



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES AT CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) DISCUSSED WAYS TO DEAL WITH THE CONGESTION PROBLEM AT THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL AND THE OVERLOADING OF GOODS VEHICLES.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT A NUMBER OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT MEASURES HAD BEEN INTRODUCED TO IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC FLOW ON THE TUNNEL APPROACH ROADS AND TO FACILITATE GREATER USE OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

THESE INCLUDED PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL LANES FOR CENTRAL-BOUND TRAFFIC ON THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR AND ON GLOUCESTER ROAD NEAR THE EXCELSIOR HOTEL, AND WIDENING OF GLOUCESTER ROAD NEAR THE MARSH ROAD FLYOVER TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL EASTBOUND LANE.

WORKS ARE ALSO UNDERWAY TO WIDEN VICTORIA PARK ROAD NEAR THE NOON-DAY GUN SITE TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL EASTBOUND LANE BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR AND ALSO TO WIDEN GLOUCESTER ROAD WESTBOUND NEAR PERCIVAL STREET TO PROVIDE A THIRD LANE FOR CENTRAL-BOUND TRAFFIC.

HOWEVER, MEMBERS NOTED THAT WHILE THESE MEASURES HAD AND WOULD BRING SOME RELIEF, THEY WERE INSUFFICIENT TO CONTAIN CONGESTION AT CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TO WITHIN ACCEPTABLE LIMITS.

THEY WERE TOLD THAT THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 8.8 PER CENT IN CROSS HARBOUR TRAFFIC FROM 171,900 VEHICLES A DAY IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL IN JUNE TO 187,000 VEHICLES A DAY IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR.

THE INCREASE WAS DUE TO THE RELEASE OF SUPPRESSED DEMAND AND A SHIFT FROM CAR FERRY TO TUNNEL USAGE. HOWEVER, THE OPENING OF TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AND EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING HAD NOT RESULTED IN A REDUCTION IN TRAFFIC USING THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL.

THE DAILY TRAFFIC FLOW THROUGH THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL (CHT) REMAINED AT THE HIGH LEVEL OF 120,500 VEHICLES A DAY LAST SEPTEMBER. THE FIGURE ROSE TO 123,000 IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

GIVEN THAT THE CROSS HARBOUR TRAFFIC IS FORECAST TO GROW BY FOUR PER CENT PER ANNUM, THE CONGESTION SITUATION AT THE CHT IS LIKELY TO DETERIORATE FURTHER AND THE CONGESTION IS EXTENDING TO EARLIER HOURS IN THE MORNING OR LATE HOURS INTO THE NIGHT.

THE CONGESTION HAS INCREASED DELAYS, PARTICULARLY AT PEAK HOURS, REDUCING THE EFFICIENCY OF BUSES AND GOODS VEHICLES AND AFFECTED THE OPERATION OF EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

IT WAS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT TAC LOOKED INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING GREATER USE OF VEHICULAR FERRIES, RATIONALISING THE CLASSIFICATION AND TOLLS FOR GOODS VEHICLES USING THE CHT, AND INCREASING PASSAGE TAX FOR CHT DURING CERTAIN HOURS OF THE DAY.

/NO DECISION

NO DECISION WAS TAKEN AS FURTHER DELIBERATIONS OF THE ISSUE WOULD BE REQUIRED.

AT THE MEETING, THE TAC WAS BRIEFED ON THE PROBLEM OF OVERLOADING GOODS VEHICLES WHICH AFFECTED ROAD SAFETY AND CAUSED ROAD SURFACE DAMAGE.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE NUMBER OF OVERLOADING SUMMONSES AND ARRESTS MADE BY THE POLICE LAST YEAR INCREASED BY OVER 100 PER CENT AND 280 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

IT WAS FOUND THAT ONE IN EVERY FOUR VEHICLES INTERCEPTED BY THE POLICE WAS OVERLOADED.

ON ROAD DAMAGE, TAC MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT A STUDY AT THE TOLO HIGHWAY SHOWED OVERLOADING WOULD BRING FORWARD THE RESURFACING OF TOLO HIGHWAY BY A FEW YEARS AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$220 MILLION.

THEY ALSO NOTED THAT IN SOME COUNTRIES SUCH AS BRITAIN AND SINGAPORE, THEY HAD STRICTER CONTROL OVER OVERLOADING THAN IN HONG KONG. THE BRIEFING WAS TO PAVE WAY FOR A FULL DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM MORE EFFECTIVELY AT THE NEXT TAC MEETING.

THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO INFORMED OF THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY'S FORWARD PLANNING PROGRAMME FOR 1992-96 WHICH INCLUDED A ROUTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN, A CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAMME AND ITS FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND THE ADMINISTRATION'S ASSESSMENT.

THEY ALSO NOTED THE ARRANGEMENTS BEING TAKEN BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATORS TO FORM PASSENGER LIAISON GROUPS OR SIMILAR CONSULTATIVE CHANNELS TO ALLOW FOR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BETWEEN THE COMPANIES AND THEIR PASSENGERS.

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1992/93 LAND SALES PROGRAMME

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THE GOVERNMENT'S PROVISIONAL LAND SALES PROGRAMME FOR THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR WILL COMPRISE 29.67 HECTARES INVOLVING 45 SITES WHICH WILL PRODUCE ABOUT 16,500 RESIDENTIAL FLATS, THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT, MR BOB POPE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR POPE, WHO HEADS THE LAND ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, WAS ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE LAND SALES PROGRAMME FOR 1992/93 FOLLOWING THE AGREEMENT OF THE LAND COMMISSION TO THE LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAMME SUBMITTED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

/HE SAID

HE SAID 28 OF THE SITES IN THE LAND SALES PROGRAMME WOULD BE SOLD BY AUCTION. THESE INCLUDE 16 FOR RESIDENTIAL/RESIDENTIAL-CUM-COMMERCIAL, TWO FOR COMMERCIAL AND 10 FOR INDUSTRIAL/GODOWN.

MR POPE SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WAS CONSCIOUS OF THE CURRENT DEMAND IN THE PROPERTY MARKET AND WAS KEEN TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF FLATS WOULD BE PRODUCED FROM THE GOVERNMENT LAND SALES TO KEEP PROPERTY PRICES STABLE.

HE SAID THE PROGRAMME FOR 1992/93 COMPRISED MORE HIGH DENSITY SITES, ALTHOUGH THE AREA OF LAND IN THE PROGRAMME WAS SIMILAR TO THE EXTENDED PROGRAMME OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE RESIDENTIAL SITES IN THE LAND SALES PROGRAMME FOR THE COMING FINANCIAL YEAR WOULD PRODUCE A TOTAL OF 1.2 MILLION SQUARE METRES OF GROSS FLOOR AREA FOR DOMESTIC FLATS, WHICH IS A 30 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THIS YEAR'S FIGURE.

FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME, MR POPE SAID THREE LARGE SITES WOULD BE OFFERED FOR SALE BY TENDER WITH A VIEW TO PRODUCING 4,600 FLATS.

ON THE INDUSTRIAL SIDE, HE SAID HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD BE OFFERING SOME 4.12 HECTARES OF INDUSTRIAL LAND WHICH WERE A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER LAND SOLD IN PREVIOUS YEARS.

HE SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WAS KEEN TO ENSURE THAT SUFFICIENT INDUSTRIAL LAND WAS MADE AVAILABLE FOR INDUSTRIALISTS.

MR POPE ESTIMATED THAT THE TOTAL REVENUE FROM LAND SALES WOULD BE \$8.6 BILLION AS COMPARED TO REVENUE FROM THIS YEAR'S LAND SALES OF \$13.8 BILLION.

HE SAID IT WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT IN AN ACTIVE PROPERTY MARKET TO ESTIMATE REVENUE AND HE CONSIDERED THAT IT WAS BETTER FOR THE ADMINISTRATION TO BE CONSERVATIVE ON ESTIMATES RATHER THAN THE REVERSE.

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STUDY ON POLICE'S RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROBLEMS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS UNDERTAKING A STUDY INTO RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROBLEMS AMONG JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS (JPOS).

THE STUDY IS JOINTLY UNDERTAKEN BY THE POLICE, SECURITY BRANCH, CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH AND FINANCE BRANCH.

/"RECOMMENDATIONS WILL

"RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE MADE TO COPE WITH THE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION PROBLEMS, SO AS TO HELP BOOST THE MANPOWER OF THE POLICE IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT LAW AND ORDER SITUATION," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE STUDY WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE SUBMISSION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE TO INTRODUCE A SPECIAL POLICE ALLOWANCE FOR JPOS. THE INTENTION IS TO COMPLETE THE STUDY IN ABOUT A MONTH.

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IMPORTANCE TO MAINTAIN GOVT TUNNEL SERVICE STRESSED
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IS MAKING A SERIES OF MEASURES TO SAFEGUARD PUBLIC USAGE OF GOVERNMENT TUNNELS WHILE PROVIDING ALL POSSIBLE HELP TO STAFF AFFECTED BY THE CONTRACTING OUT OF THESE TUNNELS.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, MR ERNEST LEE SHU-WING, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE EMPLOYMENT OF TEMPORARY STAFF IN TUNNELS IS TO TAKE UP THE DUTIES OF TOLL COLLECTORS WHO ARE LIKELY TO LEAVE THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT EARLY ON THEIR SUCCESSFUL APPOINTMENT TO OTHER GRADES WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE OR IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS SO FAR RECEIVED 70 APPLICATIONS FROM STAFF SEEKING REDEPLOYMENT TO OTHER POSTS AND 60 PREFERENCE FORMS. ON THE BASIS OF THEIR APPLICATIONS, SELECTION BOARDS WILL BE HELD IN APRIL.

MR LEE ALSO REASSURED TUNNEL STAFF THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS COMMITTED TO ADSORBING THEM WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE WHERE SUITABLE VACANIES COULD BE IDENTIFIED.

HOWEVER, HE SAID IT WOULD RELY ON STAFF ADOPTING A POSITIVE ATTITUDE AND HANDING IN THEIR APPLICATION FORMS SO THAT PROMPT REFERRALS COULD BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE VACANIES.

HE ALSO REITERATED THAT THEY WOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY OVER OTHER APPLICANTS.

"FOR THOSE WHO PREFER TO MAKE CHOICES OTHER THAN JOB TRANSFER, THEY SHOULD HAND IN THEIR OPTION FORMS TO THE DEPARTMENT BY THE END OF THIS MONTH.

"DIRECT CONSULTATION AND GUIDANCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE GIVEN TO THEM BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPECIAL MANAGEMENT TEAM SET UP SINCE THE ANNOUNCEMENT TO CONTRACT OUT THE MANAGEMENT OF TUNNELS," MR LEE SAID.

/HE SAID

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HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO MAINTAIN THE TUNNEL SERVICE IN THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC AND A DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE STAFF THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS.

"WE ARE PREPARED TO MEET OUR STAFF AT ANY TIME AND AS FREQUENTLY AS NECESSARY." MR LEE ADDED.

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NEW CHAIRMAN OF SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION APPOINTED
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT MR ROBERT OWEN, CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION, WILL RETIRE AT THE END OF APRIL ON COMPLETION OF HIS CURRENT CONTRACT.

MR ROBERT NOTTLE, CURRENTLY DEPUTY CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (INTERMEDIARIES AND INVESTMENT PRODUCTS) OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION, WILL TAKE OVER THE DUTIES AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION WITH EFFECT FROM MAY 1. HIS APPOINTMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR.

MR OWEN FIRST CAME TO WORK IN HONG KONG AS GOVERNMENT SECURITIES CONSULTANT IN JULY 1988. IN PURSUANCE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECURITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE, THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION WAS SET UP IN MAY 1989 AND MR. OWEN HAS HELD THE POST AS THE CHAIRMAN EVER SINCE.

IN A TRIBUTE TO MR OWEN, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID: "MR OWEN HAS ABLY LED THE COMMISSION IN DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR OUR STOCK AND FUTURES MARKETS WHICH HAS BROUGHT HONG KONG INTO LINE WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF MARKET REGULATION AND PRACTICE."

"HONG KONG MUST BE GRATEFUL TO HIM FOR A JOB WELL DONE. ALTHOUGH WE ARE SORRY TO SEE HIM LEAVE, WE WISH HIM EVERY SUCCESS IN HIS FUTURE ENDEAVOURS," MR MACLEOD ADDED.

THE GOVERNOR HAS ALSO APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR ERMANNIO PASCUTTO AS THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN IN ADDITION TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AS FROM MAY 1, 1992 AND THE EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT FOR MR ROBERT GILMORE AS AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT ARE THE APPOINTMENTS OF MR MICHAEL WU AND MR GERARD J MCMAHON AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS TO FILL THE TWO POSITIONS PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED BY MR ROBERT NOTTLE AND MR GAVIN EDIE.

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MARCH 1992 EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL SURVEY STARTS
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MARCH MAJOR YEAR. THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS STARTED TO CONDUCT THE ROUND OF THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN RESPECT OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

RESULTS OF THE QUARTERLY SURVEY ARE USEFUL IN PROVIDING SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC INDICATORS AND INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE LABOUR MARKET IN HONG KONG.

THIS ROUND OF THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 115,000 ESTABLISHMENTS DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS INCLUDING THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING; MANUFACTURING; ELECTRICITY AND GAS), THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS) AND THE SERVICES SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION; FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES; COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES).

INFORMATION ON NUMBER OF PEOPLE ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES ON MARCH 31 THIS YEAR WILL BE SOUGHT FROM EACH SELECTED ESTABLISHMENT.

SOME 10,000 ESTABLISHMENTS ARE RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THIS SAMPLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAYROLL IN EACH OF THE THREE MONTHS DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD OF JANUARY-MARCH 1992.

QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENTS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 69 OF 1982 GAZETTED ON MARCH 5, 1982), ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

SHOULD RESPONDENTS FIND DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLETING THE FORMS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE ON TEL. 582 5076.

AS FOR THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT DURING JANUARY TO MARCH THIS YEAR, THEY WILL ALSO BE ENUMERATED IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SURVEY RESULTS COMPLETE.

FIELD OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, EACH BEARING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD, WILL CALL ON THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED, EXISTING VACANCIES, TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, NATURE OF BUSINESS AND DATE ON WHICH BUSINESS STARTED.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING THESE FIELD VISITS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 582 4782.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1992

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HONG KONG DELEGATION LEAVES FOR PEKING

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A HONG KONG DELEGATION LEFT FOR PEKING THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING FOR A FIVE-DAY VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN ECONOMIC RELATIONS AND TRADE (MOFERT).

THE DELEGATION, LED BY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR KEVIN HO CHI-MING, INCLUDES OFFICERS FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

A MOFERT STUDY GROUP PAID A VISIT TO HONG KONG TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH THE TERRITORY'S RULES OF ORIGIN AND CERTIFICATION SYSTEM LAST MONTH.

IT WAS AGREED THAT THE TWO SIDES SHOULD MAINTAIN A REGULAR DIALOGUE WHICH WILL BE USEFUL FOR DISCUSSING MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.

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\$100 M CONTRACT FOR SEWERAGE WORKS AWARDED

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) AWARDED A \$100 MILLION CONTRACT FOR WORKS TO OVERHAUL THE SEWERAGE NETWORK OF SAN PO KONG AND KOWLOON BAY AS PART OF THE EAST KOWLOON SEWERAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND POLLUTION CONTROL SCHEME.

THE SCHEME IS AIMED AT IMPROVING THE EXISTING SEWERAGE SYSTEM AND POLLUTION CONTROL BY INTERCEPTING AND DIVERTING THE SEWAGE WHICH WILL OTHERWISE BE INADVERTENTLY DISCHARGED TO THE STORMWATER SYSTEM.

WORKS UNDER THE CONTRACT INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,200-METRE-LONG BOX CULVERT, 2,000 METRES OF PIPE SEWERS AND THREE SMALL PUMPING STATIONS.

WORKS ON THESE TRUNK SEWERS AND BOX CULVERTS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ALONG CHOI HUNG ROAD, PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST, EASTERN ROAD AND WANG KWONG ROAD TO FORM A NEW SEWERAGE NETWORK REPLACING THE EXISTING TRUNK SEWER SYSTEM WHICH IS OVERLOADED.

THE NETWORK HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO ENABLE THAT SEWAGE GENERATED IN THE AREA CAN EVENTUALLY BE DISCHARGED TO THE KWUN TONG SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT WHILE THE POLLUTED BASE FLOWS FROM THE STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM WILL BE INTERCEPTED BY NEW PUMPING STATIONS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS FOR TREATMENT.

LAST WEEK ANOTHER MAJOR CONTRACT WHICH DEALS WITH SIMILAR WORKS FOR KWUN TONG AND YAU TONG UNDER THE EAST KOWLOON SEWERAGE SCHEME HAS ALSO BEEN AWARDED AT A SUM OF \$170 MILLION.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR BOTH CONTRACTS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 20 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

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SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE ON WAGE STATISTICS IN SELECTED INDUSTRIES

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THE JANUARY 1992 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS CONTAINS A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE WHICH GIVES A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF WAGE STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1982 TO 1991.

THE AVERAGE WAGE RATE FOR WORKERS UP TO THE SUPERVISORY LEVEL IN 41 SELECTED INDUSTRIES HAS INCREASED BY OVER 130 PER CENT IN MONEY TERMS IN THE PAST 10 YEARS AND OVER 14 PER CENT IN REAL TERMS.

IN THE ARTICLE, MOVEMENTS OF WAGE INDEXES IN FIVE MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS ARE COMPARED.

THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IS FURTHER ANALYSED BY LOOKING AT THE CHANGES IN WAGE INDEXES OVER TIME IN SOME 20 MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THE AVERAGE BASIC WAGES AND FRINGE BENEFITS FOR TWO GROUPS OF WORKERS, NAMELY, CRAFTSMEN AND OTHER OPERATIVES, AND SUPERVISORY, TECHNICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS NON-PRODUCTION WORKERS IN EACH OF THE 20 MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES ARE ALSO COMPARED.

THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS AVAILABLE AT \$48 PER COPY.

PURCHASE CAN BE MADE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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NO POSTAL SERVICE ON CHING MING DAY

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MAIL DELIVERY ON APRIL 4 (CHING MING FESTIVAL).

ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON THAT DAY.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 1992

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VIEWS RECEIVED FOR BROADCASTING REVIEW

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, HAD A MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS MR MAN SAI-CHEONG AND MR ALBERT CHAN THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE PROGRESS OF THE REVIEW OF THE TELEVISION INDUSTRY.

DURING THE DISCUSSION, MR MAN AND MR CHAN CLEARLY REFLECTED THE VIEWS OF THE UNITED DEMOCRATS OF HONG KONG ON BROADCASTING POLICY TO MR SO. MR SO PROMISED TO TAKE THESE VIEWS INTO ACCOUNT IN FINALISING THE REVIEW.

"OUR AIM IS TO COMPLETE THE REVIEW BY THE END OF JUNE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN THE LIGHT OF SUBMISSIONS MADE BY ALL EXISTING AND POTENTIAL TELEVISION SERVICE OPERATORS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY IS TAKING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE REVIEW, AND WILL BE MEETING VARIOUS INTERESTED PARTIES IN EARLY APRIL TO DISCUSS THE CONTENTS OF THEIR SUBMISSIONS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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NEW PLB ROUTE IN YUEN LONG

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT A NEW GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE NO. 605 WILL BE IN SERVICE FROM THURSDAY (MARCH 26) TO COPE WITH THE TRAVEL NEED OF LOCAL COMMUTERS IN YUEN LONG.

THE NEW ROUTE WILL RUN BETWEEN KI LUN TSUEN AND SHEUNG SHUI (AREA 7B).

THE OPERATING HOURS WILL BE BETWEEN 6.30 AM AND 8.10 PM. THE FARE WILL BE \$3.50 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	24 MAR 92	24 MAR 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q213	Y288
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 2,215 MN	HKD 690 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 500 MN	HKD 200 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	4.11 PCT	4.92 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	4.13 PCT	4.93 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 27 PCT	100 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	4.18 PCT	5.00 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDER TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 30 MARCH 1992 -

TENDER DATE	31 MAR 92	31 MAR 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q214	H261
ISSUE DATE	1 APR 92	1 APR 92
MATURITY DATE	1 JULY 92	30 SEP 92
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HK\$500 + 100 MN	HK\$200 + 60 MN

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	23.3.92	700
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	24.3.92	-119
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+119
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.8 *-0.2* 24.3.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.96 PCT	20 MONTHS	2311	6.25	100.24	6.18
1 MONTH	3.99 PCT	23 MONTHS	2402	5.50	98.55	6.42
3 MONTHS	4.08 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.42 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.87 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 7,200 MN

CLOSED 24 MARCH 1992

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