



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1991

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UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT  
STATISTICS FOR AUGUST - OCTOBER 1991 RELEASED  
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THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR AUGUST - OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS 2.0%, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.6%, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER THIS YEAR WAS 1.9%, WHILE THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.6%.

THE MARGINAL DECREASE IN THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN RECENT MONTHS INDICATED THAT CONDITIONS IN THE LABOUR MARKET HAD TIGHTENED UP SLIGHTLY. MEANWHILE, THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE REMAINED GENERALLY STABLE.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR AUGUST - OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS 2.0%, COMPARED WITH 2.3% FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JULY THIS YEAR AND 1.5% FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE DECREASE OF 0.3 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT BELOW THE PRECEDING THREE-MONTH PERIOD AND THE INCREASE OF 0.5 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT, THAT IS, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO RATES IS NOT ONLY DUE TO SAMPLING FLUCTUATIONS.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN AUGUST - OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS ESTIMATED AT 54,900, COMPARED WITH 65,100 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JULY THIS YEAR AND 41,900 IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR AUGUST - OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS 1.6%, COMPARED WITH 1.5% FOR MAY - JULY THIS YEAR AND 1.0% FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE INCREASE OF 0.1 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE PRECEDING THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS STATISTICALLY NOT SIGNIFICANT WHILE THE INCREASE OF 0.6 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER IS STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT.

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS IN AUGUST - OCTOBER THIS YEAR WAS 44,400, COMPARED WITH 40,800 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JULY THIS YEAR AND 26,600 IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO), PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK DUE TO ECONOMIC REASONS (SUCH AS SLACK WORK, MATERIAL SHORTAGE, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN AND INABILITY TO FIND FULL-TIME WORK) WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE EITHER SEEKING OR AVAILABLE FOR MORE WORK.

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AS THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO-MONTH, UNEMPLOYMENT RATES THAT HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR AUGUST - OCTOBER THIS YEAR COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 11,700 HOUSEHOLDS OR 41,000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED. IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND DECEMBER 20 AT \$13.50 PER COPY.

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#### AMS PRAISED FOR UPHOLDING TRADITION OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE

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THE GOVERNMENT'S INVESTMENT OF \$50 MILLION IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND FITTING OUT OF THE NEW AUXILIARY MEDICAL SERVICES HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IS A VERY VISIBLE DEMONSTRATION TO BOTH THE VOLUNTEERS AND TO THE PUBLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE THE GOVERNMENT ATTACHES TO THE SERVICE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE AMS HEADQUARTERS BUILDING IN HO MAN TIN, SIR DAVID SAID THE AMS WERE A FIRST RATE EXAMPLE OF HONG KONG'S STRONG TRADITION OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE.

"THIS IS A TRADITION WHICH IS HIGHLY PRIZED BY THE COMMUNITY AND BY THE GOVERNMENT.

"FOR OVER 40 YEARS THE AMS HAS PROVIDED HIGHLY VALUABLE SUPPORT TO THE REGULAR HEALTH SERVICES," HE SAID.

THAT THE AMS NOW HAD OVER 4,000 VOLUNTEERS SHOWED THE STRENGTH OF THE SPIRIT OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY, SIR DAVID ADDED.

/"IT SHOWS .....

"IT SHOWS TOO THE WILLINGNESS OF SO MANY COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS TO HELP THEIR STAFF TAKE PART IN THESE VERY WORTHWHILE ACTIVITIES," HE SAID.

TASKS CARRIED OUT BY THE AMS RANGED FROM PROVIDING ROUND-THE-CLOCK MEDICAL CARE AT SEVEN CENTRES FOR VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TO MANNING 25 METHADONE CLINICS; FROM LIFE GUARD DUTIES TO AMBULANCE SERVICES; AND FROM PROVIDING HELP DURING NATURAL DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES TO GIVING TRAINING IN MEDICAL CARE.

THE GOVERNOR PRAISED AMS VOLUNTEERS AND FULL-TIME STAFF FOR RESPONDING WITH ENTHUSIASM TO THOSE TASKS AND THE MANY OTHER CALLS MADE ON THEM.

"THIS NEW HEADQUARTERS WILL HELP THE AMS TO FULFIL ITS TASKS EVEN MORE EFFICIENTLY AND TO GROW TO MEET NEW DEMANDS.

"IT PROVIDES THE MODERN OFFICE ACCOMMODATION AND TRAINING FACILITIES NEEDED TO RUN AND DEVELOP THE SERVICE," HE SAID.

IN HIS WELCOMING ADDRESS, THE COMMISSIONER OF AMS, DR S.H. LEE, SAID THE AVAILABILITY OF FACILITIES IN THIS CENTRALLY-LOCATED BUILDING SYMBOLISED A STRONG OPERATIONAL BASE FOR AMS.

"IT ALSO REPRESENTS THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TOWARDS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND PREVENTION IN PRESERVING THE GENERAL WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG CITIZENS," DR LEE ADDED.

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#### TENDER FOR TSING MA BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION CLOSES

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ALL FOUR CONSORTIA PREQUALIFIED FOR BUILDING THE TSING MA BRIDGE, THE MAIN BRIDGE IN THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING PROJECT, HAD SUBMITTED TENDERS BY THE TIME TENDERS CLOSED TODAY (MONDAY).

ANNOUNCING THIS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE CONSORTIA HAD ALSO INCLUDED IN THEIR SUBMISSIONS PROPOSALS ON FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL EVALUATE THE BIDS, AND A DECISION ON SELECTION IS EXPECTED TO BE MADE IN ABOUT FIVE MONTHS.

"THE CONTRACT WILL BE AWARDED AROUND MID-1992. CONSTRUCTION WILL COMMENCE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE WITH THE AIM OF COMPLETING THE PROJECT BY THE TIME THE NEW AIRPORT OPENS CHEK LAP KOK," SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING IS A KEY ELEMENT OF THE EXTENSIVE TRANSPORT NETWORK DESIGNED TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW AIRPORT. IT WILL LINK THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY IN THE WEST AND WITH THE TSING YI SECTION OF ROUTE THREE IN THE EAST.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES TWO SUSPENSION BRIDGES, THE TSING MA AND KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGES WHICH WILL BE LINKED BY A VIADUCT OVER MA WAN ISLAND.

THE TSING MA BRIDGE, CROSSING THE CHANNEL BETWEEN TSING YI AND MA WAN, WILL HAVE A MAIN SPAN 1,377-METRE LONG, AND IS 2,167-METRE LONG OVERALL. IT WILL BE ONE OF THE WORLD'S LONGEST SUSPENSION BRIDGES.

THE BRIDGE WILL HAVE SIX TRAFFIC LANES ON ITS UPPER DECK. THE LOWER DECK WILL CARRY TWO SHELTERED TRAFFIC LANES FOR EMERGENCY USE AND THE AIRPORT RAILWAY.

TENDERS FOR BUILDING THE OTHER BRIDGE, KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGE, AND THE MA WAN VIADUCT, WERE INVITED ON NOVEMBER 5. THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF THESE TENDERS IS JUNE 4, 1992.

THE FOUR CONSORTIA WHICH HAVE BEEN PREQUALIFIED FOR TENDERING THE TSING MA BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION ARE:

- (1) ANGLO JAPANESE CONTRACTORS JOINT VENTURE
  - DORMAN LONG OVERSEAS LIMITED (JOINT VENTURE LEADER)
  - COSTAIN CIVIL ENGINEERING LIMITED
  - MITSUI & CO. LIMITED
- (2) HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM
  - BOUYGUES SA
  - DRAGAGES ET TRAVAUX PUBLICS (JOINT VENTURE LEADER)
  - HOCHTIEF AG
  - LEIGHTON CONTRACTORS PTY LIMITED
  - KIER HONG KONG LIMITED
  - FRANKI KIER LIMITED
  - AMERICAN BRIDGE COMPANY
  - IMPREGILO SPA
  - SHUI ON CIVIL CONTRACTORS LIMITED
  - CHINA STATE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING CORPORATION
- (3) HYUNDAI ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CO. LIMITED
- (4) LFC INTERNATIONAL
  - NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION (JOINT VENTURE LEADER)
  - KOBE STEEL LIMITED
  - MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES LIMITED
  - NKK CORPORATION
  - NISHIMATSU CONSTRUCTION CO. LIMITED
  - KUMAGAI GUMI CO. LIMITED

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SWAC VIEWS WILL BE SOUGHT ON WELFARE POLICIES CHANGES

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) WILL BE CONSULTED ON ANY SPECIFIC SAVINGS MEASURES THAT MIGHT INVOLVE REVISIONS TO THE POLICIES IMPLICIT IN THE "WHITE PAPER ON SOCIAL WELFARE INTO THE 1990'S AND BEYOND".

BRIEFING THE COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING TODAY (MONDAY), MR M.D. CARTLAND, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SAID: "FOR THE TIME BEING, HOWEVER, THE POSITION REGARDING 1993/94 AND 1994/95 REMAINS RELATIVELY FLUID AND THE ADVICE OF SWAC WILL BE SOUGHT NEARER THE TIME AS TO THE PRIORITIES IN DETERMINING THE PRECISE AREAS IN WHICH FURTHER SAVINGS MIGHT BE IDENTIFIED FOR THOSE TWO YEARS."

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING, A GROUP OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS' REPRESENTATIVES ADDRESSED MEMBERS ON THEIR CONCERNS ON THE PROPOSED SOCIAL WELFARE EXPENDITURE SAVINGS MEASURES BETWEEN 1992/93 AND 1994/95.

MR CARTLAND EXPLAINED AT THE MEETING THAT HAD THERE BEEN POLICY CHANGES INVOLVED IT WOULD HAD BEEN NECESSARY TO CONSULT SWAC AND INDEED, THIS WOULD BE DONE FOR SOME OF THE ITEMS BEING CONSIDERED FOR SUBSEQUENT YEARS.

CITING AN EXAMPLE, MR CARTLAND SAID A PROPOSAL TO REDUCE THE GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TO THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE SCHEME HAD POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND WOULD BE SUBJECT TO THE ADVICE OF SWAC AND THE APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, BOTH OF WHICH WOULD BE SOUGHT IN DUE COURSE.

AFTER A LENGTHY DISCUSSION, MEMBERS GENERALLY AGREED THAT SWAC WAS NOT ASKING TO EXEMPT FROM THE SAVING EXERCISE BUT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, THERE SHOULD NOT BE CUT IN THE SERVICES.

THEY RECOMMENDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS SHOULD GET TOGETHER TO IDENTIFY SAVINGS TAKING INTO WHAT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (SWD) PROPOSED AS THE BASE.

MEMBERS ALL HELD THE VIEW THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE A SERIOUS VIEW OF PROVISION OF SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICE AND THAT THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE THESE SERVICES.

SWAC MEMBERS ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE ALERTED TO THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING THE SOCIAL WELFARE WHITE PAPER PROPOSALS, AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE SWAC INTO CONFIDENCE FOR ANY POLICIES CHANGES IN FUTURE.

SPEAKING TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES AFTER THE MEETING, PROFESSOR NELSON CHOW, SWAC CHAIRMAN, POINTED OUT THAT SWAC WOULD SUPPORT SWD AND GOVERNMENT AS A WHOLE IN FINDING VALUE FOR MONEY AND TRY TO EXPLAIN TO THE PUBLIC ON THIS ISSUE.

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ON THE SUBJECT OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON MEASURES TO PREVENT CHILDREN FROM BEING LEFT UNATTENDED AT HOME, MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE THREE-MONTH CONSULTATION PERIOD WOULD BE CLOSED AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

REVEALING THE INITIAL FINDINGS OF THIS EXERCISE, MR ANTHONY CHAN WAI-KWAN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, SAID SO FAR THE DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED 15 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM DISTRICT BOARDS, EDUCATION BODIES, WELFARE AND WOMEN ORGANISATIONS.

MR CHAN SAID THAT THE MAJORITY OF SUBMISSIONS HELD THE VIEW THAT EXISTING CHILD CARE FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES SHOULD BE INCREASED; MUTUAL HELP GROUPS WERE EFFECTIVE MEASURES AND PUBLIC EDUCATION SHOULD BE AN IMPORTANT MEASURE TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM.

"THE INITIAL FINDINGS ALSO INDICATED THAT OUT OF THESE SUBMISSIONS, THREE SUPPORTED THE OPTION OF LEGISLATION. MOST OF THE VIEWS DO NOT CONSIDER SPECIFIC LEGISLATION SHOULD BE INTRODUCED TO PROHIBIT PARENTS FROM LEAVING THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME," MR CHAN NOTED.

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#### PLANNING OF STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME UNDERWAY

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THE PLANNING OF AN AMBITIOUS STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME WHICH WILL COST MORE THAN \$16 BILLION AT 1991 PRICES IS UNDERWAY, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ENVIRONMENTAL HYDRAULICS, MR BARNES SAID THE SCHEME AIMED TO UPGRADE THE PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR ABATING WATER POLLUTION.

"THIS IS A SCHEME WHICH BELIEVES A SAFE ENVIRONMENT CAN BEST BE ACHIEVED BY COMBINING LAND BASED SEWAGE TREATMENT WITH THE NATURAL SELF-PURIFICATION CAPABILITIES OF THE OCEAN," HE SAID.

MR BARNES SAID GIVEN THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING OUR WATERS AND GETTING THE BEST VALUE FROM SUCH AN ENORMOUS INVESTMENT, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO GET THE SCHEME RIGHT.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT ALSO INTENDED TO OVERCOME THE WORST EFFECTS OF FLOODING WITH A COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY FOR LAND DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL.

"AND IN THE VERY CORE OF OUR CITY, WE HAVE MASSIVE PROGRAMMES OF DREDGING AND RECLAMATION SO THAT WE CAN RECLAIM MORE LAND FROM THE SEA," HE SAID.

"ALL THESE PROGRAMMES, UNPARALLELED FOR A SOCIETY OF THIS SIZE, AIMED AT ENSURING THAT HONG KONG REMAINS A VIBRANT ENTREPOT; CONTINUES TO GROW AS A MAJOR CENTRE FOR FINANCE, COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM; AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT, THAT WE MAKE OUR CITY A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE AND WORK," HE ADDED.

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TURKISH REPUBLIC COMPLETES COTTON DUMPING INVESTIGATION

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE UNDERSECRETARIAT FOR THE TREASURY AND FOREIGN TRADE OF THE TURKISH REPUBLIC HAS COMPLETED ITS INVESTIGATION AND DECIDED THAT NO ANTI-DUMPING DUTY SHOULD BE IMPOSED ON IMPORTS OF WOVEN FABRIC OF COTTON (CONTAINING 85 PER CENT OR MORE BY WEIGHT OF COTTON) ORIGINATING FROM HONG KONG.

"WE WELCOME THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES' DECISION," MR ALAN LAI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"WE HAVE YET TO RECEIVE THE TURKISH OFFICIAL GAZETTE ANNOUNCING THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION. WE ARE ALWAYS CONVINCED THAT GIVEN HONG KONG'S OPEN ECONOMY AND THE SMALL SIZE OF HONG KONG COMPANIES, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW A HONG KONG COMPANY COULD DUMP."

THE TURKISH AUTHORITIES INITIATED THE ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDING AGAINST HONG KONG ON DECEMBER 12 LAST YEAR. ABOUT 10 HONG KONG COMPANIES WERE INVOLVED IN THE PROCEEDING.

A TURKISH INVESTIGATION TEAM VISITED HONG KONG IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR AND CONDUCTED ON-SITE INVESTIGATION IN RESPECT OF TWO LOCAL DENIM MANUFACTURERS.

THROUGHOUT THE PROCEEDING, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WAS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH THE EXPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS CONCERNED AND ENCOURAGED THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INVESTIGATION TO PROVE THEIR INNOCENCE.

STAFF OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN BRUSSELS HAVD TRAVELLED TO ANKARA TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THIS CASE.

"WE ARE PLEASED THAT THE EFFORTS OF BOTH THE INDUSTRY AND THE GOVERNMENT HAVE BORNE FRUIT IN THE PRESENT CASE," MR LAI SAID.

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LEGCO TO DEBATE MOTION ON ORGANISED CRIME WHITE BILL

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 16 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER THREE BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 18).

THE THREE BILLS, TO BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS, ARE THE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, THE PRINCE PHILIP DENTAL HOSPITAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND THE CRIMES (TORTURE) BILL.

DEBATES ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

IN ADDITION, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE TELEPHONE ORDINANCE.

/THE SECRETARY .....

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER THE DRUG TRAFFICKING (RECOVERY OF PROCEEDS) ORDINANCE AND THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE, AND THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE PHARMACY AND POISONS ORDINANCE.

THE HON RITA FAN WILL MOVE A MOTION ON THE WHITE BILL ON ORGANISED CRIME.

THE MOTION READS: "THAT THIS COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE ADMINISTRATION IN ITS EFFORTS TO COMBAT ORGANISED CRIME AND URGES THE ADMINISTRATION TO TAKE INTO CAREFUL CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS OF MEMBERS OF THIS COUNCIL AND THE PUBLIC ON THE WHITE BILL ON ORGANISED CRIME PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 9, 1991, AND TO ENSURE THAT ITS FINAL PROPOSALS FOR LEGISLATION TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF BILL OF RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS SO THAT THE LEGISLATION ACHIEVES MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS".

ALSO, THE HON HUI YIN-FAT WILL RAISE UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(5) THE MATTER OF "MEASURES TO PREVENT CHILDREN FROM BEING LEFT UNATTENDED AT HOME" FOR ADJOURNMENT DEBATE.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES. THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 869 9492.

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PAC HEARING ON THURSDAY

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THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 19) ON THE SECTION OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S REPORT CONCERNING GOVERNMENT'S PLANNING AND FINANCIAL CONTROL ON BUILDING THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (HKUST).

THE REPORT WAS TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 20. THE RELEVANT PARAGRAPHS ARE 13.1-13.20.

THE HEARING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, STARTING AT 10 AM.

APPEARING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE TO ANSWER POINTS RAISED IN THE REPORT WILL BE THE VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT OF THE HKUST, PROFESSOR CHIA-WEI WOO; PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR FOR ADMINISTRATION AND BUSINESS OF THE HKUST, MR I.F.C. MACPHERSON; CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB (RHKJC), MAJOR GENERAL GUY WATKINS; SECRETARY OF THE RHKJC, MR NEIL SUTHERLAND; AND THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR JOHN CHAN.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS AT THE PUBLIC GALLERY. THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY CALLING 869 9492.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES COVERING THE PUBLIC HEARING ARE ADVISED TO BRING WITH THEM A COPY OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT'S REPORT.

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TWO NOMINATIONS FOR SHA TIN DB BY-ELECTION

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION HAS RECEIVED TWO NOMINATIONS FOR THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S YUEN WO CONSTITUENCY BY-ELECTION TODAY (MONDAY) - THE FIRST DAY OF THE NOMINATION PERIOD.

NOMINATIONS WILL CLOSE ON DECEMBER 30 (MONDAY).

FOLLOWING ARE PERSONAL DETAILS OF THE TWO CANDIDATES:

NAME	SEX	AGE	OCCUPATION	CONTACT TEL. NO.
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CHAU WAI-CHU	F	35	PRIVATE TUTOR	691 2303
CHEUNG WING-FAI	M	33	TEACHER	649 6196

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THIRD FARMERS' FESTIVAL AND TAI LUNG FARM OPEN DAY

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THE THIRD FARMERS' FESTIVAL, FEATURING AN EXHIBITION OF NEW FARMING TECHNOLOGY AND THE SALE OF HIGH QUALITY LOCAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE, WILL BE HELD FROM THURSDAY TO SUNDAY (DECEMBER 19 TO 22) AT TAI LUNG FARM IN SHEUNG SHUI.

THIS IS ALSO THE SECOND TIME THAT TAI LUNG FARM, AN EXPERIMENTAL FARM RUN BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD), IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

THE FARMERS' FESTIVAL IS AN ANNUAL FUNCTION ORGANISED BY THE JOINT FEDERATION OF THE HONG KONG AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SOCIETIES, LIMITED.

THE SENIOR CROP DEVELOPMENT OFFICER OF AFD, MS VERA SO, WHO IS ONE OF THE MAJOR CO-ORDINATORS OF THE PROJECT, SAID TODAY (MONDAY): "THE FESTIVAL PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL FARMERS TO GET TOGETHER TO RENEW FRIENDSHIP AND TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE AND TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE ON FARMING.

"IT ALSO OFFERS MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO LIVE IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS, A GOOD CHANCE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LOCAL FARMING AND ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY."

FOR THE FIRST TIME THE FARMERS' FESTIVAL WILL BE PARTICIPATED BY THE FARMING COMMUNITY FROM CHINA AND TAIWAN. ON DISPLAY WILL BE SPECIAL BREEDING STOCK FROM TAIWAN, FISH FEED AND MARICULTURE EQUIPMENTS FROM CHINA AND TAIWAN AS WELL AS VETERINARY PRODUCT AND VACCINE FROM THE TWO PLACES AND HONG KONG.

/DURING THE .....

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DURING THE FESTIVAL THERE WILL ALSO BE DEMONSTRATIONS OF MODERN LOCAL FARMING TECHNOLOGY SUCH AS THE PIG-ON-LITTER METHOD FOR PIG RAISING; NEW POULTRY HUSBANDRY METHODS; AND MODERN GREENHOUSE CULTIVATION METHODS INCLUDING MASS SEEDLING PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES, SOILESS CULTURE, HYDROPONIC AND DRIP IRRIGATION METHODS.

THIS YEAR'S NEW ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE A LARGE-SCALE FLOWER SHOW, AN EXHIBITION OF PEARL PHEASANT AND ORNAMENTAL FISH, DEMONSTRATION ON INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT, DETECTION OF PESTICIDE RESIDUE ON VEGETABLE PRODUCE AND PREPARATION OF INSECT SPECIMENS.

ON SALE WILL BE A GREAT VARIETY OF HIGH-QUALITY LOCALLY GROWN VEGETABLES. IN ADDITION TO LAST YEAR'S POPULAR DRESSED CHICKEN, NEW ITEMS SUCH AS ROASTED PIG, PIGEON, POTTED FLOWERS AND SASHIMI WILL ALSO BE ON SALE THIS YEAR.

THE TAI LUNG FARM ITSELF ALSO OFFERS A NUMBER OF INTERESTING ITEMS TO VISITORS. THEY INCLUDE:

- A ROSE GARDEN WHERE OVER 40 SPECIES OF ROSES, INCLUDING VERY RARE ONES, ARE CULTIVATED;
- AN INSECT MUSEUM WITH A COLLECTION OF OVER 1,100 SPECIES;
- AN ORCHARD WITH ITS RICH COLLECTION OF FRUIT TREES PLUS DEMONSTRATIONS ON GRAFTING TECHNIQUES;
- A DISPLAY OF FARMING MACHINERY AND IRRIGATION SYSTEMS;
- A MUSHROOM LABORATORY; AND
- A PLANT PROTECTION LABORATORY.

THE THIRD FARMERS' FESTIVAL WILL BE OPENED AT 11 AM ON THURSDAY. OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE AN OMELCO MEMBER, MR ANDREW WONG; THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT FEDERATION OF THE HONG KONG AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES PRODUCTION AND MARKETING SOCIETIES, LTD, MR CHAN KWOK-WAI.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FROM 1 PM ON THURSDAY AND WILL CLOSE AT 3 PM ON SUNDAY. IT WILL BE OPEN FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM DAILY ON THE OTHER DAYS.

MS SO SAID THE FESTIVAL HAD PROVED TO BE VERY POPULAR AND HAD ATTRACTED A LARGE NUMBER OF VISITORS IN THE PREVIOUS YEARS. SHE URGED VISITORS TO MAKE USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO GO TO THE VENUE AS THERE ARE INADEQUATE PARKING FACILITIES AT TAI LUNG FARM.

/MEMBERS OF .....

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC FROM THE URBAN AREAS CAN TAKE KMB ROUTE 77K OR GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 18 FROM THE KCR SHEUNG SHUI STATION. VISITORS FROM WEST NEW TERRITORIES CAN ALSO TAKE BUSES AND MINIBUSES ON THE SAME ROUTES FROM YUEN LONG TO SHEUNG SHUI.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

TO FACILITATE MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE THIRD FARMERS' FESTIVAL AND TAI LUNG FARM OPEN DAY, A PRESS TOUR OF THE FARM WHICH IS IN SHEUNG SHUI WILL BE ORGANISED ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 18) MORNING.

TRANSPORT TAKING REPORTERS TO THE VENUE WILL LEAVE AFD HEADQUARTERS, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON, AT 9.30 AM. YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO JOIN THE TOUR. STAFF OF AFD'S INFORMATION UNIT WILL BE ON HAND TO ASSIST.

YOU ARE ALSO INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE THIRD FARMERS' FESTIVAL ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 19) AT 11 AM IN THE TAI LUNG FARM.

TRANSPORT PROVIDED FOR REPORTERS WILL LEAVE CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 9.45 AM ON THURSDAY.

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STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS VISIT FSD

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THREE NEW MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINED SERVICES SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

THEY WERE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE'S GENERAL DISCIPLINED SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE, MR RONALD ARCULLI, AND TWO MEMBERS MR YEUNG KA-SING AND MR POON CHIN-HUNG.

THE VISITORS WERE MET ON ARRIVAL AT THE FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JOHN MARCH, AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR LAM CHEK-YUEN.

AFTER ATTENDING A BRIEFING ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WORK, THE MEMBERS VISITED VARIOUS DIVISIONS IN THE HEADQUARTERS BUILDING INCLUDING THE FIRE SERVICES COMMUNICATION CENTRE, THE AMBULANCE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, THE FIRE PROTECTION BUREAU AND THE RECRUITMENT CENTRE.

THEY ALSO TOURED THE TSIM SHA TSUI FIRE STATION WHERE THEY WATCHED A DEMONSTRATION ON THE OPERATION OF VARIOUS KINDS OF RESCUE EQUIPMENT.

TO CONCLUDE THE TOUR, THE VISITORS BOARDED A FIRE BOAT AND WERE BRIEFED ON ITS SPECIAL FEATURES AND OPERATION.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1991

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INLAND REVENUE DEPT ON MOVE

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THE INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT IS MOVING FROM ITS PRESENT PREMISES AT WINDSOR HOUSE TO WANCHAI TOWER 3 DURING THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 14 (SATURDAY) TO UNTIL DECEMBER 29 (SUNDAY).

WANCHAI TOWER 3 IS LOCATED AT 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, ADJOINING THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.

FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO MAKE ENQUIRIES ON SALARIES TAX, THE RELOCATION DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

FILE NO. PREFIX -----	WINDSOR HOUSE -----	RELOCATION DATE -----	NEW LOCATION IN WANCHAI TOWER 3 -----
2A	9/F	DECEMBER 18 (WEDNESDAY)	27/F
2C	11/F	DECEMBER 20 (FRIDAY)	25/F
2D	12/F	DECEMBER 18 (WEDNESDAY)	24/F
2E	13/F	DECEMBER 21 (SATURDAY)	23/F
2F	14/F	DECEMBER 27 (FRIDAY)	22/F
2G	27/F	DECEMBER 19 (THURSDAY)	21/F

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SECTIONS HANDLING SALARIES TAX FILES WITH NUMBER PREFIX 2B AND 2H WILL OPERATE FROM THE NEW OFFICES ON THE 26TH FLOOR AND 20TH FLOOR RESPECTIVELY STARTING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

TELEPHONE ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 594 0888.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 34.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 203.198 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 217.582 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 37.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1991 .

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WATER SUPPLY SUSPENSION

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SUPPLY OF FRESH WATER TO SOME PREMISES IN HUNG HOM, KOWLOON WILL BE TURNED OFF FROM 9 PM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 18) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WATERMAINS CONNECTION WORK.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY BAILEY STREET, SUNG CHI STREET, HOK YUEN STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD, INCLUDING MAN YUE STREET, MAN LOK STREET AND NOS. 21-37 TAI WAN ROAD.

MEANWHILE, FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON THE SAME DAY (WEDNESDAY) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE LEAKAGE TEST.

IT WILL AFFECT FAT TSEUNG STREET, CHEUNG FAT STREET AND PO ON ROAD, INCLUDING SO UK ESTATE.

ALSO ON WEDNESDAY FLUSHING WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN AREAS IN QUARRY BAY WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY THE NORTHERN SIDE OF TAIKOO SHING, THE VERTICAL SECTION OF TAIKOO SHING ROAD, KORNHILL ROAD UP TO ITS JUNCTION WITH KING'S ROAD, HONG YUE STREET, QUARRY BAY STREET, KING'S ROAD, PAN HOI STREET AND WESTLANDS ROAD, INCLUDING TIN HAU TEMPLE ROAD, PAK FUK ROAD, PO LUEN PATH, BRAEMAR HILL ROAD, HAU YUEN PATH, WAI TSUI CRESCENT, CLOUD VIEW ROAD AND YEE KING ROAD IN THE HIGH LEVEL AREA IN NORTH POINT.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

\* \* \* \* \*

	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	14.12.91	500
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	16.12.91	+74
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-74
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+100*

\* LATE O/N ASSISTANCE,  
TO BE REVERSED ON 17.12.91

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 110.3 \*-0.1\* 16.12.91

/HONG KONG .....

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1991

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.82 PCT	23 MONTHS	2311	6.25	101.66	5.40
1 MONTH	4.14 PCT					
3 MONTHS	4.06 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.14 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.66 PCT					

TURNOVER - BILLS 3,485 MILLION, BONDS 94 MILLION

CLOSED 16 DECEMBER 1991

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