



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1994

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GOVERNOR TO VISIT U.S. WEST COAST

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL LEAVE HONG KONG TOMORROW (SATURDAY) FOR AN EIGHT-DAY VISIT TO LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO AND SEATTLE AS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S INITIATIVE TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC AND TRADING TIES WITH THE USA.

IT IS MR PATTEN'S FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE WEST COAST. HE WILL GIVE A SERIES OF SPEECHES, MEET SENIOR STATE AND CITY OFFICIALS, LEADING BUSINESSMEN, AND UNDERTAKE A RANGE OF MEDIA BRIEFINGS AND INTERVIEWS.

MR PATTEN WILL BE THE GUEST OF HONOUR AT FOUR MAJOR SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS IN CALIFORNIA AND WASHINGTON STATE. THE HOST ORGANISATIONS ARE:

- * THE LOS ANGELES WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL, HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND ASIA SOCIETY;
- * THE ORANGE COUNTY WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL IN LOS ANGELES;
- * THE COMMONWEALTH CLUB OF CALIFORNIA, WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AND HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CALIFORNIA, IN SAN FRANCISCO; AND
- * THE SEATTLE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL AND WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

MR PATTEN WILL ALSO MEET SENIOR BUSINESS LEADERS IN LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO AND SEATTLE, VISIT THE BOEING AIRCRAFT CENTRE IN SEATTLE AND TAKE PART IN A ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION WITH ACADEMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY.

HE WILL ATTEND EDITORIAL BOARDS OF THE MAJOR NEWSPAPERS IN EACH OF THE THREE CITIES, AND GIVE A NUMBER OF TELEVISION AND NEWSPAPER INTERVIEWS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THE VISIT HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR SOME TIME AS PART OF THE GOVERNOR'S ON-GOING PROGRAMME OF OVERSEAS VISITS TO PROMOTE HONG KONG'S INTERESTS WITH HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING AND BUSINESS PARTNERS.

"IT IS IMPORTANT FOR HONG KONG TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL VISITS BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, MRS ANSON CHAN, TO WASHINGTON D.C. AND NEW YORK LAST APRIL WHEN SHE LOBBIED FOR THE RENEWAL OF CHINA'S MFN STATUS AND WHICH SHE FOLLOWED UP BY LEADING AN EQUALLY SUCCESSFUL HONG KONG PROMOTION TO NEW YORK, CHICAGO AND ATLANTA LAST MONTH," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE UNITED STATES IS HONG KONG'S BIGGEST TRADING PARTNER AFTER CHINA. LAST YEAR TOTAL TRADE WITH AMERICA WAS WORTH SOME US\$41 BILLION, AND ONE-FIFTH OF THAT WAS WITH CALIFORNIA. U.S. INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG AT THE END OF 1993 WAS ESTIMATED AT US\$10.5 BILLION.

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"IT IS OUR AIM TO ENSURE THAT AMERICANS AT THE DECISION-MAKING LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE AS THE PREMIER INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CENTRE IN ASIA-PACIFIC.

"MR PATTEN'S VISIT TO THE WEST COAST MEANS THAT THE HONG KONG MESSAGE WILL HAVE BEEN CARRIED TO KEY AMERICAN STATES AND CITIES IN A SINGLE YEAR. THIS IS IMPORTANT IN BUILDING ON THE ECONOMIC, TRADE AND COMMUNITY LINKS WHICH ARE OF SUCH SIGNIFICANCE TO HONG KONG'S LONG-TERM PROSPERITY AND STABILITY," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

MR PATTEN WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON NOVEMBER 20 (SUNDAY).

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE GOVERNOR WILL SPEAK TO THE NEWS MEDIA ABOUT HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT ABOUT 11AM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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TRANSCRIPT OF MEDIA SESSION BY GOVERNOR AND CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER

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FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEDIA SESSION BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AND THE CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER MR JEAN CHRETIEN TODAY (FRIDAY):

GOVERNOR: GOOD AFTERNOON LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I VERY MUCH WELCOMED THIS OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING MR CHRETIEN AGAIN. WE MET WHEN NEITHER OF US WERE DOING OUR PRESENT JOBS BUT IT IS EXTREMELY NICE TO WELCOME THE PRIME MINISTER TO HONG KONG. WE'VE HAD OVER THE YEARS, AS YOU KNOW, AN EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP WITH CANADA. THAT'S BASED ON PERSONAL TIES AND COMMERCIAL TIES AND I THINK SHARED VALUES AND INTERESTS AS WELL, AND IT IS ALWAYS HELPFUL FOR US TO BE ABLE TO TALK TO OUR CANADIAN FRIENDS AND I AM VERY PLEASED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER HAS COME TO HONG KONG WITH SO MANY OF HIS PROVINCIAL PREMIERS AND THAT WE ARE ABLE TO HAVE THIS CONVERSATION THIS AFTERNOON.

PRIME MINISTER: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, PATTEN, IT WAS A PLEASURE TO BE WITH YOU AGAIN. AS YOU SAID, WE MET WHEN WE WERE IN DIFFERENT CAPACITIES IN OUR CAREERS BUT OF COURSE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CANADA AND HONG KONG HAVE BEEN ALWAYS VERY CLOSE, WE HAVE A LOT OF EXCHANGES, COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL, AND CITIZENS MOVING BACK AND FORTH ALL THE TIME. SO WE FOLLOW THE WHOLE SITUATION HERE VERY CLOSELY AND I WAS HAPPY TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY ABOUT THE PRESENT SITUATION.

SO IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, WE ARE HERE TO ANSWER THEM.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: PRIME MINISTER, DO YOU CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE REFORM PACKAGE PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE IN JUNE THIS YEAR, AS A LONG TERM DEMOCRATIC MODEL FOR HONG KONG?

PRIME MINISTER: WELL FOR US, WE WANT HONG KONG TO HAVE THE BEST SYSTEM POSSIBLE THAT SUITS THEM THE BEST WHEN THE CHANGEOVER WILL COME IN THREE-AND-A-HALF YEARS FROM NOW. OF COURSE I MENTIONED THE SITUATION WHEN I WAS IN BEIJING AND I WAS TOLD THAT THE PLAN IS THAT THERE WILL BE A VERY SMOOTH TRANSITION. AND I HOPE THAT THE DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WILL BE RESPECTED BY MAINLAND CHINA.

QUESTION: SO, MR PRIME MINISTER, YOU SUPPORT THE DISMANTLING OF THE LEGISLATURE SYSTEM THEN, IN 1997?

PRIME MINISTER: NO, I DON'T. I SAY THAT WE WANT TO HAVE A SYSTEM THAT WILL BE ACCEPTABLE BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. AND WE ARE NOT PART OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BUT I INSISTED WHEN I WAS IN BEIJING THAT THE INTERESTS OF EVERYBODY IS TO SEE A VERY SMOOTH TRANSITION AND THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD ME THAT THEY ARE PLANNING TO HAVE AS SMOOTH A TRANSITION AS POSSIBLE, BECAUSE THEY REALISE THAT HONG KONG HAS TO REMAIN AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT DOOR FOR CHINA TO THE WORLD. THIS PLACE IS EXTREMELY WELL ORGANISED IN TERMS OF BUSINESS INSTITUTIONS AND SO ON AND THEY SEE IT AS AN ASSET FOR THEM AND I CONCLUDED THAT IT IS NOT IN THEIR BEST INTERESTS TO DESTROY WHAT IS GOOD.

QUESTION: (IN FRENCH)

PRIME MINISTER: (IN FRENCH)

QUESTION: PRIME MINISTER, ON THE HOME FRONT YOUR POPULARITY SEEMS TO BE SOARING - YOU HAVE BROKEN THE BALLOT RECORD.

PRIME MINISTER: YOU KNOW - WHAT CAN I SAY BUT TO SMILE?

QUESTION: PRIME MINISTER, DO YOU FORESEE ANY FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN IMMIGRATION QUOTAS FOR HONG KONG PEOPLE IN THE RUN UP TO 1997?

PRIME MINISTER: WE DON'T HAVE QUOTAS FOR ANY PARTS OF CANADA. WE PROCESS THE APPLICATIONS THAT COME AND THERE WILL BE NO EFFECT AT ALL ON THE APPLICATIONS THAT ARE COMING FROM HONG KONG. OF COURSE THE DEMAND IS LESS BIG AND IT IS TRUE THERE WAS A KIND OF A BACKLOG - THAT HAS BEEN HANDLED AND THE FORECAST IS THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE AND NO REAL EFFECT FOR THE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO APPLY TO BECOME AN IMMIGRANT FROM HONG KONG.

QUESTION: THE TOUGHER LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS WON'T BE A PROBLEM TO THEM?

PRIME MINISTER: THIS IS A PROPOSITION, IT IS NOT THE LAW YET. WE HAVE TO FIND -- WE HAVE PROBLEMS, LIKE ANY COUNTRY, IN THE MANAGEMENT OF IMMIGRATION NEEDS AND AT THIS TIME THE MINISTER IS HAVING CONSULTATIONS AND THERE WILL BE LEGISLATION TO MAKE SOME ADJUSTMENTS THAT WE HAVE TO MAKE REGULARLY, AND OF COURSE THE QUESTION OF LANGUAGE IS SOMETHING THAT IS OF SOME CONCERN WITHIN CANADA. HOW IT WILL BE MANAGED AT THE END OF THE PROCESS OF LEGISLATION, WE'LL SEE IT WHEN THE LAW IS PASSED.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, (INAUDIBLE)

GOVERNOR: WE HAVE NEVER BELIEVED THAT OUR FRIENDS SHOULD WANT OR DO WANT TO INTERFERE IN DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA, OR TO INTERFERE IN THE AFFAIRS OF HONG KONG. BUT WE ARE GRATEFUL WHEN OUR FRIENDS SHOW UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHY AND CONCERN ABOUT OUR PRESENT ASPIRATIONS AND OUR FUTURE PROSPECTS. AND I THINK THAT WHEN THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG LOOK AROUND THE WORLD - AND THIS IS A COMMUNITY WITH OPEN DOORS AND OPEN MINDS AND OPEN EYES - WHEN WE LOOK AROUND THE WORLD WE SEE A LARGE NUMBER OF VERY GOOD FRIENDS IN CANADA. WE'VE HAD A TERRIFIC UNDERSTANDING WITH CANADA; CANADA HAS PROVIDED A HOME FOR MANY PEOPLE FROM HONG KONG; WE HAVE HAD A VERY CLOSE COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP; BUT ABOVE ALL, WE FEEL THAT WHEN WE ARE TALKING TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS COLLEAGUES WE ARE TALKING TO PEOPLE WHO SYMPATHISE AND WHO UNDERSTAND AND I THINK THAT IS IMPORTANT FOR HONG KONG'S FUTURE. HONG KONG'S CONTINUING SUCCESS AND STABILITY DO MATTER, NOT JUST FOR HONG KONG AND NOT JUST FOR CHINA, BUT I THINK FOR THE REGION AND THE WORLD AND THEREFORE IT IS NOT SURPRISING THAT PEOPLE LIKE THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TAKE A POLITE BUT CONSTANT INTEREST IN WHAT HAPPENS HERE.

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE)

GOVERNOR: WELL I THINK THAT WE HAVE HAD ALL THE ASSISTANCE WE COULD REQUIRE. WE HAVE HAD THE ASSISTANCE IN PRACTICAL WAYS - THE PRIME MINISTER WAS TALKING ABOUT IMMIGRATION. WE HAVE HAD THE ASSISTANCE IN THE FRIENDSHIP WHICH CANADA HAS PROVIDED - THE FESTIVALS BOTH HERE AND IN CANADA - AND THE POLITE WAY IN WHICH CANADIAN OFFICIALS AND MINISTERS HAVE, IN THEIR CONTACTS WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS, RAISED THE QUESTION OF HONG KONG, NOT IN AN UNREASONABLE WAY BUT POLITELY ENQUIRING ABOUT HOW CHINA WILL GO ABOUT PROVIDING ALL THOSE REASSURANCES WHICH ARE NECESSARY IF THE JOINT DECLARATION IS TO BE FULLY IMPLEMENTED. WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL FOR THE CONSTANT UNDERSTANDING THAT WE HAVE HAD FROM CANADA.

SPEAKER: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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TRANSCRIPT OF MEDIA SESSION BY SECRETARY FOR WORKS

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FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS MR JAMES BLAKE'S MEDIA SESSION AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES TODAY (FRIDAY):

S FOR W: GOOD AFTERNOON LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I AM ACTUALLY HERE TODAY TO REBUT AN ARTICLE WHICH APPEARED IN THE NEWSPAPER TODAY REGARDING THE NEW NAVAL BASE THAT WE ARE CONSTRUCTING AT STONECUTTERS ISLAND.

THIS ARTICLE WAS UNFORTUNATELY MISLEADING AND MISREPRESENTS INFORMATION WHICH IT HAS OBTAINED FROM VARIOUS SOURCES. THE ARTICLE IS IN FACT DAMAGING TO THE WORK OF THE EXPERTS, BOTH ON THE CHINA SIDE AND ON THE PART OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, EXPERTS WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING VERY WELL AND WORKING VERY HARD TOGETHER TO COMPLETE THE DETAILED DESIGN AND TO AGREE THESE DESIGNS BEFORE THE WORKS CAN BE PUT OUT TO TENDER. AND AS YOU KNOW, WE HAVE A VERY CHALLENGING PROGRAMME TO MEET, WE HAVE TO COMPLETE THESE WORKS BY 30TH JUNE 1997 AND IF WE ARE TO DO THAT, BOTH SIDES, THE EXPERTS, MUST WORK AS A TEAM, AND I AM AFRAID THAT MISREPRESENTING FACTS IS NOT HELPFUL.

THE FACTS ARE VERY SIMPLE. THE CHINESE PLA EXPERTS INSISTED ON A SPECIAL DESIGN TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF WAVES INSIDE THE NAVAL BASE. ON THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SIDE AND THE BRITISH SIDE, DURING THE TALKS WE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WOULD BE MORE EXPENSIVE, BUT AS PART OF THE FINAL AGREEMENT, THE FINAL OVERALL AGREEMENT WHICH WAS SIGNED BY THE CHINESE AND UK SIDE REPRESENTATIVES, WE ACCEPTED THE SPECIFICATION AND WE ACCEPTED THE EXTRA EXPENSE. NOW THIS SPECIAL DESIGN WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INCORPORATED INTO THE AGREEMENT AND INTO THE TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NAVAL BASE.

NOW THERE WAS AN ALTERNATIVE BID, A CHEAPER DESIGN, BUT THIS DID NOT CONFORM TO THE CHINESE SIDE'S SPECIFICATION FOR THE WAVE-REDUCING STRUCTURES INSIDE THE BASIN, AND THEREFORE IT WAS NOT ACCEPTED. THE BID FROM GAMMON WHICH CONFORMS TO THE SPECIAL DESIGN AND WITH ALL OF THE SPECIFICATIONS WAS THE CONFORMING BID, IT WAS THE LOWEST CONFORMING BID, AND THEREFORE IT WAS ACCEPTED.

THANK YOU.

QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT THIS DESIGN, I MEAN ON THE SECURITY ASPECT, IS LESS SECURE THAN THE DESIGN AGREED WITH CHINA AND BRITAIN?

S FOR W: LET ME SAY AGAIN THAT THE DESIGN WHICH WAS PART OF THE CONFORMING BID WAS THE DESIGN, THE DETAILED DESIGN, THAT WAS AGREED AS PART OF THE LANDS AGREEMENT THAT WAS SIGNED BY BOTH SIDES. IT WAS A SPECIAL DESIGN, IT WAS A MORE EXPENSIVE DESIGN, BUT IN OPERATIONAL TERMS, BECAUSE IT IS INTENDED TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF WAVES INSIDE THE BASIN, THEN THE CHINESE PLA EXPERTS INSISTED THAT THIS TYPE OF DESIGN WAS INCORPORATED INTO PART OF THE WALLS WHICH ENCLOSE THE BASIN.

QUESTION: DID THE CHINESE, AFTER THIS WAS ALL AGREED AND AFTER THE SPECIFICATIONS WERE DONE AND AFTER THE TENDERING AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF GAMMON AND SO FORTH, DID ANY CHINESE OFFICE - NOT INCLUDING THE EXPERTS - OR WAS THERE ANY HINT IN THE JLG MEETINGS OR WAS THERE ANY FURTHER CRITICISM FROM THE CHINESE BEFORE THIS THING IN TA KUNG PAO THIS MORNING? I MEAN WAS THIS A COMPLETE SURPRISE OR HAD THERE BEEN ANY INTIMATION OF ANY SORT (INAUDIBLE)?

S FOR W: THERE WAS NO INTIMATION, CERTAINLY NONE THAT I AM AWARE OF, AND INDEED THE FACT THAT THIS ARTICLE TODAY HAS APPEARED AS IT HAS - AND WE ARE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THIS ARTICLE - IS THE REASON WHY I AM STANDING HERE TODAY.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: AND SO - I WOULD LIKE TO FOLLOW THAT UP - ARE YOU NOW GOING TO REQUIRE - SINCE THIS IS AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER - ARE YOU GOING TO ASK THE CHINESE OFFICIALLY ABOUT THIS OR ARE YOU GOING TO WAIT TO HEAR FROM THEM?

S FOR W: I THINK THAT IT IS NOT FOR US TO ENQUIRE. MY RESPONSIBILITY AND WHAT WE ARE CONTINUING TO DO IS TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE CHINESE SIDE, THE EXPERTS, IN DEVELOPING THE DESIGNS BECAUSE IT IS NOT ONLY THE BASIN WHICH HAS TO BE DESIGNED, IT IS ALL OF THE PROJECTS WHICH WE HAVE TO COMPLETE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE LAND AGREEMENT. THE EXPERTS ON BOTH SIDES, THE CHINESE SIDE AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, MUST WORK AS A TEAM. INDEED, THEY ARE MEETING AT THIS VERY MOMENT IN BEIJING ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS OF DETAILED DESIGN RELATING TO OTHER IMPORTANT ASPECTS.

QUESTION: SO THIS COULD COME UP AT THIS MEETING?

S FOR W: I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS PARTICULAR ISSUE WILL COME UP AT THIS MEETING BECAUSE CLEARLY THE DESIGN IN THIS INSTANCE, FOR THE NAVAL BASIN, HAS ALREADY GONE THROUGH THIS DETAILED EXPERT VETTING PROCESS. IT MAY WELL BE THAT THE AUTHORS OF THIS PARTICULAR ARTICLE ARE NOT PERHAPS AWARE OF WHAT IS HAPPENING ACTUALLY IN TERMS OF THE AGREEMENTS REACHED BY THE EXPERTS BETWEEN BOTH SIDES.

QUESTION: DID ANYONE FROM TA KUNG PAO CONTACT YOUR OFFICE?

S FOR W: NOT MY OFFICE, NO.

QUESTION: ARE ALL THE FIGURES REVEALED NOW IN THIS ARTICLE CORRECT? - ALL OF THIS.

S FOR W: I NEVER ATTEMPT TO VERIFY FACTS WHICH APPEAR IN NEWSPAPERS OR PURPORTED FACTS WHICH APPEAR IN NEWSPAPERS.

QUESTION: NEWSPAPERS ARE ALWAYS ACCURATE.

S FOR W: I'LL TAKE YOUR WORD FOR THAT.

QUESTION: WILL YOU DISCLOSE MORE DETAILS OF THE TENDER TO THE CHINESE?

S FOR W: LET ME SAY ALSO THAT IN RESPONSE TO THE FORMAL REQUEST - THE FORMAL REQUEST - THAT WAS RECEIVED THROUGH JLG FOR INFORMATION, SUCH INFORMATION HAS BEEN PASSED BACK TO THE CHINESE SIDE, AGAIN THROUGH FORMAL CHANNELS.

QUESTION: WHAT SORT OF INFORMATION? DOES THAT INCLUDE THE DETAILS OF THE TENDER?

S FOR W: WELL LET ME SAY THAT THE INFORMATION THAT WAS PASSED BACK THROUGH FORMAL CHANNELS I BELIEVE ANSWERS THE FORMAL REQUESTS. THAT INFORMATION WAS ISSUED ON THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD AND WE BELIEVE THAT IT DOES MEET THE INFORMATION NEEDS OF THE CHINA SIDE.

QUESTION: BUT NOW THE PAPER DISCLOSED THE TENDERS AND ALL THOSE DETAILS. DO YOU THINK ANYBODY HAS BROKEN THE RULE OR ...

S FOR W: I DON'T THINK THAT IS REALLY RELEVANT TO THIS PARTICULAR POINT. I THINK THE IMPORTANT POINT AND THE REASON I AM STANDING HERE TODAY IS BECAUSE WE DO HAVE, BETWEEN THE CHINA SIDE AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXPERTS, A GREAT DEAL OF WORK TO DO TO COMPLETE THESE PROJECTS ON TIME. WE ARE JUST AT THE BEGINNING OF THE PROGRAMME AND IF WE DO NOT BUILD A GOOD TEAM RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN US, THEN IT WILL BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR US TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAMME. SO I AM MOST CONCERNED THAT SOMETHING HAS HAPPENED TODAY WHICH COULD AFFECT THE CONFIDENCE OF THE EXPERTS INVOLVED AND THEREFORE COULD IMPINGE UPON THE PROGRAMME, AND I DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN.

QUESTION: IF BOTH SIDES KNOW WHAT THE STORY IS, WHY ARE YOU BEING SO SENSITIVE ABOUT AN ARTICLE IN A NEWSPAPER?

S FOR W: BECAUSE AS I SAY, I AM NOT CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTENT OF THE NEWSPAPER, EXCEPT THAT IT PRESENTS THE SITUATION IN A MISLEADING WAY. IT SUGGESTS THAT THERE IS NOT CLOSE CONTACT BETWEEN THE EXPERTS ON THE CHINESE SIDE AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SIDE. IT SUGGESTS THAT WHAT IS GOING INTO THE DESIGN IS NOT PART OF THE AGREED DESIGN BETWEEN THE CHINESE SIDE AND THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXPERTS, AND THIS COULD UNDERMINE THE CONFIDENCE AND THE TRUST WHICH HAS TO BE BUILT UP BETWEEN THOSE EXPERTS.

QUESTION: SO WILL YOU TRY TO SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM THE CHINESE EXPERTS INVOLVED?

S FOR W: I THINK MY PRESENCE TODAY WILL UNDERLINE THE FACT THAT WE NEED THIS CONFIDENCE, WE NEED THIS TRUST. THANK YOU - ONE LAST ONE.

QUESTION: IF ALL THIS WAS UNDERSTOOD BETWEEN THE EXPERTS - I'M SURE THIS IS A STUPID QUESTION - WHY DID THE CHINESE THEN ASK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE TENDERS AND SO FORTH, IF IT WAS ALL SO UNDERSTOOD IN TERMS OF THEIR SPECIFICATIONS AND SO FORTH? WHAT WAS IT THEY WERE ASKING FOR?

S FOR W: THE CHINESE SIDE SIMPLY WANTED TO BE ADVISED ON THE TENDER PROCEDURES WHICH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT ADOPTS FOR THE AWARD OF ANY CONTRACT UNDER ITS CENTRAL TENDER BOARD PROCUREMENT PROCESS. IT WAS NOT ABOUT THE TECHNICAL ISSUES WHICH HAVE BEEN QUERIED IN THIS ARTICLE TODAY.

QUESTION: BUT NOW THAT THE CAT IS OUT OF THE BAG, WHAT ARE THE REASONS FOR NOT RELEASING THE DETAILS TO THE CHINESE SIDE?

S FOR W: WHAT CAT? WHAT BAG?

QUESTION: WELL, LIKE ALL THE FIGURES ARE OUT AND I MEAN WHAT'S THE REASONS AGAINST RELEASING DETAILS TO THE CHINESE SIDE?

S FOR W: AS I'VE SAID, INFORMATION THROUGH THE FORMAL CHANNELS HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE CHINESE SIDE. WE BELIEVE THAT THAT IS ADEQUATE AND --

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: BUT THAT'S JUST ON THE GENERAL TENDERING PROCEDURES.

S FOR W: I SAID THAT THE QUESTION WAS RELATING TO TENDER PROCEDURES, I DID NOT SAY THAT THIS WAS THE INFORMATION WHICH HAD BEEN PASSED BACK. THE INFORMATION HAS BEEN PASSED BACK AND WE BELIEVE WILL BE ADEQUATE.

QUESTION: HAS HONG KONG GOVERNMENT PASSED INFORMATION TO THE CHINESE SIDE FOR FURTHER GRANTING OF THE CONTRACT - ANY NEW CONTRACT CONCERNING (INAUDIBLE)?

S FOR W: WELL AS YOU KNOW, WE DO TRY TO RESPOND FORMALLY TO QUESTIONS AND TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. ALRIGHT. THANK YOU.

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NO CASE FOR INTERVENTION OF OFFICE MARKET

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR CLOSELY DEMAND AND SUPPLY IN THE OFFICE MARKET AND, WHERE NECESSARY, TAKE STEPS TO REMOVE SUPPLY CONSTRAINTS, BUT WILL NOT INTRODUCE ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES TO INTERVENE IN THE MARKET OPERATION.

THIS IS BASED ON THE CONCLUSION OF A WORKING GROUP WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER THE TASK FORCE ON LAND SUPPLY AND PROPERTY PRICES IN JULY TO REVIEW THE OFFICE MARKET.

"THE MARKET IS ON A COURSE OF SELF-CORRECTION IN LINE WITH THE NORMAL CYCLE," SAID THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, WHO HEADS THE TASK FORCE.

"THERE ARE THE EXPECTED SIGNS THAT TENANTS ARE RESISTING HIGH RENTS AND IN SOME CASES RELOCATING THEIR OPERATION TO AREAS WHERE RENTS ARE LESS EXPENSIVE.

"THERE IS A WIDE RANGE OF CHOICES OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION IN THE MARKET AND A SUBSTANTIAL ADDITIONAL SUPPLY OF GOOD QUALITY ACCOMMODATION IS IN SIGHT," MR EASON SAID.

THE REVIEW OF OFFICE MARKET PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) NOTES THAT SINCE 1991, OFFICE RENTS HAVE INCREASED AN AVERAGE OF 12.8 PER CENT PER ANNUM, WHICH IS LOWER THAN THE YEARLY AVERAGE OF 15 PER CENT OVER THE PAST 15 YEARS.

"THERE IS NO SOLID EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT FOREIGN COMPANIES ARE LEAVING HONG KONG IN A SIGNIFICANT WAY BECAUSE OF HIGH OFFICE RENTALS," MR EASON SAID.

"ON THE CONTRARY, THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS COMPANIES REGISTERED IN HONG KONG HAS CONTINUED TO INCREASE WHEREAS THE NUMBER CEASING OPERATION HERE HAS DECLINED OVER RECENT YEARS.

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"FOR A VARIETY OF REASONS, HONG KONG REMAINS ATTRACTIVE TO FOREIGN INVESTORS. NOT TOO LONG AGO, HONG KONG WAS NAMED THE FOURTH MOST COMPETITIVE ECONOMY IN THE WORLD BY THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM.

"MORE RECENTLY, THE FORTUNE MAGAZINE NOMINATED HONG KONG AS THE MOST ATTRACTIVE COMMERCIAL CENTRE IN THE WORLD," MR EASON SAID, "WHILE WE SHOULD NOT BE COMPLACENT, THERE IS AT THE SAME TIME NO NEED FOR PANIC MEASURES."

ON THE SUPPLY OF OFFICE ACCOMMODATION, THE REVIEW SHOWS THAT OVERALL SUPPLY IS FORECAST TO INCREASE AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF SIX TO SEVEN PER CENT BETWEEN 1994 AND 1996.

IN ADDITION, OVER 2.3 MILLION SQUARE METRES OF OFFICE SPACE IN COMPOSITE INDUSTRIAL/OFFICE BUILDINGS WILL COME ON STREAM OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

THE SUPPLY OF HIGH QUALITY GRADE A OFFICE ACCOMMODATION IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE TIGHT IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS.

BUT, THE SITUATION WILL IMPROVE GREATLY WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT OF HILTON HOTEL AND NEW DEVELOPMENT ON THE CENTRAL AND WAN CHAI RECLAMATION, WHICH TOGETHER WILL PRODUCE ABOUT 700,000 SQUARE METRES OF GOOD QUALITY OFFICE ACCOMMODATION BETWEEN 1997 AND 2001.

STATISTICS ON SHORT-TERM RESALE OF OFFICE PREMISES SUGGEST THAT THERE HAS BEEN SOME SPECULATION IN OFFICE TRANSACTIONS.

HOWEVER, THE SCOPE FOR SPECULATION IN GRADE A OFFICES IS LIMITED BY THE FACT THAT SUCH HIGH QUALITY ACCOMMODATION IS PREDOMINANTLY OWNED BY DEVELOPERS FOR RENTAL PURPOSES.

THE AMPLE SUPPLY OF GRADE B AND C OFFICES COMING ON IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL ALSO PROVIDE A CHECK ON SPECULATION.

NEVERTHELESS, THE ADMINISTRATION WILL MONITOR AND ASSESS THE SITUATION CONTINUOUSLY SO AS TO ENSURE A REASONABLE BALANCE BETWEEN DEMAND AND SUPPLY.

TO INCREASE THE ADMINISTRATION'S RESPONSIVENESS TO CHANGES IN THE MARKET SITUATION, THE WORKING GROUP HAS RECOMMENDED THAT THE INFORMATION AND MONITORING SYSTEM AND THE LAND RESERVE PROPOSED FOR THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MARKET SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO COVER THE OFFICE MARKET.

COPIES OF THE REVIEW REPORT ARE AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE IN THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING IN CENTRAL DISTRICT.

RETRAINING BOARD TO TAKE UP VETTING DUTIES PROPOSED

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED TO AMEND THE EMPLOYEES RETRAINING ORDINANCE TO COPE WITH THE CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND PROGRESS OF THE EMPLOYEES RETRAINING BOARD (ERB).

UNDER THE EMPLOYEE RETRAINING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY), THE ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES OF VETTING THE APPLICANTS OF RETRAINING WILL BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TO THE ERB.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT WHEN THE EMPLOYEES RETRAINING ORDINANCE WAS FIRST DRAFTED, THE ERB HAD NOT YET BEEN SET UP, THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, WITHOUT INCURRING EXTRA RESOURCES, HAD TAKEN UP THE DUTY OF VETTING THE APPLICANTS OF RETRAINING.

"IN VIEW THAT ERB IS NOW WELL ON TRACK AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS BEING OVERLOADED WITH THE INCREASING NUMBER OF APPLICANTS, THE GOVERNMENT THEREFORE PROPOSES THAT THE DUTY OF VETTING SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ERB," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO EXPAND THE SCOPE OF THE RETRAINING SCHEME TO INCLUDE "SUPPLEMENTARY RETRAINING PROGRAMMES", SUCH AS ON-THE-JOB TRAINING SCHEME AS APPROVED BY ERB.

THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES TO EXPAND THE CATEGORY OF TRAINEES TO INCLUDE HOUSEWIVES AND DISABLED PERSONS WHO AT PRESENT MAY NOT FALL WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF AN "EMPLOYEE" UNDER THE EXISTING LEGISLATION.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 23.

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EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994 GAZETTED

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IN AN AMENDMENT BILL TO BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED FURTHER IMPROVEMENT TO EMPLOYEES' ENTITLEMENT UNDER THE SEVERANCE PAYMENT (SP) AND LONG SERVICE PAYMENT (LSP) SCHEMES.

THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY) SEEKS TO REMOVE THE CEILING OF 12 MONTHS' WAGES FOR CALCULATING EMPLOYEES' ENTITLEMENT TO SP AND LSP, BUT THE MAXIMUM PAYMENT OF \$180,000 WILL BE RETAINED.

THE MAXIMUM PAYMENT WOULD BE REVIEWED PERIODICALLY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE AIM WAS TO ENABLE LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES TO EARN SP AND LSP BEYOND 18 YEARS, WHICH IS THE CURRENT LIMIT.

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ON THE OTHER HAND, IN ORDER TO CUSHION THE FINANCIAL IMPACT ON EMPLOYERS, ONE HALF OF AN EMPLOYEE'S SERVICE OVER AND ABOVE 24 YEARS ACCRUED BEFORE THE AMENDMENT BILL COMES INTO OPERATION WILL BE RECOGNISED IN CALCULATING SP/LSP.

"THIS IS A FURTHER IMPROVEMENT TO THE ENTITLEMENT OF LONG SERVING EMPLOYEES AS THE PREVIOUS BILL WHICH WAS INTRODUCED INTO LEGCO LAST DECEMBER ONLY PROPOSED THAT HALF OF AN EMPLOYEE'S SERVICE BEYOND 18 YEARS SHOULD BE COUNTED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE EXPLAINED THAT AT PRESENT, AN EMPLOYEE'S ENTITLEMENT TO SP AND LSP WAS CALCULATED AT THE RATE OF TWO-THIRDS OF A MONTH'S WAGES FOR EACH YEAR'S SERVICE, SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM ENTITLEMENT OF 12 MONTHS' WAGES EARNED IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF LEAVING THE JOB, OR \$180,000, WHICHEVER WAS THE LESS.

THIS ARRANGEMENT HAS THE EFFECT OF LIMITING THE RECKONABLE SERVICE OF AN EMPLOYEE TO 18 YEARS.

THE CEILING OF 12 MONTHS' AGGREGATE WAGES HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE SINCE THE INTRODUCTION OF SP AND LSP IN 1974 AND 1986 RESPECTIVELY.

IN 1974, THE RATE OF CALCULATING SP WAS SET AT ONE-THIRD OF A MONTH'S WAGES FOR EVERY YEAR OF SERVICE.

THIS RATE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INCREASED TO ONE-HALF OF A MONTH'S WAGES IN 1977 AND TO TWO-THIRDS OF A MONTH'S WAGES IN 1984.

CORRESPONDINGLY, THE RECKONABLE SERVICE WAS REDUCED FROM 36 YEARS TO 24 YEARS IN 1977 AND TO 18 YEARS IN 1984.

ON DECEMBER 15 LAST YEAR, THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT)(NO.2) BILL 1993 WAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. HOWEVER, THE BILL AS AMENDED AT THE COMMITTEE STAGE, WAS DEFEATED AT ITS THIRD READING ON JULY 6 THIS YEAR.

THE ADMINISTRATION, AFTER CONSULTING THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD (LAB) HAS PROPOSED FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO THE REVISED LEVEL OF SP AND LSP AS PROPOSED IN THE PREVIOUS BILL.

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO REMOVE CERTAIN AMBIGUITIES REGARDING MATERNITY LEAVE UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE.

THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT A FEMALE EMPLOYEE WHO HAS BEEN EMPLOYED BY THE SAME EMPLOYER UNDER A CONTINUOUS CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN 26 WEEKS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO MATERNITY LEAVE, WHICH IS NORMALLY AN AGGREGATE OF A FOUR-WEEK ANTE-NATAL LEAVE AND A SIX-WEEK POST-NATAL LEAVE.

THE LAW IS HOWEVER SILENT ON HOW TO COUNT THE 26 WEEKS ALTHOUGH IT IS ONLY LOGICAL THAT THE 26 WEEKS SHOULD BE COUNTED BACKWARDS FROM THE EXPECTED DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF MATERNITY LEAVE.

THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE ALSO PROVIDES THAT MATERNITY LEAVE PAY SHOULD BE EFFECTED ON THE NORMAL PAY DAY. HOWEVER, FAILURE TO EFFECT MATERNITY LEAVE PAY BY AN EMPLOYER WITHIN THE SPECIFIED TIME LIMIT IS NOT AN OFFENCE HENCE PROSECUTION ACTION CANNOT BE TAKEN.

THE BILL PROPOSES THAT LATE PAYMENT OF MATERNITY LEAVE PAY SHOULD BE AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000 UPON CONVICTION.

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO RECTIFY THE ANOMALY THAT REGISTERED DENTISTS ARE NOT PROVIDED BY THE LAW TO ISSUE MEDICAL CERTIFICATE TO THEIR PATIENTS FOR CLAIMING SICKNESS ALLOWANCE.

THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT AN EMPLOYER IS NOT LIABLE TO PAY SICKNESS ALLOWANCE TO AN EMPLOYEE UNLESS THE DAY OF SICKNESS IS SPECIFIED IN THE "APPROPRIATE MEDICAL CERTIFICATE" ISSUED BY A MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

HOWEVER, AT PRESENT A MEDICAL CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A REGISTERED DENTIST IS NOT REGARDED AS AN APPROPRIATE MEDICAL CERTIFICATE. AN EMPLOYEE HAVING ENCOUNTERED A DENTAL INJURY OR RECEIVED A DENTAL SURGICAL OPERATION REQUIRING A FEW DAYS' SICK LEAVE IS UNABLE TO RECEIVE SICKNESS ALLOWANCE.

TO RECTIFY THIS ANOMALY, THE BILL PROPOSES TO INCLUDE THE MEDICAL CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A REGISTERED DENTIST AS A VALID DOCUMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLAIMING SICKNESS ALLOWANCE.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGCO ON NOVEMBER 23.

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MARINE PARKS BILL GAZETTED

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THE MARINE PARKS BILL WHICH SEEKS TO PROVIDE FOR THE DESIGNATION, MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE BILL, IF PASSED, WOULD ENABLE CONSERVATION OF MARINE AREAS IDENTIFIED AS ECOLOGICALLY IMPORTANT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

A MARINE PARK WILL BE A RELATIVELY LARGE PIECE OF SEA AREA SET ASIDE FOR CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND RECREATION. A MARINE RESERVE WILL BE A RELATIVELY SMALLER SEA AREA WITH HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE RESERVED MAINLY FOR MARINE BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH.

THE BILL ESTABLISHES THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES AS THE AUTHORITY WHO SHALL CONTROL AND MANAGE MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES IN CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNTRY AND MARINE PARKS BOARD.

THE PROPOSED PROCEDURES FOR THE DESIGNATION OF A MARINE PARK OR A MARINE RESERVE WILL BE SIMILAR TO THE PROCEDURES SET OUT UNDER THE COUNTRY PARKS ORDINANCE.

THE AUTHORITY WILL, AT THE DIRECTION OF THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL, PREPARE DRAFT MAP OF A PROPOSED MARINE PARK OR MARINE RESERVE, AND THEN PUBLISH A NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE AND NEWSPAPERS AND MAKE THE DRAFT MAP AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION.

ANY PERSON AGGRIEVED BY THE DRAFT MAP MAY SEND A WRITTEN STATEMENT OF OBJECTION TO THE AUTHORITY WITHIN 60 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE. HEARINGS WILL THEN BE CONDUCTED BY THE BOARD.

WITHIN A SIX-MONTH PERIOD STARTING FROM THE LAST DAY ALLOWED FOR OBJECTIONS, THE AUTHORITY WILL BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THE DRAFT MAP TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL.

IT WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A SCHEDULE OF OBJECTIONS AND THE AUTHORITY'S REPRESENTATIONS, AS WELL AS A SCHEDULE OF AMENDMENTS MADE PURSUANT TO DIRECTIONS FROM THE BOARD TO MEET OBJECTIONS HEARD.

AFTER A DECISION IS MADE BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL, THE AUTHORITY WILL NOTIFY IN THE GAZETTE EITHER THE REFUSAL TO APPROVE THE DRAFT MAP, OR THE DEPOSIT OF THE APPROVED MAP AND THE DESIGNATION OF THE MARINE PARK OR MARINE RESERVE, AS THE CASE MAY BE.

FROM THE TIME OF PUBLICATION OF THE NOTICE IN THE GAZETTE UP TO WHEN THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL APPROVES OR REJECTS THE DRAFT MAP, NO NEW DEVELOPMENT CAN BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE PROPOSED MARINE PARK OR MARINE RESERVE WITHOUT THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE AUTHORITY. CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT WILL CONTINUE AFTER THE AREA IS APPROVED AND DESIGNATED.

PROCEDURES FOR MAKING CHANGES TO AN APPROVED MAP FOR THE PURPOSES OF EXTENDING OR EXCISING OR CANCELLING THE DESIGNATION OF A MARINE PARK OR MARINE RESERVE ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR IN THE NEW BILL.

THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS MAY MAKE REGULATIONS FOR THE PROPER CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE PARKS AND MARINE RESERVES, INCLUDING ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FISHING AND MOVEMENT OF VESSELS.

THE AUTHORITY MAY GRANT A LICENCE OR PERMIT WITH OR WITHOUT CONDITIONS FOR CONTROLLED ACTIVITIES.

THE NEW BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 23.

UPON PASSAGE OF THE MARINE PARKS BILL, THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PROGRAMME WILL BEGIN WITH THE DESIGNATION OF TWO MARINE PARKS AT HOI HA WAN AND YAN CHAU TONG AND ONE MARINE RESERVE AT CAPE D' AGUILAR.

DUMPING AT SEA BILL GAZETTED

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THE DUMPING AT SEA BILL WHICH SEEKS TO INCORPORATE INTO THE LAW OF HONG KONG EXISTING PROVISIONS OF THE DUMPING AT SEA ACT 1974 (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES) ORDER 1975 WHICH PROHIBITS DUMPING ACTIVITIES EXCEPT WITH A PERMIT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE ORDER WAS MADE IN 1975 TO APPLY TO HONG KONG THE PROVISIONS OF AN INTERNATIONAL TREATY, THE LONDON CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF MARINE POLLUTION BY THE DUMPING OF WASTE AT SEA.

THE CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS PROPOSED IN THE BILL ARE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS THOSE WHICH HAVE BEEN IN OPERATION FOR MANY YEARS.

THE BILL ALSO SEEKS TO STRENGTHEN THE EXISTING CONTROL SCHEME BY EMPOWERING ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST IMPENDING OFFENCE AND INCREASING THE MAXIMUM PENALTY TO \$200,000 PLUS SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT. THE EXISTING PENALTY IS \$5,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

THE INCREASE IN PENALTY WOULD BRING IT IN LINE WITH THOSE UNDER OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION, SUCH AS THE WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE AND THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE.

IT ALSO SEEKS TO ENABLE THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO SERVE ABATEMENT NOTICES IN RESPECT OF MARINE POLLUTION CAUSED BY DUMPING AND OTHER MARITIME CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE ABATEMENT NOTICE WILL BE AN OFFENCE.

THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO IMPLEMENT THE ABATEMENT NOTICE SYSTEM WITHIN TWO YEARS AFTER THE BILL BECOMES LAW.

A TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR THE ISSUE OF ABATEMENT NOTICES WILL BE ISSUED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE AFFECTED PARTIES.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT IS OPERATING AN EFFECTIVE SATELLITE SYSTEM TO TRACK ILLEGAL DUMPING.

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NEW TAXI LICENCE TENDERS RESULTS ANNOUNCED

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RESULTS OF THE TENDERS FOR THE LATEST URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCES WERE ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT.

DETAILS OF SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS AND PREMIUMS OFFERED ARE PUBLISHED IN TODAY'S GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

A TOTAL OF 2,850 BIDS OFFERING PREMIUMS RANGING FROM \$1,808,888 TO \$100 AND 611 BIDS OFFERING PREMIUMS FROM \$1,183,600 TO \$1,330 HAD BEEN RECEIVED FOR URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES (NT) TAXI LICENCES WHEN THE TENDERS CLOSED ON SEPTEMBER 23.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: "THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST BIDS ACCEPTED FOR URBAN TAXI LICENCES WERE \$1,808,888 AND \$1,719,000 AND THE CORRESPONDING BIDS ACCEPTED FOR THE NT TAXI LICENCES WERE BETWEEN \$1,183,600 AND \$1,095,000."

THE AVERAGE ACCEPTED PREMIUM OF \$1,739,385 FOR URBAN TAXI LICENCES MARKED AN INCREASE OF 15 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THAT OF \$1,512,055 OFFERED IN THE LAST TENDER IN DECEMBER 1991.

AN INCREASE OF 151 PER CENT WAS RECORDED WHEN THE AVERAGE ACCEPTED PREMIUM OF \$1,110,873 FOR NT TAXI LICENCES WAS COMPARED WITH THAT OF \$442,136 OFFERED IN THE LAST TENDER IN JULY 1989.

THESE TENDER PREMIUMS ARE NOT HIGHER THAN THE TRANSFER PREMIUMS PREVAILING IN THE MARKET IN MID-1994.

OF THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERERS, 46 PER CENT ARE LIMITED COMPANIES WHILE THE REMAINING 54 PER CENT ARE INDIVIDUAL PERSONS. IN THE LAST TENDER FOR URBAN TAXIS IN 1991, 83 PER CENT WERE LIMITED COMPANIES AND 17 PER CENT WERE INDIVIDUALS, WHILE IN THE LAST TENDER FOR NT TAXIS IN 1989, 69 PER CENT WERE LIMITED COMPANIES AND 31 PER CENT WERE INDIVIDUALS.

"TWO NEW CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE TENDER EXERCISE. FIRST, NO TENDERER MAY BID FOR MORE THAN ONE URBAN AND ONE NT TAXI LICENCE; AND SECOND, THE NEW TAXI LICENCES WILL NOT BE TRANSFERABLE WITHIN 12 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF FIRST REGISTRATION OF THE TAXIS CONCERNED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN ADDITION, BOTH THE TRANSFEROR AND THE TRANSFEREE OF A TAXI WILL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN THE TRANSFER FORM IN PERSON AND IN THE PRESENCE OF A PUBLIC OFFICER DESIGNATED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT WITHIN 72 HOURS OF THE TRANSFER, HE ADDED.

THESE ARE PART OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL IN APRIL THIS YEAR, TO IMPROVE TAXI SERVICES AND DAMPEN SPECULATION IN TAXI LICENCES. THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE MEASURES WILL BE REVIEWED.

TENDERS FOR THE 300 URBAN TAXI LICENCES AND THE 100 NT TAXI LICENCES WERE CALLED FOR IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR AND THIS WAS THE FIRST TENDERS INVITED SINCE THEN.

LAND TO BE RESUMED FOR AIRPORT RAILWAY WORKS

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL ACQUIRE CERTAIN PRIVATE PROPERTY ON TSING YI AND IN LAI KING FOR CARRYING OUT AIRPORT RAILWAY PREPARATORY WORKS, IT WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE PRIVATE LAND TO BE ACQUIRED WAS COMPARATIVELY SMALL AND WAS THE MINIMUM NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT.

ANY PERSON ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION UNDER THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE MAY SERVE A WRITTEN CLAIM UPON THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS WITHIN ONE YEAR BEFORE THE DATE THE PRIVATE PROPERTY IS ACQUIRED.

COPIES OF THE ORDERS AND PLANS SHOWING THE LAND AFFECTED MAY BE INSPECTED BY THE PUBLIC FREE OF CHARGE AT:

- * THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;
- * KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, KWAI TSING PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, 2ND FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, 6TH FLOOR, 290 UN CHAU STREET, SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON;
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE/KWAI TSING, 10TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES;
- * NEW AIRPORT SECTION (NEW TERRITORIES OFFICE), LANDS DEPARTMENT, 22ND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 38 SAI LAU KOK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES; AND
- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE/KOWLOON WEST, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON DURING OFFICE HOURS.

IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, IT WAS ALSO NOTIFIED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE THAT PORTIONS OF THE CROWN FORESHORE AND SEABED NEAR TSING YI AND SOKO ISLANDS WOULD ALSO BE AFFECTED BY THE AIRPORT RAILWAY PREPARATORY WORKS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE AREA OF FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED HAD BEEN KEPT TO A MINIMUM, AND THAT ANY PERSON ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION UNDER THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY (LAND RESUMPTION AND RELATED PROVISIONS) ORDINANCE, MAY SERVE A WRITTEN CLAIM UPON THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS WITHIN ONE YEAR BEFORE THE DATE OF EXTINGUISHMENT OF HIS RIGHT IN RESPECT OF THE CROWN FORESHORE AND SEABED.

COPIES OF THE ORDERS AND PLANS SHOWING THE AFFECTED CROWN FORESHORE OR SEABED ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG; AND NEW AIRPORT SECTION (NEW TERRITORIES OFFICE), LANDS DEPARTMENT, 22ND FLOOR, TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 38 SAI LAU KOK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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ADMISSION OF GRADUATES IN CHINA

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH TODAY (FRIDAY) CLARIFIED THAT THE ADMISSION OF GRADUATES OF THE 36 KEY TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE STATE EDUCATION COMMISSION IN CHINA WAS PURELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE SPECIAL PILOT SCHEME TO ADMIT 1,000 CHINESE PROFESSIONALS AND MANAGERS TO WORK IN HONG KONG.

"IT BEARS NO RELATIONSHIP TO ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION OR RECOGNITION FOR OTHER EMPLOYMENT PURPOSES. THE CHOICE OF THESE KEY INSTITUTIONS IS TO FACILITATE THE CHECKING OF APPLICANTS' QUALIFICATIONS AND TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCESSING PROCEDURE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO OBSERVED THAT UNDER THE PRESENT QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM, THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE, THE HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION, AND ALL THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS HAVE CLEARLY DEFINED ROLES TO PLAY.

"WHILE WE WELCOME ANY INITIATIVE TO DEVELOP FURTHER QUALITY ASSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG, WE SHOULD DRAW ON THE EXPERIENCE RATHER THAN TO REPLACE THE PRESENT SYSTEM ALTOGETHER," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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HUTCHVISION ALLOWED TO CARRY SEVEN NEW RADIO CHANNELS

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THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (BA) MET YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) AND CONSIDERED AN APPLICATION BY HUTCHVISION HONG KONG LTD TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF RADIO CHANNELS CARRIED ON ITS SATELLITE BROADCASTING SERVICE.

THE BA AGREED THAT HUTCHVISION COULD CARRY SEVEN NEW RADIO CHANNELS, WITH CONTENTS RANGING FROM CHINESE TOP 40 HITS TO INDONESIAN MUSIC, IN ADDITION TO THE TWO BBC WORLD SERVICE RADIO CHANNELS ALREADY CARRIED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BA SAID THE AUTHORITY WAS SUPPORTIVE OF MOVES TO CONSOLIDATE HONG KONG'S POSITION AS A REGIONAL BROADCASTING CENTRE, AND ITS APPROVAL WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE LICENSING OF HUTCHVISION TO PROVIDE A COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL SATELLITE BROADCASTING SERVICE.

THE BA ALSO CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT LOCAL TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTS.

IT WARNED COMMERCIAL RADIO FOR THE INCLUSION OF INDECENT EXPRESSIONS IN A LYRICS-WRITING SEGMENT IN THE PROGRAMME "GOOD MORNING SOFT HARD" BROADCAST ON CR2.

THE BA FELT THAT SOME OF THE LYRICS USED WERE INAPPROPRIATE FOR INCLUSION IN A PROGRAMME APPEALING TO YOUNG LISTENERS.

/THE BA

THE BA ALSO WARNED WHARF CABLE FOR BROADCASTING THE WRONG ENGLISH SOUNDTRACK OF THE FEATURE "IRON MAZE" BROADCAST IN NICAM ON THE CABLE MOVIE CHANNEL.

THE ENGLISH SOUNDTRACK CONTAINED A NUMBER OF FOUL EXPRESSIONS THAT WHARF CABLE HAD INTENDED TO EDIT OUT BUT WHICH, BY MISTAKE, WERE BROADCAST UNEDITED.

WITH REGARD TO COMMERCIAL TELEVISION BROADCASTS, THE BA SERIOUSLY WARNED TVB FOR INCLUDING IN THE PROGRAMME "EYT" DETAILED DEPICTIONS OF CAR BURGLARY TECHNIQUES WHICH MIGHT INVITE IMITATIONS FROM WOULD-BE OFFENDERS.

THE BA FELT THAT THE CLEAR AND DETAILED DEPICTION OF CAR THEFT TECHNIQUES OUTWEIGHED THE ADVICE GIVEN IN THE PROGRAMME TO COUNTER CAR THEFT, AND IT ALSO FELT THAT THE PROGRAMME HAD GLORIFIED CAR THIEVES.

THE BA ALSO CONSIDERED A NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE PROGRAMME "HONG KONG TODAY", BROADCAST ON ATV.

MOST OF THE PROGRAMMES THAT GENERATED COMPLAINTS WERE FOUND BY THE BA TO BE ACCEPTABLE, BUT, IN RESPECT OF A PROGRAMME COVERING A MURDER CASE IN WHICH A WOMAN WAS KILLED, DISMEMBERED AND FRIED, THE BA FELT THAT THE MATERIAL WAS NOT SUITABLE FOR BROADCAST IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE FAMILY VIEWING HOURS.

ATV WAS ADVISED TO OBSERVE MORE CLOSELY THE CODES OF PRACTICE AND TO BROADCAST MATERIAL OF SUCH NATURE AFTER 9.30 PM.

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BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT ISSUES REMOVAL ORDERS

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THE BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) ISSUED 32 STATUTORY ORDERS UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE, REQUIRING THE REMOVAL OF 65 UNAUTHORISED PROJECTING STRUCTURES IN ALBERT HOUSE WHERE A CANOPY COLLAPSED ON AUGUST 1 THIS YEAR.

THE MOVE FOLLOWS THE ISSUE OF 78 ADVISORY LETTERS TO THE OCCUPANTS IN ALBERT HOUSE BY THE DEPARTMENT ON SEPTEMBER 27, ADVISING THEM TO REMOVE 145 UNAUTHORISED PROJECTING STRUCTURES. THESE COMPRISE APPENDAGES, FLOWER RACKS AND COOLING TOWERS.

THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS, MRS HELEN YU, URGED THE OCCUPANTS CONCERNED TO COMPLY WITH THE REMOVAL ORDERS BY THE SPECIFIED DEADLINE, DECEMBER 23 THIS YEAR.

AT THE SAME TIME, SHE THANKED THOSE OCCUPANTS WHO HAD RESPONDED TO THE ADVISORY LETTERS AND REMOVED THEIR UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES.

"I AM PLEASED THAT MANY OF THE OCCUPANTS HAD TAKEN HEED OF OUR ADVICE AND VOLUNTARILY REMOVED OR ARE REMOVING THEIR UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES. THEIR PROMPT ACTION IS IN THE INTEREST OF THE SAFETY OF THEIR OWN BUILDINGS AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW.

/"THOSE OCCUPANTS

"THOSE OCCUPANTS WHO HAVE NOT YET TAKEN REMOVAL ACTION MUST COMPLY WITH THE ORDERS BY DECEMBER 23, 1994. OTHERWISE, I WILL ARRANGE FOR THEIR UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES TO BE REMOVED AT THEIR EXPENSE PLUS OUR SUPERVISION CHARGE," MRS YU ADDED.

"THE STATUTORY ORDERS ARE ISSUED FOR THE SAFETY OF THE OCCUPANTS THEMSELVES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC AT LARGE. PEOPLE WHO IGNORE THEM DO SO AT THEIR OWN PERIL AND THEY ALSO POSE A THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY," MRS HELEN YU SAID.

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WEATHER NETWORK PLANNED FOR PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION

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THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY CAN HAVE QUICKER AND GREATER ACCESS TO METEOROLOGICAL DATA IN THE PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION FOR WEATHER FORECASTING WITH THE SETTING UP OF AN INTEGRATED OBSERVATIONAL NETWORK.

THE DIRECTOR OF ROYAL OBSERVATORY, MR PATRICK SHAM, ANNOUNCED THE PROJECT AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF ITS NEW DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR AT TATE'S CAIRN RADAR STATION TODAY (FRIDAY).

MR SHAM HAS SIGNED A MINUTE OF A MEETING ON THIS JOINT PROJECT WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES OF GUANGDONG AND MACAU.

"THE OBJECTIVE IS TO MONITOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND OCCURRENCE OF HAZARDOUS WEATHER OVER THE REGION AND TO ENABLE OUR THREE FORECASTING CENTRES TO ISSUE MORE ACCURATE AND RELIABLE WARNINGS," HE SAID.

THE PROJECT WILL INVOLVE THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL AUTOMATIC WEATHER STATIONS ON THE CHINESE OFF-SHORE ISLANDS, THE IMPROVEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION FACILITIES AND THE EXCHANGE OF RADAR INFORMATION.

THE NEW DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR OPENED TODAY REPLACES THE EXISTING DIGITAL RADAR TO GET MORE ACCURATE INFORMATION ON WIND STRENGTHS OF TROPICAL CYCLONES.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR GORDON SIU, ALSO ATTENDED THE OPENING CEREMONY.

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HOSPITAL REGISTRATION FEES TO GO UP

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO INCREASE THE FEES FOR FIRST REGISTRATION AND SUBSEQUENT REGISTRATION OF A HOSPITAL OR MATERNITY HOME UNDER THE HOSPITALS, NURSING HOMES AND MATERNITY HOMES REGISTRATION ORDINANCE NEXT MONTH.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID A RECENT STUDY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SHOWED THAT THE EXISTING FEE LEVELS WERE BELOW COST.

THE FEES UNDER THE HOSPITALS, NURSING HOMES AND MATERNITY HOMES REGISTRATION ORDINANCE WERE LAST REVISED IN 1989.

THE NEW FEES, WHICH HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY, WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON DECEMBER 1 THIS YEAR.

DETAILS OF THE FEE INCREASES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

ITEM	EXISTING FEE	REVISED FEE
-----	-----	-----
	\$	\$
FOR FIRST REGISTRATION OF A HOSPITAL OR MATERNITY HOME	1,350	6,815
FOR SUBSEQUENT REGISTRATION OF A HOSPITAL OR MATERNITY HOME	90	900

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LAND TO BE RESUMED FOR RIVER TRAINING WORKS

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL RESUME 355 PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LOTS WITH A TOTAL AREA OF 174,033 SQUARE METRES IN NORTH DISTRICT, FOR IMPLEMENTING THE RIVER TRAINING WORKS OF THE SHENZHEN RIVER AT LOK MA CHAU AND LIU POK.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1995 AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 30 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

DETAILS OF RESUMPTION WERE NOTIFIED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE LAND WILL BE REVERTED TO THE GOVERNMENT THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE GAZETTE NOTICE.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1994

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SEMINAR ON TARGET ORIENTED CURRICULUM

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SCHOOL SPONSORING BODIES WERE TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED TO TAKE PART IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG BY JOINING THE FIRST BATCH OF SCHOOLS TO ADOPT TARGET ORIENTED CURRICULUM (TOC) IN PRIMARY 1 IN SEPTEMBER 1995.

THE CALL WAS MADE TO MORE THAN 20 REPRESENTATIVES OF SCHOOL SPONSORING BODIES AT A SEMINAR, AT WHICH THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF TOC IN TERMS OF PILOTING, IMPLEMENTATION, ASSESSMENT AND TEACHER EDUCATION BY THE SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR T F KWAN, AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, DR Y M LEUNG.

DR LEUNG SAID TOC, A "QUALITY CURRICULUM", SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IN ALL SCHOOLS IN HONG KONG RATHER THAN A NUMBER OF "TRY-OUT" SCHOOLS. THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO IMPLEMENT TOC PROGRESSIVELY IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS STARTING IN THE 1995/96 SCHOOL YEAR.

SPONSORING BODIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO NOMINATE SCHOOLS TO JOIN THE FIRST PHASE IN SEPTEMBER 1995 THAT WILL BECOME "SEED SCHOOLS" FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF IMPLEMENTATION.

HOWEVER, THEY WILL NOT BE EXPECTED TO SHOULDER ANY EXTRA RESPONSIBILITY THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN FULFILLED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

DR LEUNG NOTED THAT AS REQUESTED, THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE SENDING REPRESENTATIVES TO EXPLAIN TO TWO SCHOOL SPONSORING BODIES VARIOUS TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF IMPLEMENTATION.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL BE GLAD TO ENTERTAIN SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM OTHER SCHOOL SPONSORING BODIES.

IN ADDITION, TEACHER TRAINING CAN BE ARRANGED FOR THE SPONSORED SCHOOLS WHENEVER THE NEED ARISES.

DR LEUNG CALLED ON THE SPONSORED SCHOOLS TO APPLY FOR IMPLEMENTATION BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH.

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1994 RELEASED

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

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN SEPTEMBER 1994 CONTINUED TO SHOW A MARKED INCREASE OVER A YEAR EARLIER, BY 17% TO \$88.1 BILLION.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1994 WITH SEPTEMBER 1993, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA (+29%), JAPAN (+23%), CANADA (+21%), SINGAPORE (+18%), THE UNITED STATES (+15%), FRANCE (+7.8%) AND TAIWAN (+0.6%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND GERMANY DECREASED BY 7.7% AND 2.6% RESPECTIVELY.

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 NINE MONTHS OF 1994 WAS \$687.8 BILLION, 15% HIGHER THAN THAT IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993.

COMPARING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN (+23%), CHINA (+18%), THE UNITED STATES (+16%), SINGAPORE (+14%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+13%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+8.6%), CANADA (+8.4%), GERMANY (+4.3%) AND FRANCE (+3.7%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 1.1%.

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

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

MORE NOTABLE INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$18.3 BILLION OR 36%); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING MAINLY OF BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$9.1 BILLION OR 11%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$8.7 BILLION OR 18%); TEXTILES (BY \$8.5 BILLION OR 16%); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$5.3 BILLION OR 26%); AND FOOTWEAR (BY \$4.9 BILLION OR 14%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$297 MILLION OR 1.2%).

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN SEPTEMBER 1994, AT \$19.9 BILLION, INCREASED BY 2.2% OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1994 WITH SEPTEMBER 1993, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MALAYSIA (+19%), SINGAPORE (+13%), JAPAN (+11%) AND THE UNITED STATES (+7.7%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, GERMANY, TAIWAN AND THE NETHERLANDS DECREASED BY 23%, 14%, 8.9%, 4.6% AND 3.5% RESPECTIVELY.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA (-14%), GERMANY (-11%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (-6.8%), CHINA (-5.2%) AND TAIWAN (-2.9%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, THE UNITED STATES, THE NETHERLANDS AND JAPAN INCREASED BY 9.9%, 7.6%, 2.3%, 1.8% AND 1.5% RESPECTIVELY.

TAKING ALL DESTINATIONS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1994, AT \$160.2 BILLION, DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 2.1% OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993. THIS REFLECTED PARTLY THE CONTINUED STRUCTURAL SHIFT TO RE-EXPORTS AND PARTLY THE WEAK DEMAND IN OVERSEAS MARKETS.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1.6 BILLION OR 16%); TEXTILES (BY \$1.0 BILLION OR 8.6%); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING MAINLY OF JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES (BY \$857 MILLION OR 5.7%); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$769 MILLION OR 6.5%); AND MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY \$308 MILLION OR 11%).

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 \$1.5 BILLION OR 9.2%).

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN SEPTEMBER 1994, AT \$113.6 BILLION, INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY BY 23% OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

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

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1994 WITH SEPTEMBER 1993, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL OF THE MAIN SUPPLIERS SHOWED INCREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDES: THE UNITED KINGDOM (+38%), SINGAPORE (+37%), MALAYSIA (+33%), THE UNITED STATES (+29%), ITALY (+25%), GERMANY (+23%), JAPAN (+21%), CHINA (+20%), TAIWAN (+19%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+13%).

COMPARING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL OF THE MAIN SUPPLIERS SHOWED INCREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDES: SINGAPORE (+29%), ITALY (+28%), MALAYSIA (+25%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+17%), CHINA (+17%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+15%), TAIWAN (+11%), THE UNITED STATES (+10.0%), GERMANY (+9.9%) AND JAPAN (+5.9%).

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1994, AT \$905.9 BILLION, INCREASED MARKEDLY BY 15% 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 NINE 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 \$19.2 BILLION OR 29%); TEXTILES (BY \$13.8 BILLION OR 19%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$13.7 BILLION OR 16%); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$7.4 BILLION OR 28%); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING MAINLY OF BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$6.6 BILLION OR 11%); AND CLOTHING (BY \$5.1 BILLION OR 7.7%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$3.9 BILLION OR 9.2%).

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 SEPTEMBER 1994 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY DECEMBER.

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

THE SEPTEMBER 1994 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN SEPTEMBER 1994 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT \$86 A COPY AROUND NOVEMBER 29.

THE REPORT CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, OR AT 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 (TEL 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL 582 4915).

TABLE 1 : RE-EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAIN DESTINATIONS

DESTINATION	SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	SEP 94 OVER SEP 93 (% CHANGE)	JAN-SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	JAN-SEP 94 OVER JAN-SEP 93 (% CHANGE)
CHINA	29,028	+ 28.5	236,037	+ 17.6
UNITED STATES	21,022	+ 14.6	153,810	+ 16.4
JAPAN	5,597	+ 22.9	38,482	+ 23.4
GERMANY	3,509	- 2.6	30,255	+ 4.3
UNITED KINGDOM	2,634	*	19,818	+ 12.9
TAIWAN	1,889	+ 0.6	16,143	- 1.1
SINGAPORE	1,794	+ 18.1	14,256	+ 14.0
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,314	- 7.7	12,221	+ 8.6
CANADA	1,485	+ 20.7	10,366	+ 8.4
FRANCE	1,146	+ 7.8	9,974	+ 3.7

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.05%

/TABLE 2 :

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

COMMODITY DIVISION	SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	SEP 94 OVER SEP 93 (% CHANGE)	JAN-SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	JAN-SEP 94 OVER JAN-SEP 93 (% CHANGE)
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	14,008	+ 12.6	89,393	+ 11.3
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	9,453	+ 29.4	69,186	+ 36.0
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	9,124	+ 0.5	69,021	+ 5.1
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	7,059	+ 21.8	59,808	+ 16.5
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	7,531	+ 16.4	58,091	+ 17.7
FOOTWEAR	4,222	+ 6.0	40,199	+ 13.8
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3,559	+ 7.0	29,171	+ 10.9
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	3,147	+ 32.1	25,327	+ 26.3
ROAD VEHICLES	3,544	+ 40.7	24,988	- 1.2
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS	2,750	+ 16.2	22,951	+ 15.1

/TABLE 3 :

TABLE 3 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAIN DESTINATIONS

DESTINATION	SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	SEP 94 OVER SEP 93 (% CHANGE)	JAN-SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	JAN-SEP 94 OVER JAN-SEP 93 (% CHANGE)
CHINA	5,327	*	44,845	- 5.2
UNITED STATES	6,133	+ 7.7	43,524	+ 2.3
GERMANY	983	- 8.9	9,266	- 10.9
SINGAPORE	1,127	+ 13.3	8,963	+ 7.6
JAPAN	942	+ 10.7	7,413	+ 1.5
UNITED KINGDOM	849	- 13.8	7,385	- 6.8
TAIWAN	579	- 4.6	4,317	- 2.9
NETHERLANDS	339	- 3.5	3,449	+ 1.8
CANADA	332	- 23.5	3,037	- 14.4
MALAYSIA	231	+ 18.9	2,121	+ 9.9

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.05%

/TABLE 4 :

TABLE 4 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE TEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	SEP 94 OVER SEP 93 (% CHANGE)	JAN-SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	JAN-SEP 94 OVER JAN-SEP 93 (% CHANGE)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	6,990	+ 6.6	51,804	+ 1.1
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	2,148	+ 8.8	18,133	+ 9.2
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	1,789	- 7.2	14,161	- 5.7
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	1,561	+ 7.8	12,453	- 1.8
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,323	+ 2.6	11,091	- 8.6
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,357	- 3.1	11,090	- 6.5
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	935	- 13.5	8,583	- 15.6
MANUFACTURES OF METALS	416	+ 6.2	3,444	+ 0.2
PLASTICS IN PRIMARY FORMS	375	+ 37.6	2,884	+ 10.8
MACHINERY SPECIALIZED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES	250	- 12.8	2,392	- 11.4

/TABLE 5 :

TABLE 5 : IMPORTS FROM THE TEN MAIN SUPPLIERS

SUPPLIER	SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	SEP 94 OVER SEP 93 (% CHANGE)	JAN-SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	JAN-SEP 94 OVER JAN-SEP 93 (% CHANGE)
CHINA	44,871	+ 20.0	340,778	+ 16.5
JAPAN	18,007	+ 21.0	142,455	+ 5.9
TAIWAN	9,214	+ 19.4	77,127	+ 11.2
UNITED STATES	7,591	+ 28.6	64,901	+ 10.0
SINGAPORE	5,837	+ 37.1	44,562	+ 29.0
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	4,746	+ 13.3	41,928	+ 15.3
GERMANY	2,419	+ 22.9	20,512	+ 9.9
UNITED KINGDOM	2,239	+ 38.0	18,018	+ 16.7
ITALY	1,883	+ 25.3	16,538	+ 28.0
MALAYSIA	1,733	+ 32.6	14,486	+ 24.6

/TABLE 6 :

TABLE 6 : IMPORTS OF THE TEN PRINCIPAL COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	SEP 94 OVER SEP 93 (% CHANGE)	JAN-SEP 1994 (HKD Mn.)	JAN-SEP 94 OVER JAN-SEP 93 (% CHANGE)
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	12,380	+ 19.5	97,457	+ 16.3
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	9,823	+ 24.3	87,277	+ 18.8
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	11,319	+ 28.8	85,158	+ 29.2
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	9,500	+ 4.0	70,861	+ 7.7
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	9,552	+ 19.8	66,031	+ 11.1
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	4,641	+ 10.8	38,696	+ 9.4
ROAD VEHICLES	5,404	+ 46.8	38,174	- 9.2
FOOTWEAR	3,803	+ 7.4	35,162	+ 13.2
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	4,518	+ 42.2	33,574	+ 28.1
NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES	3,682	+ 28.6	29,011	+ 18.5

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NON-GRADUATE TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS ASSESSMENT SCHEME

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IS INVITING APPLICANTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE THIRD NON-GRADUATE TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS ASSESSMENT (NGTQA) TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY POSSESS THE ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS TO TEACH IN A PRIMARY SCHOOL.

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) TO DECEMBER 14. THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS DECEMBER 14.

UNDER THE SCHEME, SUITABLE APPLICANTS WHO HAVE OBTAINED THEIR QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING OUTSIDE HONG KONG WOULD BE ASSESSED IF THEIR ACADEMIC STANDARD, PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS ARE EQUIVALENT TO THOSE NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS TRAINED LOCALLY, AND WOULD EVENTUALLY BECOME QUALIFIED TEACHERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

THE SECOND ASSESSMENT WAS COMPLETED IN AUGUST THIS YEAR AND THE PASSING RATE WAS OVER 65 PER CENT.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR ASSESSMENT, A CANDIDATE MUST:

- * PRODUCE VALID GRADUATION CERTIFICATE AS A DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF HAVING SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED A POST-SECONDARY FULL-TIME COURSE OF NOT LESS THAN THREE YEARS, OR EQUIVALENT, IN AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OUTSIDE HONG KONG;
- * BE OF GOOD CHARACTER AS TESTIFIED BY TWO REFEREES; AND
- * BE ELIGIBLE TO STAY IN HONG KONG AND IS NOT SUBJECT TO ANY RESTRICTION ON EMPLOYMENT IMPOSED BY THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, HONG KONG.

THE ASSESSMENT COMPRISES THREE PARTS:

PART I (GENERAL EDUCATION):

CANDIDATES ARE ASSESSED ON THEIR STANDARD OF KNOWLEDGE IN THE SUBJECTS THEY WILL TEACH. EIGHT SUBJECTS ARE OFFERED, INCLUDING CHINESE, ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES (INCLUDING HEALTH EDUCATION), MUSIC, PHYSICAL EDUCATION, ART AND CRAFT. EACH CANDIDATE WILL HAVE TO SELECT TWO SUBJECTS IN PART I;

PART II (MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION):

TWO MEDIA OF INSTRUCTION ARE OFFERED TO ALL CANDIDATES SO THAT THEIR ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY AS PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS ARE ASSESSED, INCLUDING CHINESE AND ENGLISH. ALL CANDIDATES ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE CHINESE, AND THOSE WHO DO NOT TAKE "ENGLISH AS A MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION" IN PART II MUST ALSO TAKE A TEST ON "ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY"; AND

/PART III

PART III (PROFESSIONAL TRAINING):

THIS PART WILL BE OPEN ONLY TO CANDIDATES WHO CAN PRODUCE EVIDENCE OF HAVING SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A FORMAL TEACHER EDUCATION COURSE IN THE RELEVANT SUBJECTS OUTSIDE HONG KONG, INCLUDING EDUCATION THEORY, METHODOLOGY AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY.

CANDIDATES WHO FAILED IN ONLY ONE SUBJECT IN PREVIOUS ASSESSMENTS MAY APPLY TO RESIT THE EXAMINATION ON THAT SUBJECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS STIPULATED IN THE "HANDBOOK FOR APPLICANTS".

CANDIDATES WHO FAILED IN MORE THAN ONE SUBJECT (EXCEPT FOR "ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST") WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE ALL AGAIN, IF THEY APPLY THIS YEAR.

THE FEE FOR TAKING PARTS I AND II OF THE ASSESSMENT IS \$2,030. FOR THOSE TAKING PART III AS WELL, CANDIDATES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY AN ADDITIONAL \$570. THE FEE FOR RESITTING ONE SUBJECT IS \$560.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE IN THE PRESCRIBED FORM. COPIES OF THE APPLICATION FORM, HANDBOOK AND EXAMINATION SYLLABUSES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION STARTING FROM MONDAY (NOVEMBER 14) AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * NON-GRADUATE TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS ASSESSMENT SECTION, ROOM 1138A, 11TH FLOOR, WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI;
- * YAU TSIM DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICE, SEVENTH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, YAU MA TEL, KOWLOON; AND
- * SHA TIN DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICE, THIRD FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED BY CALLING THE NGTQA OFFICE ON TEL 892 6216-7 OR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE ENQUIRY SERVICE ON TEL 891 0088.

CENTRAL DISTRICT OZP AMENDED TO INCORPORATE RECLAMATION AREA

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE APPROVED CENTRAL DISTRICT OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (NO. S/H4/3).

"THE AMENDMENTS ARE MAINLY TO EXTEND STATUTORY PLANNING CONTROL TO THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION PHASE I AND PHASE II (TAMAR BASIN RECLAMATION) AND TO PROVIDE LAND FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT AND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT RAILWAY HONG KONG CENTRAL STATION," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID.

A MAJOR PART OF THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION PHASE I AREA HAS BEEN DESIGNATED FOR TWO "COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREAS".

SUB-AREA (1) IS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRPORT RAILWAY HONG KONG CENTRAL STATION WITH COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING OFFICES, RETAIL SHOPS, HOTELS AND SERVICE APARTMENTS ABOVE THE STATION.

SUB-AREA (2) IS FOR THE FOUR EASTERNMOST PIERS AND COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT INCLUDING OFFICES, RETAIL SHOPS AND SERVICE APARTMENTS ABOVE THE PIERS.

"THE OTHER PIERS HAVE BEEN ZONED 'OTHER SPECIFIED USES' ANNOTATED 'PIER' AND THE WATERFRONT PROMENADE AREAS HAVE BEEN ZONED 'OPEN SPACE' TO ENHANCE THE WATERFRONT AMENITY.

"THE PRINCE OF WALES BUILDING AND ITS ADJACENT AREA HAVE BEEN RETAINED FOR MILITARY USES AND REZONED TO 'OTHER SPECIFIED USES' ANNOTATED 'MILITARY USE' IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SINO-BRITISH AGREEMENT ON FUTURE USE OF DEFENCE ESTATE.

"THE ENTIRE TAMAR BASIN AND EAST TAMAR HAVE BEEN REZONED 'COMMERCIAL' AND 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' ('GIC') TO PROVIDE LAND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW COMMERCIAL NODE TO THE NORTH OF ADMIRALTY/QUEENSWAY AREA," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

TWO AREAS ARE INTENDED TO BE DEVELOPED AS PART OF THE ELEVATED WALKWAYS WITH SHOPS AND OPEN SPACE RUNNING THROUGH THE CENTRAL AXIS OF THE TAMAR BASIN RECLAMATION.

THE WALKWAYS WILL CONNECT THE TAMAR BASIN AREA UP WITH ADMIRALTY AND THE FUTURE RECLAMATION.

AREAS NEAR THE EASTERN SEAWALL OF THE CENTRAL RECLAMATION PHASE I AND THE NORTHERN SEAWALL OF THE TAMAR BASIN HAVE BEEN ZONED "UNDETERMINED". DEVELOPMENT OF THESE AREAS DEPENDS ON THE PROPOSED FUTURE RECLAMATION.

TO PROVIDE TRAFFIC LINKAGES OF THE RECLAMATION AREAS AND TO IMPROVE THE EAST-WEST TRANSPORT LINK, BROAD ROAD NETWORKS IN CENTRAL RECLAMATION PHASE I AND PHASE II HAVE BEEN INDICATED ON THE PLAN.

JUSTICE DRIVE WILL BE EXTENDED NORTHWARD TO INTEGRATE WITH THE ROAD NETWORKS IN THE RECLAMATION AREA FOR IMPROVING THE CAPACITY OF NORTH-SOUTH TRANSPORT LINK.

THE COLVIN HOUSE AND ITS ADJACENT "OPEN SPACE" SITES HAVE BEEN REZONED TO "GIC" AND EARMARKED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BRITISH CONSULATE AND THE BRITISH COUNCIL.

THE AMENDMENT PLAN (NO. S/H4/4) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL JANUARY 11, 1995 FROM :

- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * HONG KONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,
77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE,
GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING,
38 PIER ROAD, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING BEFORE JANUARY 11, 1995.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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BOARD AMENDS MID-LEVELS WEST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AN AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED MID-LEVELS WEST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (NO. S/H11/5).

"IN ORDER TO REFLECT THE CURRENT USE AND OWNERSHIP, AND TO ALLOW FLEXIBILITY FOR FUTURE GOVERNMENT USES UPON REDEVELOPMENT, A SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF KENNEDY ROAD AND MACDONNELL ROAD HAS BEEN REZONED FROM 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C) SUB-AREA 6' TO 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY'.

"IT IS INTENDED TO ALLOCATE THE SITE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN OFFICE FOR THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID.

THE AMENDMENT PLAN (NO. S/H11/6) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL JANUARY 11, 1995 FROM:

- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;

* HONG KONG DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
11TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,
77 LEIGHTON ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY,
HONG KONG; AND

* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE,
GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING,
38 PIER ROAD,
CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING BEFORE JANUARY 11, 1995.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND THE KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE, 382, NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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TAI PO OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AMENDED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT TAI PO OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (NO. S/TP/6).

"ONE OF THE AMENDMENTS IS TO REZONE AN AREA IN PLANNING AREA 34 FROM 'GREEN BELT' (GB) TO 'GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION/COMMUNITY' (GIC) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION (HKIED)," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BOARD SAID.

"PAK SHEK KOK IN PLANNING AREA 39 HAS ALSO BEEN REZONED FROM 'UNDETERMINED' AND 'RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)' (R(C)) TO 'GIC' FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPORTS CENTRE OF THE HKIED AND THE FUTURE EXTENSION OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY," HE ADDED.

THE 'GB' ZONE OF AN AREA IN FUNG YUEN VALLEY IN PLANNING AREA 29 AND THE 'GIC' ZONE OF TAI PO EGRETRY IN PLANNING AREA 1 HAVE BOTH BEEN REZONED TO 'SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST' FOR NATURE AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION.

TO PROVIDE FOR THE FUTURE EXPANSION OF PUN SHAN CHAU VILLAGE, AN AREA IN PLANNING AREA 38 HAS BEEN REZONED FROM 'GB' TO 'VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT' (V) ZONE. PATCHES OF LAND IN FUNG YUEN IN PLANNING AREA 32 HAVE ALSO BEEN REZONED FROM 'OTHER SPECIFIED USES (COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT AREA)' (OU(CRA)) AND 'GB' TO 'V'.

"THE 'OU(CRA)' ZONE OF THE FORMER ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME IN PLANNING AREA 12 HAS BEEN RENAMED 'COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA' (CDA) AND THE ZONING BOUNDARY HAS BEEN ADJUSTED TO ACCORD WITH THAT APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

"FURTHERMORE, AN AREA ADJACENT TO THE FORMER ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME HAS BEEN REZONED FROM 'OU(CRA)' TO 'GIC' FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SCHOOL OR FOR THE REPROVISIONING OF THE ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

OTHER AMENDMENTS INCLUDE THE REZONING OF AN AREA IN PLANNING AREA 57 FROM 'GB' TO 'GIC', A STRIP OF LAND IN PLANNING AREA 30 FROM 'GB' TO 'R(B)', AREAS IN PLANNING AREA 32 FROM 'OU(CRA)' TO 'GIC', 'GB' AND 'R(C)1', STRIPS OF LAND ABUTTING TAI PO MARKET KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION FROM 'GIC' AND 'COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL' TO 'OTHER SPECIFIED USES (KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY)', AN AREA WITHIN TAI MO SHAN COUNTRY PARK FROM 'GB' TO 'COUNTRY PARK', AN AREA IN PLANNING AREA 11 FROM 'GB' TO 'R(C)', AN AREA IN PLANNING AREAS 27 AND 28 FROM 'R(B)' AND 'O' TO 'R(C)1', AND THE ADJUSTMENT OF ZONING BOUNDARIES OF VARIOUS SITES IN PLANNING AREAS 7 AND 12.

THE NOTES ATTACHED TO THE PLAN HAVE ALSO BEEN UPDATED TO INCLUDE SOME MINOR TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

THE AMENDMENT PLAN (NO. S/TP/7) IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION UNTIL DECEMBER 2 FROM :

- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT,
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * SHA TIN AND NORTH EAST DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,
GROUND FLOOR, SHA TIN GOVERNMENT OFFICES,
6 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD,
SHA TIN; AND
- * TAI PO DISTRICT OFFICE,
TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING,
TING KOK ROAD,
TAI PO.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENT PLAN MAY SUBMIT WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING BEFORE DECEMBER 2.

COPIES OF THE AMENDMENT PLAN CAN BE BOUGHT AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, AND KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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LEUNG KWONG-CHEONG ELECTED TO RC

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MR LEUNG KWONG-CHEONG, THE ONLY CANDIDATE FOR THE KWAI CHUNG EAST CONSTITUENCY IN THE REGIONAL COUNCIL BY-ELECTION IS TODAY (FRIDAY) DECLARED IN THE GAZETTE AS MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

MR LEUNG REPLACES MR CHOW YICK-HAY WHO RESIGNED FROM THE COUNCIL LAST MONTH.

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GOOD HEALTH PROGRAMME IMPORTANT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH CARE
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A GOOD HEALTH PROGRAMME COMPRISING FAMILY EDUCATION, BACKED UP BY A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY CARE AND SOPHISTICATED MEDICAL PRACTICE AND RESEARCH, IS CRUCIAL FOR PUBLIC HEALTH CARE, MRS PATTEN SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE THIRD COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE ON DIARRHOEA AND MALNUTRITION TODAY (FRIDAY), SHE SAID HONG KONG WAS FORTUNATE TO HAVE A HIGH STANDARD HEALTH CARE SYSTEM.

"MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES PROVIDE FREE ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CARE, HEALTH EDUCATION AND IMMUNISATION. PARENTS ARE GIVEN ADVICE ON PERSONAL AND FOOD HYGIENE, THE BENEFITS OF BREAST FEEDING AND A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE."

ONE RISING PROBLEM IN HONG KONG THESE DAYS IS OVER-NUTRITION AND THE OBESE CHILD.

"AGAIN, THE KEY HERE IS FAMILY EDUCATION," MRS PATTEN SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW TAKING STEPS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY DIETS AND LIFESTYLES THROUGH HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMMES.

BESIDES, A NEW STUDENT HEALTH SERVICE WHICH PROVIDES ANNUAL PHYSICAL EXAMINATION FOR ALL SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL BE INTRODUCED.

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SEWAGE TUNNEL FOR STONECUTTERS ISLAND AND KELLETT BANK
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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL BUILD A SEWAGE TUNNEL FROM STONECUTTERS ISLAND TO KELLETT BANK EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE WORKS, WHICH INCLUDES AN OUTFALL DIFFUSER STRUCTURE, WILL BEGIN IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR FOR COMPLETION IN 30 MONTHS.

THE LAND SITUATED ON THE ROUTE OF THE TUNNEL IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE TUNNEL WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT A DEPTH OF MORE THAN 70 METRES BELOW THE SURFACE OF THE LAND.

ANY PERSON WHO HAS AN ESTATE OR INTEREST REGISTERED IN THE LAND REGISTRY ON THE LAND MAY OBJECT IN WRITING TO THE DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 11 NEXT YEAR.

THE NOTICE OF OBJECTION SHOULD DESCRIBE THE ESTATE OR INTEREST OF THE OBJECTOR IN THE LAND AND THE REASONS FOR HIS OBJECTION.

/THE NOTICE,

THE NOTICE, AND ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, TOGETHER WITH THE RELATED PLANS KCE/S/G/762-764 WHICH SHOW THE ROUTE OF THE PROPOSED TUNNEL CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES DURING OFFICE HOURS FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY (9 AM TO 4.30 PM) AND ON SATURDAY (9 AM TO NOON):

- * LANDS DEPARTMENT,
SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE,
14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,
22 COTTON TREE DRIVE,
CENTRAL,
HONG KONG;
- * SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE,
PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE,
6TH FLOOR, WEST COAST INTERNATIONAL BUILDING,
290-296 UN CHAU STREET,
SHAM SHUI PO,
KOWLOON; AND
- * KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE,
PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE,
2ND FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING,
166 HING FONG ROAD,
KWAI CHUNG,
NEW TERRITORIES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO SEEK ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT MAY CONTACT THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON TEL 834 9425 OR 834 9422.

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ROAD WIDENING SCHEME AT STANLEY MOUND ROAD
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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES A ROAD WIDENING SCHEME AT STANLEY MOUND ROAD IN STANLEY, HONG KONG.

THE SCHEME IS TO WIDEN THE SECTION OF STANLEY MOUND ROAD FROM HOUSE NO. 43 TO HOUSE NO. 3, AND TO PROVIDE 26 ON-STREET PARKING SPACES THEREAT; TO REALIGN THE SECTION OF STANLEY MOUND ROAD FRONTING HOUSE NO. 2 TO PROVIDE A CARRIAGEWAY OF 4.5 METRE WIDE; TO CONSTRUCT RUN-INS, FOOTWAYS, LANDSCAPING AND DRAINAGE WORKS; AND ANY OTHER ANCILLARY WORKS.

A NOTICE CONCERNING THE PROPOSED ROAD WIDENING WORKS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A PLAN SHOWING THE PROPOSED ROAD WIDENING WORKS MAY BE SEEN AT:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;

- * DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG SOUTH, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 20TH FLOOR, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG; AND
- * SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SHOP 25, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, ABERDEEN CENTRE, 7-11, NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSAL MUST SEND HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, CENTRAL NO LATER THAN JANUARY 10, 1995 DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL.

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SPORTS GROUND FOR SIU SAI WAN

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SPORTS GROUND WITH A TOTAL SITE AREA OF 43,310 SQUARE METRES IN SIU SAI WAN, HONG KONG.

THE SPORTS GROUND WILL HAVE A SOCCER PITCH, ALL WEATHER RUNNING TRACKS, A SPECTATOR STAND, A SCORE BOARD BUILDING AND TWO SINGLE-STOREY SERVICE BUILDINGS.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START NEXT FEBRUARY FOR COMPLETION BY SEPTEMBER 1996.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFERS WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON DECEMBER 9.

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SEWERS PLANNED FOR KWAI CHUNG

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR SEWERAGE IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN KWAI CHUNG.

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL TRUNK SEWERS AND THE PROPOSED KWAI CHUNG INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER PUMPING STATION, AND SEWER RECONNECTION FOR FACTORIES IN THE DISTRICT TO THE FOUL SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

THE TRUNK SEWERS RUN MAINLY IN KWAI WING ROAD, KWAI CHEONG ROAD AND HING FONG ROAD.

THE WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN JANUARY NEXT YEAR FOR COMPLETION IN 29 MONTHS.

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A NOTICE INVITING TENDERS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM HO TIN AND ASSOCIATES CONSULTING ENGINEERS LIMITED, ROOM 1704 LEIGHTON CENTRE, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE TENDER CLOSING DATE IS NOON ON DECEMBER 9.

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ROUND THE ISLAND YACHT RACE

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT A YACHT RACE WILL BE HELD ON THE EAST COAST OF HONG KONG ISLAND DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 13).

ABOUT 250 YACHTS INCLUDING 15 WINDSURFERS ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EVENT.

THE OUTWARD LEG OF THE RACE WILL COMMENCE OFF KELLETT ISLAND, CAUSEWAY BAY, RUNNING EAST THROUGH LEI YUE MUN, SOUTH IN TATHONG CHANNEL AND WEST TO A POINT OFF BLUFF HEAD.

THE RETURN ROUTE WILL BE THE REVERSE OF THE OUTWARD LEG, EXCEPT THAT ALL COMPETITORS WILL PASS SOUTH OF BEAUFORT ISLAND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT URGED MASTERS, COXSWAINS AND PERSONS-IN-CHARGE OF VESSELS NAVIGATING IN THE VICINITY TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION, GIVING PRACTICAL CONSIDERATION TO THE CONTESTANTS.

"COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA, 1972 IS MANDATORY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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REQUEST TO REFRAIN FROM SOUNDING WHISTLES OR SIRENS

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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) REQUESTED SHIPOWNERS, SHIPMASTERS AND PERSONS-IN-CHARGE OF SMALL CRAFT, AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, TO REFRAIN FROM SOUNDING WHISTLES OR SIRENS WITHIN VICTORIA HARBOUR DURING THE REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE FROM 10.30 AM TO 11.30 AM ON SUNDAY (NOVEMBER 13).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: "THIS SHOULD BE OBSERVED IN PARTICULAR DURING THE TWO MINUTES OF SILENCE FROM 11 AM TO 11.02 AM."

THE BEGINNING AND END OF THE PERIOD OF SILENCE WILL BE INDICATED BY THE FIRING OF A GUN IN CENTRAL DISTRICT.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION -----	TIME (HOURS) -----	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION) -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,153	0930	+190
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,471	1000	+190
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+6
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+6	1200	+6
LAF TODAY	-688	1500	+6
		1600	+6
LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER	TWI 121.0	*+0.0*	11.11.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.77	18 MONTHS	2605	6.35	99.78	6.61
1 MONTH	4.49	23 MONTHS	3610	4.20	95.14	7.01
3 MONTHS	5.00	29 MONTHS	3704	6.15	97.63	7.35
6 MONTHS	5.43	36 MONTHS	3710	7.25	99.33	7.65
12 MONTHS	6.04	58 MONTHS	5909	7.45	97.20	8.32

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 24,855 MN

CLOSED 11 NOVEMBER 1994