



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ACCEPTS BEC REPORT	1
SENIOR CITIZEN CARDS READY FOR APPLICATIONS	2
ESTATE AGENTS WORKING GROUP DISCUSSES LICENSING SYSTEMS	3
BA TO CONDUCT MID-TERM REVIEW OF ATV AND TVB LICENCES	4
SPEEDY IMPLEMENTATION OF URUGUAY ROUND PACKAGE URGED	5
HELICOPTER ACCIDENT REPORT PUBLISHED	6
U.S. BANK GRANTED LICENCE	7
SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER OF 1993	8
BETTER HOSPITAL SERVICE AHEAD: FS	12
IMPROVEMENT TO TUEN MUN ROAD	13
FARE INCREASE FOR TRAM SERVICES	14
NEW HK OFFICE PREMISES IN BRUSSELS OPEN	14
THREE GOVT LOTS FOR AUCTION	15
GOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR GOVT APPRENTICES	16
PARK FACILITIES FOR NT RESIDENTS	17
SIU SAI WAN TO GET NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL	18
EXTENSION OF WAI MAN ROAD PROPOSED	18
PREQUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS INVITED FOR SEWAGE TUNNEL WORKS	19
TWO KOWLOON MINIBUS ROUTES RAISE FARES	20
IMMIGRATION STAFF COMMENDED	20
328 VIETNAMESE RETURN HOME	21
CLOSURE OF UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE	21
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	22

GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ACCEPTS BEC REPORT

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS ACCEPTED THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (BEC) ON THE DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES, THE NUMBER AND THE NAMES OF THE CONSTITUENCIES.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID WITH THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE BEC'S PROPOSALS, THE NUMBER OF DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCIES WOULD BE INCREASED FROM THE EXISTING 210 TO 346 FOR THE NEXT DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER 1994.

THE DECLARATION OF DISTRICTS ORDER 1994 UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARDS ORDINANCE AND THE DECLARATION OF CONSTITUENCIES (DISTRICTS) ORDER 1994 UNDER THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS ORDINANCE WILL BE GAZETTED ON FEBRUARY 18. THEY WILL BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON FEBRUARY 23.

"THE BEC HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB AND HAS FULLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ALL THE VIEWS IT HAS RECEIVED DURING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IN APPLYING THE STATUTORY CRITERIA IN DEMARCATING CONSTITUENCIES, THE BEC HAS ALSO CONSIDERED THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING COMMUNITY IDENTITIES AND LOCAL TIES, AND THE NEED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE WIDE GEOGRAPHICAL SPREAD AND SPECIFIC TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES OF A DISTRICT OR AN AREA," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT ONLY MINOR TECHNICAL CHANGES HAD BEEN MADE TO THE BEC'S FINAL RECOMMENDATION. THESE AMENDMENTS ARE:

- * THE CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY BETWEEN D14 "WONG CHUK HANG" AND D15 "BAYS AREA" IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT IS RE-ADJUSTED SO THAT PART OF ABERDEEN TYPHOON SHELTER AND CERTAIN FACILITIES SUCH AS SHIPYARDS AND MARINA PROVIDING SERVICE TO THE FLOATING COMMUNITY IN ABERDEEN WOULD COME UNDER D14. NO POPULATION IS AFFECTED BY THIS SLIGHT CHANGE.
- * AS A RESULT OF THE MINOR ADJUSTMENT TO THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES BETWEEN YAU TSIM MONG AND SHAM SHUI PO; AND SHAM SHUI PO AND KWAI TSING, SOME MINOR CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES BETWEEN E8 "TAI KOK TSUI" AND E9 "SYCAMORE" IN YAU TSIM MONG; BETWEEN F7 "NAM CHEONG WEST", F8 "LAI KOK", F10 "LAI CHI KOK", F11 "MEI FOO" AND F12 "LAI WAN" IN SHAM SHUI PO; AND BETWEEN S15 "LAI KING" AND S20 "TSING YI SOUTH" IN KWAI TSING ARE NECESSARY. ALL OF THE AREAS AFFECTED ARE ON RECLAIMED LAND WITH NO POPULATION IMPLICATIONS.
- * THE NAMES OF CONSTITUENCIES P3 AND P15 IN TAI PO DISTRICT ARE REVISED TO "CHUNG TING" AND "OLD MARKET & SERENITY" RESPECTIVELY TO REFLECT MORE ACCURATELY THE GEOGRAPHICAL IDENTITY OF THE AREAS CONCERNED.

- * CONSTITUENCY J17 IN KWUN TONG DISTRICT IS RENAMED "KWONG TAK".
- * A TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR ON THE MAP DB/94/R IN THE NAME FOR CONSTITUENCY R27 "KENG HAU" IN SHA TIN DISTRICT IS RECTIFIED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID COPIES OF THE STATUTORY MAPS SHOWING THE DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES FOR THE 1994 ELECTIONS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AFTER GAZETTING THE TWO ORDERS ON FEBRUARY 18.

COPIES WILL BE PLACED AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES; CNTA HEADQUARTERS AT SOUTHOBN CENTRE, 30TH FLOOR; THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE AT HARBOUR CENTRE, 10TH FLOOR; AND THE MARKETING DIVISION OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, CENTRAL.

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SENIOR CITIZEN CARDS READY FOR APPLICATIONS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS LAUNCHING THE SENIOR CITIZEN CARD SCHEME AS FROM APRIL THIS YEAR, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MISS JACQUELINE WILLIS, SAID.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHEME IS TO FACILITATE ACCESS BY ELDERLY PEOPLE TO CONCESSIONARY FARES, PRIORITY TREATMENT AND DISCOUNTS OFFERED BY LOCAL COMPANIES AND ESTABLISHMENTS, AND TO ENCOURAGE MORE SUCH COMPANIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SCHEME.

SPEAKING AT THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON NORTH LUNCHEON TODAY (FRIDAY), MISS WILLIS SAID THE CARDS WOULD BE ISSUED FREE OF CHARGE TO ALL ELDERLY PERSONS AGED 65 AND ABOVE UPON APPLICATION.

THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR THE CARD IS SIMPLE.

ALL THE APPLICANT HAS TO DO IS TO FILL IN A SIMPLE FORM AND SEND IT TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN CARD OFFICE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, TOGETHER WITH A PHOTOGRAPH AND A PHOTOCOPY OF HIS OR HER HONG KONG IDENTITY CARD.

APPLICATION BY MAIL IS ALSO ACCEPTABLE.

ABOUT 400,000 ELDERLY PERSONS ARE EXPECTED TO APPLY FOR THE CARD IN THE FIRST YEAR AND ABOUT 130,000 ELDERLY PERSONS WILL APPLY IN EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR.

THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE HAS PERSONALLY WRITTEN TO ABOUT 600 COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS, INCLUDING DEPARTMENT STORES, BANKS, CINEMAS, RESTAURANTS, TRAVEL AGENTS, AIRLINES, HOTELS, ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES COMPANIES, TRANSPORT COMPANIES, SPORTS COMPANIES, SUPERMARKETS, CLINICS AND SO ON. SOME OF THEM HAVE ALREADY INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT.

PARTICIPATING COMPANIES OR ORGANISATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH COPIES OF A LOGO TO STICK ON THEIR SHOW WINDOWS FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSE. A HANDBOOK WILL ALSO BE ISSUED LISTING OUT ALL THEIR NAMES AND OFFERS.

MISS WILLIS APPEALED TO ALL BUSINESSMEN, MANAGERS, PROFESSIONALS, DIRECTORS OF COMPANIES AND ORGANISATIONS TO SUPPORT THE SCHEME.

ON THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ELDERLY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, MISS WILLIS SAID THE PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION AGED 60 AND ABOVE WAS EXPECTED TO RISE FROM 716,901 (13 PER CENT) IN 1991 TO 1,172,400 (18.1 PER CENT) IN 2011 DUE TO THE GOOD HEALTH STATUS OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

A MAN AGED 60 IN 1991 CAN EXPECT TO LIVE ANOTHER 19.2 YEARS AND LIFE EXPECTANCY IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE FURTHER IN THE YEAR 2011 TO ANOTHER 20.8 YEARS.

FOR A WOMAN, THE LIFE EXPECTANCY AT 60 IS EVEN LONGER; IN 1991 ANOTHER 23.4 YEARS AND IN 2011 ANOTHER 24.8 YEARS.

TO MEET THE DEMOGRAPHIC CHALLENGE, THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED A SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ON CARE FOR THE ELDERLY TO CARRY OUT AN IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF ALL THE SERVICES PROVIDED AND TO FORMULATE A STRATEGY FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES.

THE REVIEW WILL COVER COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES, SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES, MEDICAL SERVICES, HOUSING NEEDS AND SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS.

THE WORKING GROUP WILL REPORT BACK TO THE GOVERNOR IN AUGUST, MISS WILLIS SAID.

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ESTATE AGENTS WORKING GROUP DISCUSSES LICENSING SYSTEMS

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THE WORKING GROUP ON REGULATION OF ESTATE AGENTS HAS AGREED THAT THE OPTION OF ESTABLISHING A REGULATORY SYSTEM FOR THE TRADE SHOULD BE EXPLORED FURTHER AFTER DISCUSSING THE PROS AND CONS OF VARIOUS OPTIONS.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, MEMBERS DISCUSSED THE FEASIBILITY OF FORMING A REGULATORY AUTHORITY WITH LEGISLATIVE BACKING AND AGREED TO CONTINUE THEIR DISCUSSIONS AT THE NEXT MEETING.

THE WORKING GROUP NOTED THAT THE LICENSING OPTION WILL SERVE THE PURPOSES OF SANCTIONING DISHONEST AND INCOMPETENT AGENTS ON ONE HAND AND RAISING THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARD OF THE TRADE ON THE OTHER HAND.

PUBLIC INTEREST WILL BE SAFEGUARDED WITH AN ASSURANCE THAT THE SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE TRADE WILL MEET A REQUIRED STANDARD. SIMILAR LICENSING SYSTEMS ARE IN USE IN CANADA, USA AND AUSTRALIA.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1994

- 4 -

AT THE MEETING, MR LEO KWAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, BRIEFED MEMBERS ABOUT HIS RECENT DUTY VISIT TO SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ABOUT THE OPERATION OF REGULATORY SYSTEMS FOR REAL ESTATE AGENTS THERE.

HE DESCRIBED THE TRIP AS VERY FRUITFUL AND REWARDING.

DURING THE VISIT, HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF THE REGULATORY BODIES AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TRADE THERE.

HE FELT THAT THE AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE COULD BECOME A USEFUL POINT OF REFERENCE FOR SETTING UP A REGULATORY SYSTEM FOR ESTATE AGENTS HERE.

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BA TO CONDUCT MID-TERM REVIEW OF ATV AND TVB LICENCES

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THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (BA) TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED ITS WORK PLAN FOR THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE ATV AND TVB LICENCES THIS YEAR.

THE CHAIRMAN OF BA, SIR ROGER LOBO, SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE: "THE LICENCES OF ATV AND TVB WERE RENEWED IN DECEMBER 1988 FOR A TERM OF 12 YEARS EXPIRING IN DECEMBER 2000.

"BOTH LICENCES CARRY A CONDITION STATING THAT THEY ARE SUBJECT TO RENEWAL BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL ON A DATE TO BE DETERMINED BUT NOT BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 1994."

BA IS THE STATUTORY BODY THAT REGULATES THE TELEVISION BROADCASTERS.

IT WILL BE CONCENTRATING ON EVALUATING THE LICENSEES' PERFORMANCE VIS-A-VIS THE VARIOUS STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND LICENSING CONDITIONS AND WILL CONSIDER WHETHER ANY CHANGES SHOULD BE MADE TO THESE CONDITIONS.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, BA WILL SOLICIT PUBLIC OPINION, ANALYSE INFORMATION AND STATISTICS FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND REGULATORY BODIES INVOLVED IN MONITORING THE LICENSEES, AND INVITE SUBMISSIONS FROM THE LICENSEES THEMSELVES.

"AS TELEVISION VIEWING IS ONE OF HONG KONG'S MOST POPULAR LEISURE ACTIVITIES, WE WARMLY WELCOME PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS," SIR ROGER SAID.

BA WILL BE HOLDING PUBLIC HEARINGS AROUND THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF SESSIONS HAVE NOT BEEN FIXED, BUT A MINIMUM OF THREE WILL BE HELD COVERING HONG KONG ISLAND, KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES TO ALLOW AS MANY PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATE AS POSSIBLE. MORE DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED NEARER THE TIME.

/A MEMBER

A MEMBER OF BA, DR KENNETH LEUNG, IS STEERING A TELEVISION BROADCASTING SURVEY.

DR LEUNG SAID: "THE SURVEY IS AIMED AT COLLECTING PUBLIC OPINION ON BROAD AND GENERAL ISSUES RELATING TO WIRELESS TELEVISION PROGRAMME AND ADVERTISING STANDARDS, AND THE QUALITY AND QUANTITY OF SUCH BROADCASTING IN HONG KONG."

THESE SURVEYS ARE CONDUCTED REGULARLY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO BA AND THE ADMINISTRATION AS TO THE CHANGING NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS OF VIEWERS.

THE SURVEY IS BEING CARRIED OUT BY AN INDEPENDENT RESEARCH COMPANY, USING A SAMPLE OF 2,000 HOUSEHOLDS.

WHILE THE FIELDWORK HAS JUST BEEN COMPLETED, THE FINAL REPORT WOULD BE READY BY THE END OF MARCH AND THE RESULTS WILL BE PUBLISHED AT A LATER DATE.

"THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY PLUS THE ISSUES BROUGHT UP IN THE PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE CONSIDERED TOGETHER WITH THE STATISTICS AND INFORMATION COLLECTED FOR THE MID-TERM REVIEW, PRIOR TO DETERMINING WHETHER AMENDMENTS, IF ANY, ARE NEEDED TO THE CURRENT LICENSING CONDITIONS AND BA'S PROGRAMME AND ADVERTISING STANDARDS," SIR ROGER SAID.

THE WHOLE PROCESS WOULD BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

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SPEEDY IMPLEMENTATION OF URUGUAY ROUND PACKAGE URGED
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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, HAS CALLED FOR A SPEEDY AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE URUGUAY ROUND PACKAGE.

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCH MEETING OF THE CENTRE FOR EUROPEAN POLICY STUDIES ON THURSDAY (BRUSSELS TIME), MR CHAU SAID THERE WAS A NEED TO CONSOLIDATE AND BUILD ON THE SUCCESS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND IN A DETERMINED WAY.

"IF WE DO NOT MOVE QUICKLY ON THIS SUCCESS TO FOSTER A POLITICAL CLIMATE FOR CHANGE, IN SUPPORT OF CONTINUING TO ROLL BACK BARRIERS AND SUBSIDIES, WE WILL LOSE MOMENTUM," HE SAID.

MR CHAU SAID A CRUCIAL PART OF THIS WAS THE SETTING UP OF A WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION (WTO) WHICH WAS BOTH STRONG AND EFFECTIVE.

"IF THE WTO IS TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY, IT MUST HAVE THE STATURE THAT COMES WITH A RESPECT FOR ITS RULES AND A WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT ITS DECISIONS AND RULINGS BY ALL OF ITS MEMBERS, LARGE AND SMALL," HE NOTED.

ON THE ARGUMENTS OVER CHINA'S MOST FAVOURED NATION TRADING STATUS IN THE UNITED STATES, MR CHAU STRESSED THAT TRADE ISSUES SHOULD NOT BE POLITICISED.

TRADE POLICY INSTRUMENTS SHOULD NOT BE USED TO ACHIEVE NON-TRADE OBJECTIVES, AND NON-TRADE MEASURES SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO IMPEDE FREE TRADE, HE SAID.

"FREEING UP TRADE PRODUCES BENEFITS TO ALL. IMPROVEMENTS TO SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ARE DESIRABLE. THEY CAN BE ACHIEVED IN PART THROUGH IMPROVEMENTS TO LIVING STANDARDS WHICH FLOW FROM PROSPERITY, BUT THEY SHOULD BE DEALT WITH ON THEIR OWN MERITS AND CO-ORDINATED INTERNALLY ON THEIR OWN MERITS.

"AS IT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED IN COMMUNITY AFTER COMMUNITY IN EAST ASIA, IT IS POSSIBLE TO BELIEVE IN FREE TRADE AND OPEN MARKETS, AND ON THE BACK OF THAT, TO INCREASE NOT ONLY THE INDIVIDUAL PROSPERITY OF ORDINARY PEOPLE, BUT ALSO THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE AS WELL.

"IF THERE IS A LESSON TO BE DRAWN FROM THE ECONOMIC SUCCESS OF EAST ASIA, IT IS THAT FREE TRADE AND OPEN MARKET ENGENDER FREE, OPEN AND PLURAL SOCIETIES," MR CHAU SAID.

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HELICOPTER ACCIDENT REPORT PUBLISHED

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A REPORT ON A HELICOPTER ACCIDENT NEAR SIU LANG SHUI, CASTLE PEAK, ON MAY 21, 1992 WAS PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF ACCIDENTS.

THE PILOT WAS KILLED AND A PASSENGER WAS SERIOUSLY INJURED AFTER THE HELICOPTER, OWNED AND OPERATED BY HELISERVICES (HONG KONG) LTD, CRASHED ONTO A HILLSLOPE.

AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT, THE HELICOPTER WAS TRANSPORTING A PIECE OF HEAVY DRILLING EQUIPMENT WEIGHING 962 KILOGRAMS SLUNG ON AN 18-METRE CABLE AND CHAIN.

THE REPORT CONCLUDED THAT THE HELICOPTER WAS BEING OPERATED VERY CLOSE TO OR SLIGHTLY ABOVE THE MAXIMUM TOTAL WEIGHT AUTHORISED AND WAS TRANSITIONED FROM THE HOVER POSITION TO FORWARD FLIGHT IN A DOWNWIND DIRECTION.

"DURING THIS MANOEUVRE THE UNDERSLUNG LOAD SNAGGED ON A BUSH AND ON BREAKING FREE WAS SET IN PENDULUM MOTION," THE REPORT STATED.

"THE MOTION GENERATED A VARYING CENTRIFUGAL FORCE ON THE CARGO CHAIN RESULTING IN SIGNIFICANT AND DRASTIC CHANGES IN THE FORCES ACTING ON THE HELICOPTER."

THESE FACTORS GAVE RISE TO CONTROL PROBLEMS WHICH CAUSED THE HEAVILY LOADED HELICOPTER TO GO OUT OF CONTROL AND CRASH.

FOUR SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE REPORT ALL RELATING TO THE DUTIES OF OPERATORS TO ENSURE ADHERENCE TO SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.

IN ADDITION, THE REPORT REVEALED THAT THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF THE HELICOPTER HAVING ANY PRE-EXISTING DEFECT WHICH COULD HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ACCIDENT.

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U.S. BANK GRANTED LICENCE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY (SSBTC) HAD BEEN GRANTED A BANKING LICENCE TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN HONG KONG.

SSBTC IS THE 40TH LARGEST BANK IN THE USA AND 272ND IN THE WORLD IN TERMS OF CAPITAL.

IT IS A SPECIALIST BANK WHICH CONCENTRATES ON GLOBAL CUSTODY, MUTUAL FUND, ASSET MANAGEMENT AND TRUSTEE BUSINESS.

THE INSTITUTION'S PRESENCE IN HONG KONG BEGAN AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY IN SEPTEMBER 1981 THROUGH STATE STREET ASIA LTD (SSAL).

IN SEPTEMBER 1988, SSAL BECAME A RESTRICTED LICENCE BANK.

THE RESTRICTED BANKING LICENCE OF SSAL WAS TRANSFERRED IN AUGUST 1990 TO ITS PARENT BANK, SSBTC, TO ENABLE THE RESTRICTED LICENCE BANK TO BE OPERATED IN BRANCH FORM.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CONTINUING INTEREST OF FOREIGN BANKS IN ENTERING THE LOCAL MARKET REFLECTED HONG KONG'S CONTINUED IMPORTANCE AND ATTRACTIVENESS AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THE LICENCE FOR SSBTC IS THE FIRST BANKING LICENCE GRANTED THIS YEAR.

THERE ARE NOW 173 LICENSED BANKS IN HONG KONG, OF WHICH 141 ARE INCORPORATED OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1994

- 8 -

SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER OF 1993

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IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993, 8,491 OCEAN-GOING VESSELS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 39.4 MILLION NET REGISTERED TONS (NRT) ARRIVED AT HONG KONG.

THIS INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT, JULY - SEPTEMBER 1993" PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE FIGURES REFLECT AN INCREASE OF 16% IN NUMBER OF VESSELS AND 18% IN CAPACITY OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1992.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE 8,656 OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 39.6 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 15% IN NUMBER AND 18% IN CAPACITY OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1992.

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 17.6 MILLION TONNES, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 15% OVER THE SAME QUARTER IN 1992.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) AND SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 7.5 MILLION TONNES, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 16%.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, 86% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE SEABORNE IMPORTS AND 14% WERE SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, AND 45% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE CONTAINERISED CARGO.

OF THOSE LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, 68% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) AND 32% WERE SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, AND 85% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE CONTAINERISED CARGO.

THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 1.

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993, THE TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS (INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT) WERE SINGAPORE (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 16% IN TONNAGE TERMS), JAPAN (13%), CHINA (11%), TAIWAN (11%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (10%).

THE TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS (INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS AND SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT) WERE THE USA (22%), CHINA (18%), TAIWAN (9%), SINGAPORE (4%) AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (4%).

THE TOP FIVE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IN TONNAGE INCLUDE PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 19%); COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (17%); IRON AND STEEL (9%); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (7%); AND PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS (5%).

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THE TOP FIVE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS INCLUDE MACHINERY (10%); OTHER MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (10%); OTHER MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (8%); TOYS (8%); AND ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES (7%).

CHANGES IN THE TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED AND LOADED ANALYSED BY THE TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF LOADING AND DISCHARGE BETWEEN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993 AND THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1992 ARE SHOWN RESPECTIVELY IN TABLE 2 AND TABLE 3.

SIMILAR STATISTICS FOR CARGO DISCHARGED AND LOADED ANALYSED BY THE TOP 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES ARE SHOWN RESPECTIVELY IN TABLE 4 AND TABLE 5.

STARTING FROM 1993, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS HAVE BEEN REDEFINED AS ALL VESSELS OPERATING BEYOND THE RIVER TRADE LIMITS.

IN CALCULATING THE YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES, SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS FOR 1992 HAVE BEEN RE-COMPILED BASED ON THE NEW DEFINITION.

SHIPPING STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIP MASTERS OR AUTHORISED SHIPPING AGENTS AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED FROM A SAMPLE OF CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS OF SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993 ARE CONTAINED IN THE 'HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT, JULY - SEPTEMBER 1993'.

THIS REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI AT \$44.50 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4887.

/TABLE 1:

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS

	3RD QUARTER 1993	% CHANGE OVER 3RD QUARTER 1992
INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSEL		
NUMBER	8,491	+16
CAPACITY (MN NRT)	39.4	+18
CARGO DISCHARGED (MN TONNE)	17.6 (45)	+15
SEABORNE IMPORTS (MN TONNE)	15.1 (38)	+14
SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT (MN TONNE)	2.5 (88)	+22
OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSEL		
NUMBER	8,656	+15
CAPACITY (MN NRT)	39.6	+18
CARGO LOADED (MN TONNE)	7.5 (85)	+16
SEABORNE EXPORTS (MN TONNE) (INCLUDING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS)	5.2 (80)	+20
SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT (MN TONNE)	2.4 (96)	+8

NOTES: (I) FIGURES IN BRACKETS DENOTE THE EXTENT OF CONTAINERISATION IN PERCENTAGE.

(II) STARTING FROM 1993, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS HAVE BEEN REDEFINED AS ALL VESSELS OPERATING BEYOND THE RIVER TRADE LIMITS. IN CALCULATING THE YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES, STATISTICS FOR 1992 HAVE BEEN RECOMPILED BASED ON THE NEW DEFINITION.

TABLE 2: CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS BY THE TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF LOADING

COUNTRY OF LOADING	3RD QUARTER 1993	% CHANGE OVER 3RD QUARTER 1992
	('000 TONNE)	
SINGAPORE	2,775	+52
JAPAN	2,252	+12
CHINA	2,000	+2
TAIWAN	1,900	+31
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	1,745	+15
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,202	-7
USA	1,178	+4
AUSTRALIA	923	+9
THAILAND	392	+40
INDONESIA	386	-57

NOTES: (I) CARGO DISCHARGED INCLUDES SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT.

(II) STARTING FROM 1993, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS HAVE BEEN REDEFINED AS ALL VESSELS OPERATING BEYOND THE RIVER TRADE LIMITS. IN CALCULATING THE YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES, STATISTICS FOR 1992 HAVE BEEN RECOMPILED BASED ON THE NEW DEFINITION.

TABLE 3: CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS
BY THE TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE

COUNTRY OF DISCHARGE	3RD QUARTER 1993	% CHANGE OVER 3RD QUARTER 1992
	('000 TONNE)	
USA	1,683	+11
CHINA	1,385	+54
TAIWAN	700	+12
SINGAPORE	315	+1
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY	308	+8
JAPAN	306	-4
NETHERLANDS	295	+29
UNITED KINGDOM	225	+13
PHILIPPINES	202	+9
SPAIN	149	+32

NOTES: (I) CARGO LOADED INCLUDES SEABORNE EXPORTS AND SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT.

(II) STARTING FROM 1993, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS HAVE BEEN REDEFINED AS ALL VESSELS OPERATING BEYOND THE RIVER TRADE LIMITS. IN CALCULATING THE YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES, STATISTICS FOR 1992 HAVE BEEN RECOMPILED BASED ON THE NEW DEFINITION.

TABLE 4: CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS
BY THE TOP 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES

COMMODITY GROUP	3RD QUARTER 1993	% CHANGE OVER 3RD QUARTER 1992
	('000 TONNE)	
PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	3,285	+23
COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES	3,013	-12
IRON AND STEEL	1,583	+74
ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS	1,280	+25
PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS	874	+23
MACHINERY	845	+14
OTHER MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	838	+57
CEMENT AND CEMENT CLINKER	694	+11
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	457	+9
STONE, SAND AND GRAVEL	441	+16

NOTES: (I) CARGO DISCHARGED INCLUDES SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT.

(II) STARTING FROM 1993, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS HAVE BEEN REDEFINED AS ALL VESSELS OPERATING BEYOND THE RIVER TRADE LIMITS. IN CALCULATING THE YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES, STATISTICS FOR 1992 HAVE BEEN RECOMPILED BASED ON THE NEW DEFINITION.

TABLE 5: CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS
BY THE TOP 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES

COMMODITY GROUP	3RD QUARTER 1993	% CHANGE OVER 3RD QUARTER 1992
	('000 TONNE)	
MACHINERY	785	+8
OTHER MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL	739	+22
OTHER MANUFACTURED ARTICLES	620	+20
TOYS	602	+10
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	510	+12
PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS	409	+175
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	396	+32
FOOTWEAR	288	+32
CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS	268	+26
OTHER CHEMICALS AND RELATED PRODUCTS	227	-1

NOTES: (I) CARGO LOADED INCLUDES SEABORNE EXPORTS AND SEABORNE
OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT.

(II) STARTING FROM 1993, OCEAN-GOING VESSELS HAVE BEEN
REDEFINED AS ALL VESSELS OPERATING BEYOND THE RIVER
TRADE LIMITS. IN CALCULATING THE YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGES,
STATISTICS FOR 1992 HAVE BEEN RECOMPILED BASED ON THE
NEW DEFINITION.

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BETTER HOSPITAL SERVICE AHEAD: FS

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THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE FOR RESIDENTS OF NEW TERRITORIES
NORTH AND THOSE NEARBY WILL BE GREATLY IMPROVED WHEN THE NORTH
DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN FANLING IS COMPLETED BY MID-1997, THE FINANCIAL
SECRETARY, SIR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE NORTH DISTRICT HOSPITAL GROUND BREAKING
CEREMONY, SIR HAMISH SAID UPON FULL COMMISSIONING, THE \$1.7 BILLION
HOSPITAL WOULD HAVE 618 BEDS OFFERING A FULL RANGE OF MEDICAL
FACILITIES.

THESE INCLUDE ACCIDENT AND EMERGENCY UNITS, A SPECIALIST OUT-
PATIENT CLINIC, A DAY PROCEDURE CENTRE AND TWO DAY HOSPITALS FOR
PSYCHIATRIC AND GERIATRIC PATIENTS.

/SIR HAMISH

SIR HAMISH SAID HONG KONG WAS UNDERGOING RAPID DEVELOPMENT WITH MANY OF THE NEW DEVELOPMENTS TAKING PLACE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

"THE POPULATION IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE BY 31 PER CENT BETWEEN NOW AND 2000.

"OUR DECISION TO BUILD THE NORTH DISTRICT HOSPITAL RECOGNISES THE GROWING DEMAND FOR HOSPITAL SERVICES IN THIS REGION," HE SAID.

SIR HAMISH SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CAREFULLY MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT.

"A STEERING COMMITTEE UNDER THE JOINT CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO OVERSEE PROGRESS OF THE PROJECT AND TO EXPEDITE ANY DECISIONS REQUIRED," HE SAID.

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IMPROVEMENT TO TUEN MUN ROAD

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS AUTHORISED A PROJECT TO IMPROVE TUEN MUN ROAD.

THE PROJECT INCLUDES WIDENING THE ROAD AT FOUR UPHILL SECTIONS OF THE TSUEN WAN-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY TO PROVIDE ONE ADDITIONAL LANE FOR SLOW MOVING HEAVY VEHICLES.

A FULL LANE-WIDTH HARD SHOULDER AND A VERGE FOR STREET LIGHTING, TRAFFIC SIGNS AND EMERGENCY TELEPHONES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED.

THE FOUR SECTIONS ARE AT SAM SHING HUI, SO KWUN WAT, TAI LAM AND TING KAU. TRAFFIC CONGESTION WAS ALREADY BEING EXPERIENCED IN THE MORNING RUSH HOURS AT THESE SECTIONS OF THE TSUEN WAN-BOUND CARRIAGEWAY.

THE SITUATION WOULD CONTINUE TO WORSEN UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF THE COUNTRY PARK SECTION OF ROUTE 3 IN LATE 1998. AS SUCH, THERE IS AN URGENT NEED TO IMPROVE TUEN MUN ROAD.

THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CLIMBING LANES WILL BRING THE CAPACITY OF THE UPHILL SECTIONS UP TO THE SAME CAPACITY AS THE LEVEL SECTIONS THUS INCREASING THE OVERALL CAPACITY OF THE ROAD BY 15 PER CENT.

THE PROJECT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED UNDER A "DESIGN AND BUILD" CONTRACT SO THAT WORKS CAN START AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN LATE MAY AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN LATE 1996.

A NOTICE ABOUT THE AUTHORISATION OF THE PROJECT BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1994

- 14 -

FARE INCREASE FOR TRAM SERVICES
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT FARE FOR TRAM SERVICES WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$1 TO \$1.20 PER SINGLE JOURNEY STARTING THIS SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 6).

CONCESSIONARY HALF FARE WILL BE GIVEN TO PERSONS OF 65 YEARS OR MORE.

MONTHLY TICKETS WILL BE CHARGED AT \$100.

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NEW HK OFFICE PREMISES IN BRUSSELS OPEN
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THE NEW PREMISES OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN BRUSSELS WERE OFFICIALLY OPENED ON FEBRUARY 3 (THURSDAY, BRUSSELS TIME).

THE CONTINUED EXPANSION OF THE OFFICE OVER THE YEARS HAD GIVEN RISE TO THE NEED FOR MORE SPACIOUS OFFICE ACCOMMODATION.

THE COST OF ACQUIRING THE PREMISES WAS ABOUT HK\$9.9 MILLION.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, OFFICIATED AT ITS OPENING CEREMONY.

HE SAID THE PURCHASE OF THE NEW PREMISES WAS A CLEAR MANIFESTATION OF THE IMPORTANCE HONG KONG ATTACHED TO ITS ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN BRUSSELS, THE CAPITAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ITS ECONOMIC AND TRADE LINKS WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION.

HONG KONG WAS ALSO OF GROWING IMPORTANCE TO THE EUROPEAN UNION AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA, HE SAID.

"I AM SURE THAT AS EUROPE JOINS THE REST OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD TO TAP THE RICH OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRADE AND INVESTMENT PRESENTED BY CHINA, OUR IMPORTANCE TO THE EUROPEAN UNION AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA, AS A SOURCE OF EXPERTISE FOR DOING BUSINESS WITH CHINA AND AS A BUSINESS SERVICES CENTRE FOR TRADING AND INVESTING IN CHINA, WILL BECOME EVEN MORE PROMINENT," HE SAID.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1994

- 15 -

THREE GOVT LOTS FOR AUCTION
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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE AT A PUBLIC AUCTION ON MARCH 1 (TUESDAY).

THE AUCTION WILL START AT 2.30 PM IN THE CONCERT HALL OF THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI.

THE FIRST LOT LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF FARM ROAD AND MA TAU WAI ROAD, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 7,059 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL, CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE AND DAY NURSERY USE.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 22,500 SQUARE METRES BEFORE MARCH 31, 1998.

THE SECOND LOT, SITUATED AT AREA 4C, TUEN MUN, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 7,877 SQUARE METRES FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL USE.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 15,600 SQUARE METRES BEFORE MARCH 31, 1998.

THE THIRD LOT, AT AREA 7, TAI PO, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 18,490 SQUARE METRES, ALSO FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL USE.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 26,626 SQUARE METRES BEFORE MARCH 31, 1998.

FULL PARTICULARS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD; AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

SALE PLANS ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION IN THE OFFICES.

CONDITIONS OF SALE WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES OF SHA TIN, TUEN MUN, YUEN LONG, TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING, TAI PO, NORTH, SAI KUNG AND ISLANDS.

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GOOD OPPORTUNITIES FOR GOVT APPRENTICES

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WITH MANY MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS EITHER UNDER WAY OR STARTING IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, THERE ARE A LOT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR TECHNICAL STAFF IN HONG KONG, THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR HU MAN-SHIU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

OFFICIATING AT A GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR GOVERNMENT CRAFT APPRENTICES, MR HU SAID HONG KONG'S RAPID INTEGRATION INTO THE ECONOMY OF CHINA HAD ALSO CREATED A STRONG DEMAND FOR TRAINED TECHNICAL PERSONNEL.

GRADUATING TODAY ARE 47 CRAFT APPRENTICES WHO HAVE ACQUIRED A PARTICULAR SKILL AND ARE PROFICIENT IN THEIR OWN TRADE.

MR HU SAID THEY WOULD FORMALLY BECOME PART OF HONG KONG'S MOST VALUABLE ASSET - AN INDUSTRIOUS, INTELLIGENT AND INNOVATIVE WORK FORCE - AND WOULD HELP TO BUILD A BETTER HONG KONG.

HE ENCOURAGED THEM TO CONTINUE LOOKING FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO BROADEN THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND TO KEEP UP WITH THE ADVANCEMENT OF TECHNOLOGIES IN THEIR FIELDS.

"YOU WILL FIND IT REWARDING IN YOUR FUTURE CAREER," MR HU SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT A NUMBER OF PAST GRADUATES HAD PROGRESSED TO HIGH POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTION TO ALL OF YOU HERE AS LONG AS KEENNESS AND UNFAILING EFFORT ARE MAINTAINED," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT CRAFT APPRENTICES TRAINING SCHEME IS RUN BY THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

IT HAS A HISTORY OF MORE THAN 20 YEARS WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF PROVIDING TRAINED CRAFTSMEN AND TECHNICIANS FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE AS WELL AS TO MEET THE EVER-INCREASING DEMAND OF THE INDUSTRIES AT LARGE IN HONG KONG.

SELECTED CANDIDATES UNDERGO A FOUR-YEAR TRAINING COURSE WHICH COMBINES AN APPROPRIATE MEASURE OF ACADEMIC LEARNING WITH PRACTICAL TRAINING.

THE PRESENT ANNUAL RECRUITMENT FIGURE FOR CRAFT APPRENTICES IS 100 THROUGH TWO INTAKES AT A SIX-MONTH INTERVAL. AT PRESENT, 308 CRAFT APPRENTICES ARE RECEIVING TRAINING UNDER THE SCHEME.

"SINCE THE SCHEME WAS LAUNCHED IN 1969, MORE THAN 2,000 CRAFTSMEN HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THEIR TRAINING AND ARE MAKING A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION IN MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE DIVERSIFIED ENGINEERING INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG," MR HU SAID.

PARK FACILITIES FOR NT RESIDENTS

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S NEW TERRITORIES NORTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IS INVITING TENDERS FOR BUILDING RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE FACILITIES IN THE TIN SHUI WAI PARK.

SEVEN TENNIS COURTS, TWO BASKETBALL CUM VOLLEY BALL COURTS, PERGOLAS AND SITTING AREAS WILL BE BUILT AT THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE PARK.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN MAY FOR COMPLETION IN ABOUT 13 MONTHS.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE PROJECT'S SUPERVISOR, EBC HASSELL LIMITED, 18TH FLOOR, PHOENIX TOWER, 8 CANAL ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

THE TENDER CLOSING DATE IS NOON ON MARCH 4.

MEANWHILE, THE OFFICE IS INVITING TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR OPEN SPACES IN AREA 7 OF SHEUNG SHUI/FANLING NEW TOWN.

THE OPEN SPACES WILL BE BUILT AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- * A 0.54-HECTARE SITE AT THE JUNCTION OF LUNG SUM AVENUE AND JOCKEY CLUB ROAD;
- * AN L-SHAPED AREA OF 0.25 HECTARE FRONTING ROAD 7/2 AND JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, AND ADJOINING A PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME ESTATE;
- * TWO SITES OF 0.14 HECTARE AND 0.68 HECTARE NEXT TO THE FUTURE REGIONAL COUNCIL COMPLEX.

EACH OPEN SPACE WILL EMBODY OPEN SQUARE, SITTING-OUT AREAS, WATER CASCADE, ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES AND EXTENSIVE LANDSCAPING AREAS.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL FOR COMPLETION IN 12 MONTHS.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM URBIS TRAVERS MORGAN LIMITED, FIRST FLOOR, LOK MOON COMMERCIAL CENTRE, 29 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

THE TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON FEBRUARY 25.

ONLY CONTRACTORS ON THE APPROVED CONTRACTORS FOR PUBLIC WORKS LIST I GROUP B OR C FOR BUILDING WORKS ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT TENDERS FOR THE TWO PROJECTS.

NOTICES OF THE TENDER INVITATIONS WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1994

- 18 -

SIU SAI WAN TO GET NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SECONDARY SCHOOL IN SIU SAI WAN.

THE NEW SCHOOL WILL BE USED FOR THE PARTIAL REPROVISIONING OF LINGNAN SECONDARY SCHOOL.

ACCORDING TO GOVERNMENT STANDARD DESIGN, THE SCHOOL WILL HAVE A MAIN TEACHING BLOCK, A BLOCK OF SPECIAL ROOMS, AN ASSEMBLY HALL, SEPARATE ANCILLARY BUILDINGS AND STAFF QUARTERS.

THE MAIN TEACHING BLOCK WILL CONTAIN 26 CLASSROOMS, A LIBRARY, A COMPUTER ROOM, STAFF ROOMS, ADMINISTRATION OFFICES AND CHANGING ROOMS.

THE BLOCK OF SPECIAL ROOMS WILL HOUSE FACILITIES FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNICAL SUBJECTS.

THE SCHOOL WILL ALSO HAVE A BASKETBALL COURT, A COVERED PLAY AREA, A CAR PARK AND A PLANTING AREA.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START IN APRIL FOR COMPLETION IN AUGUST NEXT YEAR.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON MARCH 4.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT ON THE 34TH FLOOR OF THE QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

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EXTENSION OF WAI MAN ROAD PROPOSED

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS PLANNING TO EXTEND WAI MAN ROAD IN SAI KUNG TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO A PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL IN THE DISTRICT.

THE PROJECT INVOLVES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 220-METRE-LONG, 7.3-METRE-WIDE ACCESS ROAD AND A 2.75-METRE-WIDE FOOTPATH.

IT ALSO INCLUDES BUILDING A 150-METRE-LONG, 2.75-METRE-WIDE FOOTPATH LINKING WAI MAN ROAD AND THE PROMENADE.

THE WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER FOR COMPLETION IN EIGHT MONTHS.

A NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED ROADWORKS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

/THE PLAN

THE PLAN AND SCHEME SHOWING THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE SEEN DURING OFFICE HOURS AT:

- * THE PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE OF THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL; AND
- * THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG; AND
- * SAI KUNG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, THIRD FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG.

ANY PERSON WISHING TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSALS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, NO LATER THAN APRIL 5, DESCRIBING HIS INTEREST AND MANNER IN WHICH HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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PREQUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS INVITED FOR SEWAGE TUNNEL WORKS

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING PREQUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS FOR TWO WORKS CONTRACTS UNDER THE STAGE I OF THE STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME.

THE FIRST CONTRACT COMPRISES CONSTRUCTION OF TWO SEWAGE TUNNELS, TWO DEEP DROP SHAFTS, AND COMPLETION OF THREE DEEP PRODUCTION SHAFTS IN CHAI WAN, SHAU KEI WAN, TSEUNG KWAN O AND KWUN TONG.

THE SECOND CONTRACT COMPRISES CONSTRUCTION OF FOUR SEWAGE TUNNELS, THREE DEEP DROP SHAFTS, A PUMPING STATION INTERNAL STRUCTURE AND COMPLETION OF FOUR DEEP PRODUCTION DRAFTS IN KWAI CHUNG, TSING YI, STONECUTTERS ISLAND, KOWLOON AND KWUN TONG.

THE TOTAL LENGTH OF THE TUNNELS UNDER THE FIRST CONTRACT IS ABOUT 10,335 METRES WHILE THAT OF THE SECOND CONTRACT TUNNELS IS 13,425 METRES.

A NOTICE INVITING PREQUALIFICATION SUBMISSIONS WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ONLY CONTRACTORS WITH EXPERIENCE OF TBM TUNNELLING IN HARD ROCK AND CONSTRUCTING SHAFTS DEEPER THAN 100 METRES ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS FROM THE PROJECT'S CONSULTANT, MONTGOMERY WATSON HONG KONG LIMITED, 1911 WINDSOR HOUSE, 311 GLOUCESTER ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PREQUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS IS NOON ON MARCH 18.

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TWO KOWLOON MINIBUS ROUTES RAISE FARES

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 6), THE FARES OF KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES 3 AND 8 WILL BE INCREASED AS FOLLOWS:

ROUTE 3 (TSIM SHA TSUI (HANKOW ROAD) TO TAI TUNG SUN CHUEN)

	NEW FARE	OLD FARE
	-----	-----
TSIM SHA TSUI (HANKOW ROAD) TO TAI TUNG SUN CHUEN	\$3 (FULL FARE)	\$2.80
RECLAMATION STREET/WATERLOO ROAD TO TAI TUNG SUN CHUEN/TSIM SHA TSUI (HANKOW ROAD)	\$2 (SECTION FARE)	\$1.70

ROUTE 8 (TSIM SHA TSUI (MIDDLE ROAD) TO HO MAN TIN ESTATE)

	NEW FARE	OLD FARE
	-----	-----
TSIM SHA TSUI (MIDDLE ROAD) TO HO MAN TIN ESTATE/CHUNG HAU STREET	\$3.50 (FULL FARE)	\$3.20
MA TAU WAI ROAD TO TSIM SHA TSUI (MIDDLE ROAD)/ HO MAN TIN ESTATE/CHUNG HAU STREET	\$2.30 (SECTION FARE)	\$2

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IMMIGRATION STAFF COMMENDED

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THE DIRECTOR OF IMMIGRATION, MR LAURENCE LEUNG MING-YIN, PRESENTED COMMENDATION CERTIFICATES TO 62 STAFF MEMBERS AT A CEREMONY HELD IN THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS THIS (FRIDAY) AFTERNOON.

MR LEUNG SAID THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT HAD EXPERIENCED AGAIN A VERY BUSY TIME IN THE PAST YEAR.

"THE DRAMATIC UPSURGE IN PASSENGER TRAFFIC AT CONTROL POINTS AND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BRITISH NATIONAL (OVERSEAS) (BN(O)) CONVERSION EXERCISE HAVE ADDED FURTHER STRAIN TO OUR ALREADY OVERSTRETCHED RESOURCES.

"DESPITE THE VERY HEAVY WORKLOAD, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAINTAIN A HIGH VIGILANCE OVER THE USE OF FORGED DOCUMENTS."

/LAST YEAR,

- 21 -

LAST YEAR, 2,347 FORGED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS WERE DETECTED.

MR LEUNG CONGRATULATED THE RECIPIENTS, STATING THAT DESPITE THE EVER-INCREASING WORKLOAD, THEY HAVE DEMONSTRATED A HIGH DEGREE OF PROFESSIONALISM AND EXEMPLARY DEVOTION TO THE SERVICE.

THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE HAS NOT ONLY ENHANCED THE TREMENDOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE SERVICE, BUT ALSO HELPED PROJECT A GOOD IMAGE OF THE DEPARTMENT, HE SAID.

THE INCREASING NUMBER OF ILLEGAL WORKERS HAD BEEN A MATTER OF CONCERN LAST YEAR.

AMONG THE STAFF RECEIVING COMMENDATION, MR HUEN SHU-SUM, ACTING CHIEF IMMIGRATION OFFICER, AND 13 OTHER OFFICERS OF THE OTHER INVESTIGATIONS SECTION WERE COMMENDED FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN AN OPERATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OF 111 ILLEGAL WORKERS.

APART FROM STEPPING UP CONTROL AT THE ENTRY POINT, THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO SEND INVESTIGATION TEAMS TO CONDUCT RAIDS ON SUSPECTED BLACKSPOTS.

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328 VIETNAMESE RETURN HOME

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A GROUP OF 328 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (FRIDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER A VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.

COMPRISING 96 MEN, 87 WOMEN, 78 BOYS AND 67 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 203RD BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BROUGHT TO 2,611 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAD RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 41,224 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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CLOSURE OF UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IN KOWLOON CITY SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT CAUSING DANGER TO OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE IS A METAL CAGE ON FLAT C, SECOND FLOOR OF LUEN HOP BUILDING IN 22 TSING ON STREET, KOWLOON CITY.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION APPLYING FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON MARCH 21, 1994 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (FRIDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1994

- 22 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	3,810
REVERSAL OF LAF	+190
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	4,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-100
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	3,900
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 126.6 *+0.1* 4.2.94

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/ HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.74	16 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.98	3.80
1 MONTH	2.88	19 MONTHS	2508	4.265	101.00	3.99
3 MONTHS	3.08	22 MONTHS	2511	4.15	100.02	4.18
6 MONTHS	3.20	33 MONTHS	3610	4.20	99.05	4.62
12 MONTHS	3.55	36 MONTHS	3701	4.60	99.88	4.70

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 22,732 MN

CLOSED 4 FEBRUARY 1994

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