NORTH POINT SUB-TREASURY, MAX SHARE CENTRE, FIRST FLOOR, 373 KING'S ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * THE SAI WAN HO SUB-TREASURY, EASTERN LAW COURTS BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, 29 TAI ON STREET, SAI WAN HO, HONG KONG;
- * THE YAU MA TEI SUB-TREASURY, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, FOURTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON;

/* THE KOWLOON

- * THE KOWLOON CITY SUB-TREASURY, MAN SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 348-352 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, KOWLOON;
- * THE DISTRICT OFFICE AT SAI KUNG, SHA TIN, TAI PO, NORTH, YUEN LONG, TUEN MUN, TSUEN WAN OR KWAI TSING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID DEMAND NOTES HAD BEEN ISSUED.

"RATEPAYERS WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED THEM SHOULD BRING ALONG THEIR RATES DEMAND NOTES FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTERS TO ANY OF THE TREASURY COLLECTION OFFICES.

"DUPLICATE RATES DEMAND NOTES WILL BE ISSUED TO THEM."

IF THE RATEPAYERS CANNOT PRODUCE RATES DEMAND NOTES FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER, THEY SHOULD INQUIRE AT THE TREASURY RATES SECTION, IMMIGRATION TOWER, 30TH FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID NON-RECEIPT OF THE DEMAND NOTE DID NOT CHANGE THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES MUST BE PAID ON OR BEFORE JULY 30.

UNLESS SO PAID, RATEPAYERS MAY BE SUBJECT TO A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT UNDER THE RATING ORDINANCE.

A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT MAY BE LEVIED ON THE OUTSTANDING AMOUNT (INCLUDING THE FIVE PER CENT SURCHARGE) WHICH REMAINS UNPAID SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

RATEPAYERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED A VALID DIRECT DEBIT AUTHORISATION SHOULD NOTE THAT PAYMENT SHOULD STILL BE MADE BY OTHER MEANS AS SET OUT IN THE DEMAND NOTE UNLESS THE WORDING "PAYMENT TO BE MADE BY AUTOPAY" IS SHOWN ON THE DEMAND NOTE.

THEY SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS CONTAIN THE NECESSARY FUNDS ON JULY 30.

RATES ARE PAYABLE ON VACANT PROPERTIES BUT ARE REFUNDABLE UNDER THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN THE ORDINANCE.

HOWEVER, NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES OR FOR THE PARKING OF VEHICLES (UNLESS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT).

TO SAVE QUEUING TIME, THE SPOKESMAN URGED RATEPAYERS TO PAY BY PHONE SERVICE, BY POST OR BY AN EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE COLLECTION OFFICES.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THE MOST CONVENIENT METHOD TO PAY RATES IS BY AUTOPAY.

APPLICATIONS FOR AUTOPAY ARE OBTAINABLE FROM TREASURY COLLECTION OFFICES, DISTRICT OFFICES AND ALL MAJOR BANKS IN HONG KONG OR BY TELEPHONING 829 5019.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT PAYMENT BY PHONE, PLEASE CALL 1702 22329.

MONDAY, JULY 11, 1994

- 19 -

WATER ENQUIRY CENTRE IN TAI PO CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT'S CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE AT TAI PO MARKET WILL BE CLOSED TEMPORARILY FOR RENOVATION FROM FRIDAY (JULY 15) AS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE SERVICE ENVIRONMENT OF SEVEN SUCH CENTRES.

THE CENTRE ON THE FOURTH FLOOR, TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, TING KOK ROAD, TAI PO MARKET, TAI PO, WOULD RESUME SERVICE ON SEPTEMBER 1, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

WORKS FOR OTHER CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRES HAS BEEN GOING ON IN PHASE THIS YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PUBLIC ENQUIRIES COULD BE MADE ON HOTLINE 824 5000.

THE PUBLIC CAN ALSO MAKE USE OF THE NEWLY INTRODUCED 24-HOUR WATER INFOLINK SERVICE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT WATER ACCOUNT AND SUPPLY MATTERS. THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE SERVICE IS 802 9966.

MEANWHILE, CUSTOMERS MAY VISIT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRES:

- * WAN CHAI CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE,
FIRST FLOOR,
IMMIGRATION TOWER,
7 GLOUCESTER ROAD,
WAN CHAI,
HONG KONG.
- * SHAU KEI WAN CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE,
GROUND FLOOR,
PERFECT MOUNT GARDENS,
PO MAN STREET,
SHAU KEI WAN,
HONG KONG.
- * KWUN TONG CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE,
SECOND FLOOR,
NGAU TAU KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
21 ON WAH STREET,
NGAU TAU KOK,
KOWLOON.
- * MONG KOK CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE,
GROUND FLOOR,
128 SAI YEE STREET,
MONG KOK,
KOWLOON.
- * TSUEN WAN CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE,
FIFTH FLOOR,
KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
166-174 HING FONG ROAD,
KWAI CHUNG,
NEW TERRITORIES; AND

/* SHA TIN

MONDAY, JULY 11, 1994

- 20 -

- * SHA TIN CUSTOMER ENQUIRY CENTRE,
FIRST FLOOR,
KCR HOUSE,
SHA TIN STATION,
SHA TIN,
NEW TERRITORIES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID CUSTOMERS COULD PAY WATER CHARGES AT ANY COLLECTION OFFICES AS USUAL. THE ADDRESSES AND OPENING HOURS OF THESE OFFICES ARE SHOWN ON THE WATER BILLS.

CUSTOMERS CAN ALSO USE THE "PAYMENT BY PHONE SERVICE", DETAILS OF WHICH CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING SERVICE HOTLINES 170 222 328 (CANTONESE) OR 170 222 329 (ENGLISH).

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 74.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 435.478 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 421.694 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 72 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

| | \$ MILLION | TIME (HOURS) | CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION) |
|--------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------------------------|
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT | 1,604 | 0930 | -115 |
| CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT | 2,284 | 1000 | -115 |
| CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO : | | 1100 | +15 |
| MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY | +15 | 1200 | +15 |
| LAF TODAY | +665 | 1500 | +15 |
| | | 1600 | +15 |
| LAF RATE 2.50 BID/4.50 OFFER | TWI 122.6 | *+0.0* | 11.7.94 |

/HONG KONG

MONDAY, JULY 11, 1994

- 21 -

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

| TERMS | YIELD | TERM | ISSUE | COUPON | PRICE | YIELD |
|-----------|-------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1 WEEK | 4.01 | 17 MONTHS | 2511 | 4.15 | 97.80 | 5.93 |
| 1 MONTH | 4.04 | 23 MONTHS | 2605 | 6.35 | 100.02 | 6.43 |
| 3 MONTHS | 4.32 | 28 MONTHS | 3610 | 4.20 | 94.70 | 6.84 |
| 6 MONTHS | 4.71 | 31 MONTHS | 3701 | 4.60 | 94.69 | 7.03 |
| 12 MONTHS | 5.41 | 34 MONTHS | 3704 | 6.15 | 97.72 | 7.18 |

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 13,812 MN

CLOSED 11 JULY 1994

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