



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1992

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AIRPORT FINANCING PROPOSAL SENSIBLE: FS

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID "A VERY SENSIBLE PROPOSAL" ON AIRPORT FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN PUT TO THE CHINESE IN THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE.

RESPONDING TO PRESS QUESTIONS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CITIBANK PLAZA, HE SAID: "WE ARE NOW WAITING FOR AN OFFICIAL RESPONSE."

"AND WHY AMONG OTHER THINGS THAT I SAY IT IS A SENSIBLE PROPOSAL I REALLY WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASISE AGAIN THAT IT INVOLVES TREATING THE LAND PREMIA CONCERNED AS ADDITIONAL REVENUE AND THERE IS CERTAINLY NO QUESTION OF THAT PACKAGE ADVERSELY AFFECTING OUR OTHER SPENDING, WHETHER ON SOCIAL WELFARE, ON EDUCATION, ON MEDICAL OR ANYTHING ELSE - IT IS QUITE SEPARATE - AND THAT IS A STRONG PLUS POINT IN THE PROPOSAL," HE SAID.

HE SAID AS THE AIRPORT PROJECT WOULD BENEFIT THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (SAR), SO PROPOSALS THAT MIGHT INVOLVE THE SAR CONTRIBUTING IN SOME WAY WOULD CERTAINLY NOT BE UNREASONABLE.

ON THE MATTER OF LAND SALES, HE SAID: "IN FACT, OUR PRESENT PROPOSAL INVOLVES TREATING THE LAND SALES AS ADDITIONAL TO THE NORMAL LAND SALES PROGRAMME."

"SO ACTUALLY THE REVENUE IS ADDITIONAL ENTIRELY, WHETHER WE TREAT THE SAR PORTION OR OUR PORTION."

ASKED ABOUT WHETHER HONG KONG WAS PREPARING FOR "A ROCKY TIME" IN THE LIGHT OF ISSUES OF THE MOST FAVOURED NATION, SECTION 301 AND THE GOVERNOR'S FORTHCOMING SPEECH, MR MACLEOD SAID HONG KONG HAD BEEN THROUGH MANY SUCH CHALLENGES IN THE PAST.

"IT IS TRUE THAT WE HAVE U.S.-CHINA TRADE RELATIONS AS AN ISSUE. I AM AFRAID IT IS NOT A NEW ISSUE AS IT HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR SOME YEARS.

"WE HAVE THE U.S. ELECTIONS. WE HAVE CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG AND SO ON, BUT OUR STRENGTH IS THAT WE FACE THOSE CHALLENGES WITH AN ECONOMY IN EXTREMELY GOOD SHAPE," HE SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ACTION AGAINST CHINA WOULD AFFECT A LOT OF OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE REGION TOO.

"IT IS NOW PRETTY WELL TAKEN BY MOST PEOPLE. IT HAS BEEN WELL PUT OVER BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND OURSELVES IN THE U.S. AND IT HAS DEFINITELY HAD SOME EFFECT," HE SAID.

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GOVT TO REVIEW LPG LORRY PARKING REQUIREMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO SEEK THE ADVICE OF THE GAS SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ADEQUACY OF THE REQUIREMENT THAT AN LPG CYLINDER LORRY SHOULD NOT BE PARKED UNATTENDED WITHIN 15 METRES OF A BUILT-UP AREA.

STATING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ELIZABETH BOSHER, SAID WHILE THE EXISTING REQUIREMENT FOLLOWED INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE, IT WOULD BE REVIEWED IN THE LIGHT OF THE RECENT EXPLOSION AT TUEN MUN AND LOCAL CONDITIONS TO SEE WHETHER THERE WAS A NEED FOR CHANGE.

AT PRESENT, IT IS ILLEGAL TO LEAVE AN LPG CYLINDER WAGON PARKED UNATTENDED WITHIN 15 METRES OF A BUILT-UP AREA AS STIPULATED UNDER PERMIT CONDITION NO. 5(B) OF REGULATION 28 OF GAS SAFETY (GAS SUPPLY) REGULATIONS.

IT IS ALSO AN OFFENCE TO LEAVE CATEGORY 5 DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES UNATTENDED AS STIPULATED UNDER FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT LICENCE CONDITION NO. 9 OF SECTION 9(7) OF THE DANGEROUS GOODS ORDINANCE.

UNDER THE GAS SAFETY (GAS SUPPLY) REGULATIONS, THE OWNER OF A CYLINDER WAGON SHALL ENSURE THAT NOT LESS THAN TWO PERSONS WHO ARE TRAINED BY REGISTERED GAS SUPPLIERS ARE EMPLOYED ON THE WAGON AT ALL TIMES WHEN THE WAGON IS CARRYING CYLINDERS EN ROUTE AND WHEN THE CYLINDERS ARE BEING LOADED OR UNLOADED.

MRS BOSHER SAID OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS THE GAS AUTHORITY AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR DANGEROUS GOODS LEGISLATION WOULD BE MEETING TO REVIEW THE ADEQUACY OF ENFORCEMENT AGAINST UNATTENDED VEHICLES CARRYING SUCH GOODS AND THE QUESTION OF OVERNIGHT PARKING FACILITIES FOR DANGEROUS GOODS VEHICLES.

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STI COMMENTS ON MFN VOTE

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THE ACTING SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MISS DENISE YUE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT IT CAME AS NO SURPRISE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OVERRODE THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO OF THE MOST FAVOURED NATION (MFN) CONDITIONALITY BILL BY MORE THAN A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY.

"THE HOUSE VOTE IS EXPECTED. WE REMAIN CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC THAT THE PRESIDENT'S VETO WILL BE SUSTAINED IN THE SENATE," MISS YUE SAID.

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"THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAVE CLEARLY EXPLAINED HONG KONG'S CONCERNS TO CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS AND THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION.

"WE SHALL CONTINUE TO DO SO TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG'S INTERESTS WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT," SHE ADDED.

THE BILL SEEKS TO PLACE CONDITIONS ON RENEWAL OF CHINA'S MFN TRADING STATUS IN 1993 AND WAS VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 28).

BY A VOTE OF 345 TO 74, THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OVERRODE THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1992.

UNDER U.S. LEGISLATION, A TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE IS REQUIRED IN BOTH THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE TO OVERRIDE A PRESIDENTIAL VETO.

THE SENATE WILL ATTEMPT TO OVERRIDE THE PRESIDENTIAL VETO ON OCTOBER 1.

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#### BANKING SECTOR HELPS CURB PROPERTY SPECULATIONS

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THE GENERAL ADOPTION BY THE BANKING SECTOR OF A 70 PER CENT LOAN-TO-VALUE RATIO HAS HAD A CALMING EFFECT ON THE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MARKET, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO THE BANKING SECTOR IN HONG KONG FOR ACTING PRUDENTLY AND RESPONSIBLY IN TAKING STEPS TO TIGHTEN THEIR CRITERIA FOR RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LENDING.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF HONG KONG NEW HEADQUARTERS OF CITIBANK, MR MACLEOD SAID CONTINUED CAUTION ON THE PART OF THE BANKING SECTOR WAS LIKELY TO BE IMPORTANT.

HE NOTED THAT THE CURRENT DIFFICULTIES OF BANKS ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD WAS AN ELOQUENT TESTIMONY TO THE RISKS OF OVER-AMBITIOUS PROPERTY LENDING.

"WE RECOGNISE THAT IF SUPERVISORY RULES ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE, THEY MUST BE ACCEPTED AS FAIR AND REASONABLE BY THOSE TO WHOM THEY WILL APPLY.

"WE ARE VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO PROTECT THE NON-PROFESSIONAL INVESTORS IN OUR MARKETS. OUR AIM IS TO HAVE A LEVEL-PLAYING FIELD FOR ALL, BUT WE ALWAYS MAKE IT A POINT TO LISTEN TO THE VIEWS OF THOSE WHO WILL BE AFFECTED BY CHANGES TO OUR REGIME.

/"THAT IS .....

"THAT IS WHY CONSULTATION ON ENHANCEMENTS TO THE SUPERVISORY FRAMEWORK WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR SUPERVISORY APPROACH," MR MACLEOD SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG HAD ONE OF THE GREATEST CONCENTRATIONS OF FOREIGN BANKS IN ASIA-PACIFIC.

"OF THE WORLD'S TOP 100 BANKS IN TERMS OF ASSETS, 83 ARE ALREADY HERE. AND A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF FOREIGN BANKS HAVE THEIR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS BASED IN HONG KONG.

"WE ARE NOW A MAJOR CAPITAL EXPORTING CENTRE IN ASIA. OVER 60 PER CENT OF THE LOCAL BANKING SECTOR'S AGGREGATE ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ARE EXTERNAL, INVOLVING TRANSACTIONS WITH SOME 130 COUNTRIES.

"WE HAVE ESTABLISHED OURSELVES AS AN INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR LOAN SYNDICATION. AMONGST THE TOTAL SYNDICATED LOANS ARRANGED FOR ASIAN BORROWERS IN THE FAR EAST LAST YEAR, HONG KONG ENTITIES RANKED ONLY AFTER JAPAN.

"INDEED, OVER 90 PER CENT OF CHINA'S EXTERNAL SYNDICATED LOANS LAST YEAR WERE BELIEVED TO BE ARRANGED HERE."

HE SAID THE OPENING OF THE CITIBANK PLAZA, THE NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR THE CITIBANK, REFLECTED NOT ONLY THE GROWTH OF THE BANK ITSELF BUT ALSO SYMBOLISED THE BANK'S CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO, AND CONFIDENCE IN, HONG KONG.

"IT IS ALSO SYMBOLIC OF THE THRIVING ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL LINKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES," HE SAID.

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#### GUIDELINES ON QUESTIONING OF SUSPECTS TAKE EFFECT

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A NEW SET OF GUIDELINES FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO FOLLOW WHEN QUESTIONING SUSPECTS AND TAKING STATEMENTS CAME INTO EFFECT TODAY (THURSDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION HAD UNDERGONE TRAINING IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS TO ENSURE THAT THEY UNDERSTOOD AND WOULD FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES.

THE GUIDELINES ARE KNOWN AS "RULES AND DIRECTIONS FOR THE QUESTIONING OF SUSPECTS AND THE TAKING OF STATEMENTS".

"THE PRIMARY AIM OF SUCH RULES AND DIRECTIONS WAS TO ENSURE THAT WRITTEN STATEMENTS AND ORAL ANSWERS OBTAINED FROM SUSPECTS ARE VOLUNTARILY GIVEN AND ADMISSIBLE IN EVIDENCE," HE SAID.

THE RULES AND DIRECTIONS ARE BASED ON THE 1964 ENGLISH JUDGES' RULES BUT SOMEWHAT MODIFIED TO SUIT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HONG KONG.

THEY WERE RECOMMENDED BY A WORKING PARTY APPOINTED BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE IN 1988 TO EXAMINE WHETHER THE 1964 ENGLISH JUDGES' RULES SHOULD BE INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG.

THE WORKING PARTY COMPRISED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE JUDICIARY, THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT IN PRACTICE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS HAD BEEN FOLLOWING PREVIOUS VERSIONS OF THE ENGLISH JUDGES' RULES.

THE NEW RULES AND DIRECTIONS WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW.

THEY SERVED AS A GUIDE TO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS BY UPDATING THE PROCEDURES IN QUESTIONING SUSPECTS AND IN TAKING STATEMENTS TO ADAPT TO THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HONG KONG.

THE RULES AND DIRECTIONS ALSO STIPULATE IN GREATER DETAIL THE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THESE RULES AND DIRECTIONS, AND THE RIGHTS AND FACILITIES AVAILABLE TO PERSONS WHEN THEY ARE QUESTIONED OR WHEN THEY MAKE STATEMENTS.

THEY STIPULATE THAT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ARE ENTITLED TO QUESTION OR OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM ANY PERSON IN RELATION TO AN OFFENCE.

IF HE HAS EVIDENCE TO SUSPECT THAT THE PERSON HAS COMMITTED AN OFFENCE, HE SHOULD CAUTION THAT PERSON BEFORE PUTTING ANY QUESTIONS TO HIM THAT HE IS NOT OBLIGED TO SAY ANYTHING UNLESS HE WISHES TO DO SO BUT WHAT HE SAYS WILL BE TAKEN DOWN IN WRITING AND MAY BE GIVEN IN EVIDENCE.

THE OFFICER SHOULD ALSO MAKE AN ACCURATE RECORD OF THE INTERVIEW WITH A SUSPECT OR THE STATEMENT MADE BY A PERSON.

THE OFFICER SHOULD GIVE A SUSPECT AN OPPORTUNITY TO READ THE RECORD AND TO MAKE CORRECTIONS, ALTERATIONS, OR ADDITIONS.

THE RULES AND DIRECTIONS ALSO STIPULATE THE FACILITIES THAT SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PERSONS IN CUSTODY OR UNDER INVESTIGATION AND THAT THEY SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THEIR RIGHTS AND SUCH FACILITIES.

"THEY MAY SPEAK ON THE TELEPHONE TO THEIR FRIENDS OR COMMUNICATE PRIVATELY, WHETHER IN PERSON OR ON THE TELEPHONE, WITH BARRISTERS OR SOLICITORS, PROVIDED THAT THERE IS NO UNREASONABLE DELAY OR HINDRANCE TO THE PROCESSES OF INVESTIGATION OR TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE STATEMENT OR RECORD OF INTERVIEW SHOULD BE RECORDED IN THE LANGUAGE USED BY THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT OR ANSWERING THE QUESTIONS. THE PERSON SHOULD BE ENTITLED A COPY OF THE STATEMENT OR RECORD OF THE INTERVIEW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," HE ADDED.

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ANOTHER MAJOR FEATURE OF THE RULES AND DIRECTIONS IS THE GUIDELINE ON INTERROGATING AND ARRESTING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 16 SHOULD ONLY BE INTERVIEWED IN THE PRESENCE OF A PARENT OR A GUARDIAN, OR IN THEIR ABSENCE, A PERSON OTHER THAN A POLICE OFFICER AND WHO IS OF THE SAME SEX AS THE CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON."

"A CHILD OR YOUNG PERSON SHOULD NOT BE ARRESTED, OR EVEN INTERVIEWED, AT SCHOOL IF SUCH ACTION CAN POSSIBLY BE AVOIDED.

"WHERE IT IS FOUND ESSENTIAL TO CONDUCT THE INTERVIEW AT SCHOOL, THIS SHOULD BE DONE ONLY WITH THE CONSENT, AND IN THE PRESENCE, OF THE HEAD TEACHER OR HIS NOMINEE," HE ADDED.

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#### STATEMENT OF AIMS FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION

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THE EDUCATION COMMISSION TODAY (THURSDAY) ISSUED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION A DOCUMENT ENTITLED "SCHOOL EDUCATION IN HONG KONG: A STATEMENT OF AIMS".

THE DOCUMENT ARISES FROM A PROPOSAL IN THE COMMISSION'S FOURTH REPORT PUBLISHED IN NOVEMBER 1990 THAT THE BASIC AIMS OF EDUCATION AT ALL LEVELS SHOULD BE LAID DOWN AND KEPT UNDER REVIEW.

THE COMMISSION HAS CONCENTRATED FIRST ON FORMALISING THE AIMS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLING, SINCE THESE ARE THE CORE OF THE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

"IN ESSENCE, THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF AIMS SETS OUT BRIEFLY, BUT IN A FORMAL AND COHERENT MANNER, WHAT OUR EDUCATION POLICIES AND OUR SCHOOLS ARE ALREADY TRYING TO ACHIEVE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COMMISSION SAID.

"UP TILL NOW, THE AIMS OF SCHOOL EDUCATION HAVE EITHER BEEN STATED PIECEMEAL IN A NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS, OR HAVE BEEN LEFT UNSTATED."

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE DRAFT STATEMENT OF AIMS WAS TO GIVE THE COMMUNITY AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS, AND TO REACH BROAD AGREEMENT ON, THE AIMS OF SCHOOL EDUCATION; AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATORS WITH A USEFUL FRAMEWORK FOR PLANNING, CONDUCTING AND EVALUATING THEIR EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

"WE ARE ALREADY IMPLEMENTING VARIOUS MEASURES, SUCH AS TARGET-RELATED ASSESSMENTS AND THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE, TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AS WELL AS TO ENHANCE THE ABILITY OF SCHOOLS TO ACCOUNT TO PARENTS AND THE PUBLIC FOR THE QUALITY OF THEIR SERVICES," HE SAID.

/"AN AGREED .....

"AN AGREED STATEMENT OF AIMS WILL BE A HELPFUL ADDITION TO THESE MEASURES."

THE DOCUMENT COMPRISES SEVEN UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES, A SET OF 15 AIMS, AN EXPLANATION OF HOW THE STATEMENT OF AIMS WILL AFFECT THE PLANNING AND DELIVERY OF SCHOOL EDUCATION, AND A NUMBER OF EVALUATIVE QUESTIONS.

EACH OF THE AIMS AND THE UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES IS ACCOMPANIED BY A SHORT EXPLANATION OF WHY IT WAS SELECTED.

"IN THIS WAY," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED, "THE COMMISSION HOPES THAT THE STATEMENT CAN GAIN BROAD ACCEPTANCE IN THE COMMUNITY.

"IT ALSO HOPES THAT, WHERE DIVERGENT VIEWS ARE PUT FORWARD, THEY TOO WILL BE BASED ON CLEARLY STATED PRINCIPLES."

DURING THE SIX-WEEK CONSULTATION PERIOD, WHICH RUNS UNTIL NOVEMBER 16, THE COMMISSION HOPES TO RECEIVE COMMENTS FROM PARENTS, EMPLOYERS, EDUCATORS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

COPIES HAVE BEEN SENT TO ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE MAIN EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN OBTAIN COPIES FROM DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AS WELL AS DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICES.

FOLLOWING PUBLIC CONSULTATION, THE COMMISSION WILL ANALYSE RESPONSES AND PROPOSE CHANGES WHERE APPROPRIATE.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL THEN PUBLISH THE STATEMENT OF AIMS AS AN OFFICIAL POLICY DOCUMENT.

COMMENTS IN WRITING SHOULD BE SENT EITHER BY POST TO THE SECRETARY, EDUCATION COMMISSION, 12TH FLOOR, WEST WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG OR BY FACSIMILE (NO. 868 5916) BEFORE NOVEMBER 16.

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#### IMPORTANCE OF MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE SLOPES STRESSED

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THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER, DR ANDREW MALONE, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE GOVERNMENT ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE PROPER MAINTENANCE OF SLOPES BY THEIR OWNERS.

A PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN IS BEING LAUNCHED TO REMIND OWNERS OF THE NEED FOR REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF THEIR SLOPES.

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE Y'S MEN'S CLUB OF HONG KONG, MR MALONE, HEAD OF THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING OFFICE (GEO) OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, SAID A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORY FACTOR TO LANDSLIDES WAS THE LACK OF PROPER MAINTENANCE BY SLOPE OWNERS.

UNFORTUNATELY THIS HAD NOT BEEN WIDELY APPRECIATED, HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT CUT SLOPES AND RETAINING WALLS NEXT TO PRIVATE PREMISES WERE NOT PART OF NATURAL HILLSIDES OR GOVERNMENT LAND, BUT PRIVATE PROPERTY.

"WE SHOULD NOT ASK THE TAXPAYERS TO FOOT THE BILL FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY."

URGING OWNERS TO CONDUCT INSPECTIONS AND CARRY OUT MAINTENANCE ON SLOPES, DR MALONE SAID MOST SLOPE FAILURES WERE TRIGGERED BY HEAVY RAINFALL.

DRAINS GET BLOCKED AND MUST BE KEPT CLEAR. SURFACING MATERIALS LIKE CONCRETE OR PLASTER OFTEN CRACK.

"CRACKS MUST BE SEALED. CLEANING OF DRAINS AND SEALING OF CRACKS MUST BE DONE ANNUALLY BEFORE THE WET SEASON STARTS," HE SAID.

MR MALONE NOTED THAT IF AN OWNER FAILED TO MAINTAIN THE SLOPE, IT WOULD DETERIORATE AND MIGHT BECOME LIABLE TO COLLAPSE AND CAUSE DANGER.

IF THIS HAPPENS, THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS EMPOWERED TO ORDER THE OWNER TO RECTIFY THE SLOPE. IF HE DEFAULTS, THE WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY HIRED SERVICES AND THE OWNER WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE BILL.

MORE THAN 350 STATUTORY ORDERS REQUIRING OWNERS TO INVESTIGATE AND REPAIR SUB-STANDARD SLOPES HAVE BEEN SERVED FOLLOWING STUDIES.

"ALMOST ALL PRIVATE OWNERS ACT RESPONSIBLY WHEN RECEIVING SUCH A NOTICE," DR MALONE SAID.

A LEAFLET ENTITLED "KEEP YOUR SLOPES SAFE" HAS BEEN PRODUCED BY GEO. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND ARE BEING SENT TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES AND PROPERTY COMPANIES.

DR MALONE SAID OWNERS COULD NOW FIND OUT THE STATUS OF THEIR SLOPES FROM THE CATALOGUE OF SLOPES KEPT BY GEO.

THEY CAN CHECK WHETHER SLOPES HAVE BEEN STUDIED AND THE OUTCOME OF THE STUDY. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO USE THE PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE.

ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE 10,000 SLOPES LISTED IN THE CATALOGUE ARE PRIVATELY OWNED AND ARE SUBJECT TO SAFETY CHECKS ALONG WITH GOVERNMENT OWNED SLOPES.

GEOTECHNICAL STUDIES HAVE BEEN COMPLETED ON ABOUT 5,000 SLOPES. ONE OUT OF FIVE NEEDS TREATMENT TO UPGRADE THE SAFETY STANDARD.

THE UPGRADING WORKS ARE CARRIED OUT IN PRIORITY ACCORDING TO THE RISK LEVEL.

DR MALONE SAID PROBABLY IT WOULD TAKE FIVE YEARS TO COMPLETE THE STUDIES ON THE REMAINING SLOPES.

THE GOVERNMENT SPENDS ABOUT \$40 MILLION EACH YEAR ON SLOPE MAINTENANCE. WHILE GEO ITSELF DOES NOT MAINTAIN SLOPES, THE JOB IS DONE BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS SUCH AS HIGHWAYS, ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES AND HOUSING DEPARTMENTS.

AS FOR NEW SLOPE WORKS, GEO CHECKS THE GEOTECHNICAL ASPECTS OF SLOPE DESIGNS AND STANDARD OF CONTROL OF EARTHWORK ON THE SITE.

"GEOTECHNICAL STANDARDS ARE THE SAME FOR GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRIVATE WORK CHECKING IS STRICTLY CONTROLLED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE," DR MALONE SAID.

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#### HONG KONG BUILDING ON ECONOMIC TIES WITH CHINA

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HONG KONG IS EMERGING AS A COMPLEX REGIONAL BUSINESS HUB, OFFERING WIDE-RANGING CAPABILITIES, AND WITH CONNECTIONS REACHING ALL OVER THE WORLD, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, SAID IN TORONTO TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE DISCUSSED THE TERRITORY'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH THE PEARL RIVER DELTA OF CHINA DURING A BUSINESS SEMINAR ORGANISED BY HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL IN CANADA.

NOTING THAT HONG KONG WAS MORE THAN AN ENTREPOT IN THE RELATIONSHIP, HE SAID: "HONG KONG'S TRADERS ARE NOT SIMPLY FUNNELLING GOODS INTO AND OUT OF CHINA."

"THEY ARE ADDING VALUE TO RE-EXPORTS THROUGH A WIDE RANGE OF SUPPORT SERVICES, SUCH AS FINANCING, INSURANCE, ACCOUNTING AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

"THAT HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE STRONG GROWTH OF HONG KONG'S FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SECTORS IN RECENT YEARS, AND TO ITS GROWING ROLE AS AN ENTREPOT FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AS A WHOLE," HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE PEARL RIVER DELTA COMBINED THE MARKETING AND MANAGEMENT EXPERTISE OF HONG KONG WITH THE LOW-COST MANUFACTURING FACILITIES OF THE PROVINCE.

"THE RESULT HAS BEEN A CHANGE IN THE EMPHASIS OF MANUFACTURING IN HONG KONG.

"THE FOCUS IS INCREASINGLY ON HIGHER-TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTION, AND ON THE CONTROL, SUPPORT AND SERVICING OF OPERATIONS IN CHINA AND INDEED ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION."

BY MANAGING THE RELATIONSHIP SKILFULLY, HONG KONG HAD FOUND A WAY TO REDUCE PRODUCTION COSTS WITHOUT SACRIFICING QUALITY AND TURNAROUND TIME, HE SAID.

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MEANWHILE, THE DELTA GAINED IN TERMS OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, EDUCATION FOR ITS WORKERS AND AN ECONOMIC BOOM WITH INCREASED PROSPERITY FOR ALL.

PER CAPITA GDP IN THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE OF SHENZHEN STOOD AT US\$1,300 LAST YEAR - MORE THAN FOUR TIMES THAT FOR THE REST OF CHINA.

PER CAPITA GDP IN HONG KONG IS EXPECTED TO EXCEED US\$16,000 THIS YEAR, THE SECOND HIGHEST IN ASIA AFTER JAPAN.

LOOKING AHEAD, MR CHAU CONCEDED THAT THERE WAS ONE POTENTIAL CLOUD ON THE HORIZON: TRADE FRICTION BETWEEN CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES, HONG KONG'S SECOND LARGEST TRADE PARTNER.

HE HOPED THAT AN AMICABLE SETTLEMENT COULD BE REACHED.

"BUT THE FUNDAMENTAL DYNAMIC BEHIND HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH SOUTHERN CHINA IS HEALTHY: WELL-DEVELOPED ECONOMY GRAVITATING NORTHWARD IN SEARCH OF THE MORE ABUNDANT LAND AND LABOUR OF A LESS-DEVELOPED ECONOMY," HE SAID.

"LARGELY BECAUSE OF THE SUCCESS OF THE HONG KONG-PEARL RIVER DELTA RELATIONSHIP, BEIJING IS PURSUING NEW DIRECTIONS IN ECONOMIC REFORM WHICH GO BEYOND THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR," HE ADDED.

HONG KONG WAS PLAYING A PIONEERING ROLE IN PENETRATING THE LARGE CONSUMER MARKET IN CHINA AND WAS USING ITS CONNECTIONS IN THE PEARL RIVER DELTA TO BUILD ON ITS LEAD, MR CHAU NOTED.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT HONG KONG WAS A SEPARATE ECONOMIC ENTITY, AND THAT EVEN AFTER 1997 IT WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A SEPARATE CUSTOMS TERRITORY AND TO MAKE TRADE AND ECONOMIC DECISIONS ON ITS OWN.

"IT IS BY REMAINING AN AUTONOMOUS TRADING PARTNER AND ECONOMIC FORCE THAT HONG KONG CAN BEST RETAIN ITS DYNAMISM AND BUILD ON ITS CURRENT ROLE," HE SAID.

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CANADIANS UPDATED ON INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN HK

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ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT REASONS WHY HONG KONG HAS BEEN ABLE TO KEEP PACE WITH DRAMATIC LEVELS OF ECONOMIC AND POPULATION GROWTH IS ITS READINESS TO ENCOURAGE THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO PLAY AS LARGE A ROLE AS POSSIBLE IN THE FINANCING AND MANAGEMENT OF KEY INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, TODAY (THURSDAY) AT A BUSINESS SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL IN TORONTO, CANADA.

OUTLINING THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS AND VARIOUS ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE TERRITORY, SHE SAID: "HONG KONG'S PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - OR PADS AS IT IS USUALLY KNOWN - IS A BOLD STATEMENT OF OUR INTENTION TO MEET THE CHALLENGE OF CONTINUING ECONOMIC GROWTH."

"THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME COMPRISES 10 PROJECTS AT A TOTAL ESTIMATED COST OF ABOUT US\$20.5 BILLION. WE ARE COMMITTED TO COMPLETING AS MUCH OF THE WORKS AS POSSIBLE IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

"BUT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW AIRPORT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE IS NOT THE ONLY SHOW IN TOWN. OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, THESE PROJECTS WILL CONSTITUTE ONLY ABOUT 25 PER CENT OF TOTAL GOVERNMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURE," MRS CHAN SAID.

PORT EXPANSION WOULD CONTINUE WITH CONSULTANTS ALREADY COMMISSIONED TO ADVISE ON FURTHER PORT DEVELOPMENT ON LANTAU ISLAND, SHE SAID.

"THE STUDY EMBRACES NOT ONLY PROVISION FOR CONTAINER TERMINALS, BUT ALSO EXAMINES REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC CARGO WORKING AREAS, TYPHOON SHELTERS, SHIP REPAIR AND DOCKYARD FACILITIES, TOGETHER WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ESSENTIAL PORT SERVICES, SUCH AS TUGS AND PILOTS.

"ITS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IS TO PROVIDE HONG KONG WITH A COHERENT AND FLEXIBLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHICH WILL SATISFY ANTICIPATED PORT NEEDS FOR THE NEXT 15 TO 20 YEARS AND BEYOND," SHE EXPLAINED.

SHE NOTED THAT IN THE PIPELINE WERE MAJOR PROJECTS FOR WASTE DISPOSAL; A MAJOR PROGRAMME OF NEW CONSTRUCTION AND UPGRADING OF SEWAGE AND DRAINAGE SYSTEMS; FURTHER INVESTMENT IN NEW TOWNS; CONSTRUCTION, REDEVELOPMENT AND REPROVISIONING OF HOSPITALS AND OTHER COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

"AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE OUR AIM IN ALL AREAS OF OUR INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT WILL BE TO ENCOURAGE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION AS FAR AS POSSIBLE, BOTH IN THE FORM OF DIRECT INVESTMENT WHERE APPROPRIATE, AND THROUGH THE PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL AND OVERSEAS CONTRACTORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS."

"WE IN HONG KONG ARE PROUD OF THE FACT THAT OUR ECONOMY IS ONE OF THE MOST OPEN IN THE WORLD," SHE SAID.

"WHEN IT COMES TO TENDERING FOR MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT WE OPERATE A SYSTEM THAT IS TRANSPARENT, FAIR AND WITHOUT NATIONAL BIAS.

"OUR AIM IS TO GET THE BEST PRODUCT FOR THE BEST PRICE TO COMPLETE MAJOR PROJECTS ON TIME AND WITHIN THE ORIGINAL BUDGET," SHE STRESSED.

"IN THESE RESPECTS, I THINK OUR RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. FOR EXAMPLE, A REVIEW OF CONTRACTS AWARDED TO DATE FOR PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT WOULD REVEAL THAT THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS, MANY OF WHICH ARE MULTI-NATIONAL JOINT VENTURES, INCLUDE REPRESENTATION FROM HONG KONG, CHINA, UNITED KINGDOM, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES," SHE ADDED.

MRS CHAN SAID HONG KONG WELCOMED AN EXPANDING CANADIAN ROLE IN HONG KONG'S TASK OF BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE WITH A FIRM SENSE OF PURPOSE AND A COMMITMENT TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS.

HK'S BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES OUTLINED AT MONTREAL SEMINAR

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FESTIVAL HONG KONG '92 IN MONTREAL TURNED ITS ATTENTION TO BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAY WITH AN INTENSIVE ONE-DAY SEMINAR AND LUNCHEON FEATURING PROMINENT HONG KONG AND CANADIAN SPEAKERS.

DURING THE SEMINAR HELD AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY, THEY SHARED THEIR EXPERIENCES AND EXPERTISE IN THE WAYS OF DOING BUSINESS IN HONG KONG.

WELCOMING THE HONG KONG DELEGATION BEFORE AN AUDIENCE OF SOME 300 MEMBERS OF THE MONTREAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY, DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF QUEBEC, MONSIEUR PAUL-EMILE BLOUIN, EMPHASISED THE IMPORTANCE OF TRADE AND ECONOMIC LINKS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CANADA.

OPENING THE PROCEEDINGS FOR THE HONG KONG DELEGATES, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR JOHN CHAN, NOTED THAT HONG KONG AND CANADA HAD BEEN FRIENDS AND PARTNERS FOR MORE THAN 100 YEARS.

"THIS SEMINAR IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO TELL YOU HOW HONG KONG HAS FARED, WHAT OUR PLANS ARE FOR THE FUTURE AND WHAT OPPORTUNITIES WE HAVE TO OFFER OUR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS AS WE MOVE FORWARD IN OUR NEVER-ENDING EFFORT TO BUILD FOR OURSELVES A BETTER TOMORROW," MR CHAN SAID.

ANOTHER SPEAKER DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, DONALD TSANG, TALKED ABOUT THE TERRITORY'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH SOUTHERN CHINA.

THE CHAIRMEN OF INCHCAPE PACIFIC AND HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MR PAUL CHENG, SPOKE ON HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH CANADA.

THE SEMINAR WAS CO-ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG-CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION AND THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL.

SPEAKERS FROM CANADA WERE SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT QUEBEC REGION OF CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE, MR ROBERT PUNCT-RAYMOND; VICE-PRESIDENT SEAGRAM ASIA PACIIFC, MR JOEL BARAD; VICE-PRESIDENT MARKETING FOR CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE, MR ED GRANVOGL; AND MR KIM KEENAN OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC FOUNDATION.

PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG-CANADA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION, MR PAUL MAYER, GAVE THE CLOSING REMARKS.

AFTER THE SEMINAR, MR JOHN CHAN, MR DONALD TSANG AND MR PAUL CHENG WENT ON TO A TAPING OF A FOUR-PART SERIES ON HONG KONG.

THEY WERE JOINED BY MR ALLEN LEE AND EX-CANADIAN COMMISSIONER IN HONG KONG, MR MAURICE COPITHORNE.

THE FOUR PROGRAMMES WILL BE BROADCAST AS PART OF "THE WORLD IN REVIEW" SERIES VIA SATELLITE ON THE CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORP (CBC) NETWORK IN CANADA AND THE PUBLIC BROADCASTING SERVICE (PBS) NETWORK IN THE U.S. DURING THE FESTIVAL HK '92 PERIOD.

TOPICS COVERED A WIDE RANGE OF HONG KONG ISSUES, INCLUDING THE ECONOMY, LINKS WITH SOUTH CHINA, THE POLITICAL SCENE, EMIGRATION AND HONG KONG'S FUTURE AFTER 1997.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1992

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF CONSTRUCTION WASTES EXPLAINED

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) SAID THE DISRUPTION TO THE OPERATION OF THE TSEUNG KWAN O LANDFILL EARLIER IN THE DAY HAD AFFECTED MOST OF THE REFUSE COLLECTION SYSTEMS IN KOWLOON AND ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE DISRUPTION WAS CAUSED BY SOME LORRIES BLOCKING THE ENTRANCE TO AND EXIT FROM THE LANDFILL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW DISPOSAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION WASTES AT TSEUNG KWAN O AND SHUEN WAN LANDFILLS STARTED TODAY (THURSDAY) AND WAS BEING IMPLEMENTED SMOOTHLY UNTIL 11 AM.

AT THAT TIME, SEVERAL DRIVERS PURPOSELY BLOCKED THE ENTRANCE TO AND EXIT FROM THE LANDFILL.

THE DRIVERS REFUSED TO MOVE THEIR LORRIES DESPITE REQUESTS FROM THE SITE STAFF OF EPD, CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT (CED) AND THE POLICE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WERE WELL PUBLICISED IN THE PAST TWO WEEKS, ADDING THAT ALL LORRY DRIVERS SHOULD BE WELL AWARE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS.

ENQUIRIES MADE BY LORRY DRIVERS THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT'S HOTLINE HAVE BEEN FEW.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WERE AIMED AT BENEFICIALLY USING INERT CONSTRUCTION WASTES TO RECLAIM LAND AT PUBLIC DUMPS AND OVERCOMING THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF REFUSE LANDFILLS REACHING FULL CAPACITY.

IT WOULD BE NECESSARY FOR SOME CONSTRUCTION WASTES TO BE SORTED ON CONSTRUCTION SITES TO SEPARATE THEM FROM THE INERT MATERIALS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE STANDARDS OF MATERIALS ACCEPTED AT PUBLIC DUMPS HAD BEEN RELAXED, THUS REDUCING THE NEED TO SORT THE WASTES.

DURING A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LORRY DRIVERS ON THE SITE, STAFF OF EPD AND CED EXPLAINED THE OBJECTIVES AND REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS.

THE LORRY DRIVERS COMPLAINED THAT THEY WERE GIVEN UNSORTED CONSTRUCTION WASTES FROM THE CONTRACTORS WHO PRODUCED THE WASTES AND THAT THEY HAD DIFFICULTIES TO DO THE SORTING THEMSELVES.

IT WAS AGREED AT THE MEETING THAT THE STANDARD FOR ACCEPTING CONSTRUCTION WASTES AT THE TWO LANDFILLS WOULD BE RELAXED FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS.

DURING THE TWO-WEEK PERIOD, EPD AND CED WOULD FURTHER DISCUSS WITH THE CONTRACTORS AND LORRY DRIVERS TO MAKE PROPER ARRANGEMENTS FOR SORTING THE WASTES ON SITE BEFORE DELIVERY TO LANDFILLS AND PUBLIC DUMPS.

## MONETARY STATISTICS FOR AUGUST RELEASED

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HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS RECORDED A MODERATE INCREASE DURING AUGUST, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH.

CONSISTENT WITH THIS, THE BROADEST HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY, M3, ROSE. HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS AND ADVANCES ALSO INCREASED IN THE MONTH.

## DEPOSITS

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HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, ROSE BY 1.0% IN AUGUST FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 2.1% AND 0.6% IN JUNE AND JULY RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE DEPOSITS, DEMAND DEPOSITS FELL BY 6.6% WHILE SAVINGS AND TIME DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 1.7% AND 2.4% RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 17.2%.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 1.3% IN AUGUST, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 0.4% IN JUNE AND A DECREASE OF 0.6% IN JULY.

OF THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 3.9% WHILE NON-U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 0.6%. YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 9.8%.

DURING AUGUST, DEPOSITS IN ALL CURRENCIES WITH LICENSED BANKS ROSE BY 1.2% WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ROSE BY 1.1% AND 0.3% RESPECTIVELY.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS GREW BY 14.4% WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECLINED BY 4.7% AND 23.7% RESPECTIVELY.

## MONEY SUPPLY

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HK\$M1 DECREASED BY 3.2% WHILE BOTH HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 1.1% EACH IN AUGUST, COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 0.4%, 0.8% AND 0.8% IN JULY.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 24.4%, 18.6% AND 17.0% RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL M1 DECREASED BY 2.7% WHILE BOTH TOTAL M2 AND M3 INCREASED BY 1.2% EACH IN AUGUST.

THESE COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 0.4%, 0.3% AND NO CHANGE RESPECTIVELY IN JULY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 23.0%, 14.3% AND 12.9% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS AND ADVANCES  
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TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 2.4% IN AUGUST, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.9% AND 1.0% IN JUNE AND JULY RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE LOANS, BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS AND FOREIGN CURRENCY LOANS INCREASED BY 0.4% AND 3.4% RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 16.4% AND 26.7% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG DECREASED BY 0.1% IN AUGUST, AFTER INCREASES OF 1.0% AND 0.9% IN JUNE AND JULY RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, SUCH LOANS GREW BY 9.5%.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG INCREASED BY 0.9% IN AUGUST, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.2% AND 0.6% IN JUNE AND JULY RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 16.2%.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG INCREASED BY 3.7% IN AUGUST, AFTER INCREASES OF 2.6% AND 1.5% IN JUNE AND JULY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 30.3%.

LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG INCREASED BY 1.2% DURING AUGUST, AFTER DECREASES OF 1.4% AND 23.0% IN JUNE AND JULY RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 0.6%.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS  
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THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS DECREASED BY ONE TO 159 WHILE THE NUMBER OF RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 54. THE NUMBER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY ONE TO 149.

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TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - AUGUST 1992

	(HK\$mn)			
	<u>Aug 1992</u>	<u>Earlier months (% change to Aug 1992)</u>		
		<u>Jul 1992</u>	<u>May 1992</u>	<u>Aug 1991</u>
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	128,021	132,296 ( -3.2 )	124,221 ( 3.1 )	102,932 ( 24.4 )
Foreign currency	16,469	16,177 ( 1.8 )	15,116 ( 9.0 )	14,492 ( 13.6 )
Total	144,490	148,473 ( -2.7 )	139,337 ( 3.7 )	117,424 ( 23.0 )
M2 - HK\$*	700,939	693,623 ( 1.1 )	673,182 ( 4.1 )	590,926 ( 18.6 )
Foreign currency*	766,853	756,977 ( 1.3 )	757,632 ( 1.2 )	692,871 ( 10.7 )
Total	1,467,792	1,450,601 ( 1.2 )	1,430,814 ( 2.6 )	1,283,797 ( 14.3 )
M3 - HK\$*	723,214	715,622 ( 1.1 )	696,091 ( 3.9 )	617,890 ( 17.0 )
Foreign currency*	803,141	792,679 ( 1.3 )	795,216 ( 1.0 )	733,971 ( 9.4 )
Total	1,526,355	1,508,301 ( 1.2 )	1,491,307 ( 2.4 )	1,351,861 ( 12.9 )
Notes and coins in circulation	56,287	54,459 ( 3.4 )	51,902 ( 8.4 )	46,836 ( 20.2 )
of which held by public	48,403	47,022 ( 2.9 )	45,079 ( 7.4 )	40,240 ( 20.3 )
<u>Total Deposits</u>				
Total Demand deposits	96,088	101,451 ( -5.3 )	94,258 ( 1.9 )	77,184 ( 24.5 )
Total Savings deposits	349,928	347,454 ( 0.7 )	332,829 ( 5.1 )	269,661 ( 29.8 )
Total Time deposits with licensed banks	957,085	938,030 ( 2.0 )	942,768 ( 1.5 )	879,800 ( 8.8 )
Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks	36,650	36,257 ( 1.1 )	37,378 ( -1.9 )	38,451 ( -4.7 )
Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies	20,088	20,029 ( 0.3 )	20,946 ( -4.1 )	26,321 ( -23.7 )
HK\$ deposits*	661,075	654,827 ( 1.0 )	637,737 ( 3.7 )	563,909 ( 17.2 )
US\$ deposits*	347,278	334,256 ( 3.9 )	322,661 ( 7.6 )	293,395 ( 18.4 )
Other foreign currency deposits*	451,486	454,138 ( -0.6 )	467,781 ( -3.5 )	434,112 ( 4.0 )
All deposits	1,459,839	1,443,221 ( 1.2 )	1,428,178 ( 2.2 )	1,291,417 ( 13.0 )
Foreign/currency swap deposits	49,009	46,747 ( 4.8 )	42,830 ( 14.4 )	47,852 ( 2.4 )
<u>Total Loans and advances</u>				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	90,878	90,945 ( -0.1 )	89,219 ( 1.9 )	82,995 ( 9.5 )
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	11,333	11,196 ( 1.2 )	14,750 ( -23.2 )	11,263 ( 0.6 )
Other loans for use in H.K.	892,222	884,492 ( 0.9 )	868,605 ( 2.7 )	767,935 ( 16.2 )
Other loans for use outside H.K.	1,427,802	1,377,519 ( 3.7 )	1,322,827 ( 7.9 )	1,095,380 ( 30.3 )
Other loans where the place of use is not known	38,150	38,022 ( 0.3 )	38,602 ( -1.2 )	40,115 ( -4.9 )
Loans in HK\$	792,500	789,201 ( 0.4 )	774,498 ( 2.3 )	680,924 ( 16.4 )
Loans in foreign currencies	1,667,885	1,612,973 ( 3.4 )	1,559,506 ( 6.9 )	1,316,763 ( 26.7 )
Total loans and advances	2,460,384	2,402,174 ( 2.4 )	2,334,004 ( 5.4 )	1,997,687 ( 23.2 )

\* Adjusted for foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

Note : 'Restricted licence banks' and 'deposit-taking companies' were known as 'licensed deposit-taking companies' and 'registered deposit-taking companies' respectively before 1 February 1990.

ENVIRONMENT OFFICE SET UP TO MONITOR WEST KOWLOON WORKS  
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICE FOR THE WEST KOWLOON AREA WAS CREATED WITH THE SIGNING OF A CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT WITH CES CONSULTANTS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (ASIA) LTD AND BINNIE CONSULTANTS LTD ON AUGUST 27 THIS YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT SAID THE OFFICE WAS SET UP BECAUSE THE WEST KOWLOON PROJECT AREA, UNLIKE OTHER AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP) PROJECT AREAS, HAD PARTICULAR FEATURES THAT CALL FOR SPECIAL MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS.

"THE MAIN DISTINGUISHING FEATURE IS THAT THE PROJECTS INVOLVE A MULTIPLICITY OF CONTRACTS TAKING PLACE AT THE SAME TIME, EACH UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DIFFERENT ENTITIES, BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT.

"AS ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS DO NOT ALWAYS RESPECT WORKS SITE BOUNDARIES, AN OVERALL VIEW AND MANAGEMENT IS REQUIRED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY OF THE OFFICE IS TO MONITOR AND INVESTIGATE THE CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF PROJECTS IN THE WEST KOWLOON AREA, INCLUDING MAJOR ACP PROJECTS.

THESE ACP PROJECTS INCLUDE THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION, WEST KOWLOON EXPRESSWAY AND THE AIRPORT RAILWAY.

"THE EMPHASIS WILL BE ON IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL PROBLEMS AND TAKING PREVENTIVE MEASURES BEFORE THEY ARISE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE OFFICE WILL IDENTIFY THE CAUSES OF ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROVIDE TIMELY AND EXPERT ADVICE ON OPTIONS FOR CORRECTING THE SITUATION.

IT WILL ALSO REPORT PERIODICALLY TO THE GOVERNMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE MEASURES, THE REMEDIAL ACTIONS TAKEN AND THEIR RESULTS, AND OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.

AS A FOCAL POINT FOR ENVIRONMENT ASPECTS OF THE ACP WORKS, THE OFFICE WILL HELP THE GOVERNMENT INFORM AND CONSULT THE AFFECTED PARTIES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

THE CONSULTANTS WILL WORK UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS AT A COST OF \$11 MILLION.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1992

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SOCIAL WORK ASSISTANTS URGED TO ACT IN CLIENTS' INTEREST

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS CONCERNED ABOUT REPORTS ON SOCIAL WORK ASSISTANT (SWA) BRANCH TAKING INDUSTRIAL ACTION STARTING FROM TODAY (THURSDAY).

URGING THE SWA GRADE TO ACT WITH GOOD SENSE AND PATIENCE, HE REMINDED THEM THAT AS SOCIAL WELFARE WORKERS THEY SHOULD PUT CLIENTS' INTEREST ABOVE PERSONAL BENEFITS.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD NOT OBSERVED GREAT DISRUPTION TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AS A RESULT OF THE WORK-TO-RULE ACTION.

"WE FEEL THAT THE DEPARTMENT CAN COUNT ON THEIR PROFESSIONAL ETHICS IN NOT CARRYING OUT ANY DRASTIC ACTION THAT PUTS OUR CLIENTS' INTEREST AT RISK," HE SAID.

MOST OF THE ITEMS THAT THE GRADE SAID THEY WOULD REFUSE TO HANDLE FELL WITHIN THEIR JOB DESCRIPTION WHEN THEY JOINED THE DEPARTMENT, HE SAID.

"HOWEVER, IT IS DIFFICULT TO INCLUDE EVERY DETAIL OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. ONLY AN OUTLINE COULD BE LISTED, THUS CAUSING THE MISUNDERSTANDING.

"BESIDES, WE NEED TO RESPOND APPROPRIATELY TO CHANGING NEEDS OF OUR CLIENTS TO BETTER SERVE THEM," HE SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS WRITTEN TO THE SWA BRANCH, REMINDING THEM THAT CERTAIN DUTIES THAT THE BRANCH WOULD REFUSE TO DO WERE IN FACT NORMAL DUTIES.

IT HAS EXPLAINED TO THE BRANCH THAT THE INDUSTRIAL ACTION WAS UNCALLED FOR AND OF NO BENEFIT BECAUSE IT WOULD NOT ACHIEVE ANYTHING NOW EXCEPT TO LOWER THE HIGH REGARD HELD BY THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE GRADE.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN HOLDING MEETINGS WITH THE SWA BRANCH TO RESOLVE THE MATTER. A FURTHER MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK.

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PIPE-LAYING METHOD AVOIDS TRAFFIC DISRUPTION

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AN ADVANCED PIPE-LAYING METHOD IS BEING USED IN WORKS FOR THE EAST KOWLOON SEWERAGE IMPROVEMENTS AND POLLUTION CONTROL SCHEME TO AVOID DISRUPTION TO TRAFFIC AND NUISANCE TO THE PUBLIC.

THE CONTRACTOR FOR THE WORKS, AOKI CORPORATION, IS USING THE PIPE-JACKING METHOD TO INSTALL TWO LARGE PIPES AT NINE METRES BELOW PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST IN SAN PO KONG.

THE MAINS ARE TO BE PLACED INSIDE A SECTION OF A 100-METRE-LONG, 1,950-MM PRE-CAST CONCRETE PIPE USING A MICROTUNNELLING SHIELD FOR EXCAVATION.

OFFICIATING AT A CEREMONY TO LAY THE PIPES, THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES, MR NG YEE-YUM, SAID: "THIS METHOD DOES NOT REQUIRE TRENCHING ON THE ROAD, THUS THE HEAVY TRAFFIC FLOW ON PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WILL NOT BE DISRUPTED."

"IT ALSO MINIMISES NUISANCE TO THE PUBLIC AS THE WORKS ARE MAINLY CARRIED OUT UNDERGROUND," HE ADDED.

MR NG SAID SIMILAR "NO DIG" METHOD HAD BEEN USED IN OTHER DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT PROJECTS AT STANLEY, SHEK O, TAI TAM AND WONG CHUK HANG ROAD ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THE WORKS, WHICH FORM PART OF THE \$1.34 BILLION SCHEME, ENTAIL THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 1,200-METRE-LONG BOX CULVERT, 2,000-METRE-LONG OF 1,050 MM TO 1,800 MM PIPE SEWERS AND THREE SMALL PUMPING STATIONS.

THE TRUNK SEWERS AND BOX CULVERT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED STARTING FROM CHOI HUNG ROAD AND PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST VIA EASTERN ROAD AND RUNNING ALONG WANG KWONG ROAD.

MR NG EXPLAINED THAT THIS SEWERAGE NETWORK WOULD REPLACE THE EXISTING OVERLOADED SEWER SYSTEM AND WOULD EVENTUALLY DISCHARGE THE SEWER TO THE KWUN TONG SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT.

"THREE PUMPING STATIONS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN SAN PO KONG AND KOWLOON BAY AREAS TO INTERCEPT THE POLLUTED BASE FLOWS FROM THE STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM, AND ENSURE IT PASSES THROUGH THE TREATMENT PLANT," HE SAID.

THE SCHEME AIMS AT IMPROVING THE EXISTING SEWERAGE SYSTEM AND CONTROLLING POLLUTION BY INTERCEPTING AND DIVERTING THE SEWAGE THAT IS DISCHARGED INCORRECTLY TO THE STORM WATER DRAINAGE SYSTEM.

THE MEASURES ARE TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN TWO STAGES.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS FOR THE FIRST STAGE STARTED IN APRIL THIS YEAR AND ARE SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION AT THE END OF 1993.

STAGE TWO IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN MID-1994 AND BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1997.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1992

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GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE GRADING SYSTEM SERVES TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE GRADING WOULD BE ANNOUNCED BIWEEKLY DURING THE BATHING SEASON TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT E.COLI DATA OBTAINED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME.

AS WITH LAST YEAR, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH THAT HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

"BEACHES WITH HIGHLY DEVELOPED HINTERLANDS ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE POLLUTED THAN THE GRADES SUGGEST DURING AND AFTER HEAVY RAIN.

"BATHERS SHOULD AVOID SUCH BEACHES FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS AFTER A STORM, LONGER IF THE WEATHER REMAINS OVERCAST OR LESS IF THERE IS STRONG SUNSHINE." THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE GRADINGS SYSTEM IS:

- \* GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITERS AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.
- \* GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITERS AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

/\* GRADE "3" .....

- \* GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITERS AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.
- \* GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS VERY POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITERS AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION ON WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A GRADE "4" OCCURRED REPEATEDLY.

SIMILARLY, THE REOPENING OF A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A GRADE "3" OR BETTER WAS CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, TWO BATHING BEACHES, NAMELY CASTLE PEAK AND OLD CAFETERIA, HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM AT THESE TWO BEACHES.

IN ADDITION, ROCKY BAY BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. THESE THREE BEACHES ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING LIST.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG TODAY ARE:

BEACH -----	PREVIOUS GRADING ----- (AS AT 17.9.92)	PRESENT GRADING ----- (AS AT 1.10.92)
HONG KONG SOUTH -----		
BIG WAVE BAY	2	1
CHUNG HOM KOK	1	1
DEEP WATER BAY	1	1
HAIRPIN	1	1
MIDDLE BAY	1	1
REPULSE BAY	1	1
SHEK O	2	2
SOUTH BAY	1	1
ST. STEPHEN'S	1	1
TURTLE COVE	1	1
STANLEY MAIN	1	1
ROCKY BAY	X	X
TO TEI WAN*	1	1

TUEN MUN DISTRICT  
-----

OLD CAFETERIA	X	X
NEW CAFETERIA	3	2
CASTLE PEAK	X	X
KADOORIE	2	2
BUTTERFLY	2	2

SAI KUNG DISTRICT  
-----

CAMPERS	1	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	2	2
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	2	2
HAP MUN BAY	1	1
KIU TSUI	1	1
PAK SHA CHAU	1	1
SILVERSTRAND	2	2
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	2	2

ISLANDS DISTRICT  
-----

CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	2	2
DISCOVERY BAY*	2	2
HUNG SHING YEH	1	1
KWUN YAM WAN	1	1
TONG FUK	1	1
LO SO SHING	1	1
PUI O	2	1
SILVERMINE BAY	2	2
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	2	1
TUNG O*	1	1

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT  
-----

ANGLERS'	3	3
APPROACH	2	3
CASAM	2	2
GEMINI	3	2
HOI MEI WAN	2	2
LIDO	2	2
TING KAU	2	2
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	1	1

NOTE : "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING  
\* NON-GAZETTED BEACH

THE FOLLOWING BEACHES HAVE CHANGED GRADING ON THIS OCCASION:

BIG WAVE BAY, TRIO (HEBE HAVEN), PUI O AND TUNG WAN ON CHEUNG CHAU FROM "2" TO "1"; NEW CAFETERIA AND GEMINI FROM "3" TO "2"; APPROACH FROM "2" TO "3".

THE CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF THESE BEACHES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE OF ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER MR DAVID L HALL ON 835 1234.

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JOINING SCHOOL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE SCHEME  
REQUIRES VISION AND COURAGE

\* \* \* \*

JOINING THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE (SMI) SCHEME IS NOT AN EASY DECISION, AND IT REQUIRES VISION AND COURAGE ON THE PART OF THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE SCHOOL, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC S W WONG, SAID AT A SEMINAR ON THIS SUBJECT.

HE PRAISED THE SUPERVISORS AND PRINCIPALS OF 34 SMI SCHOOLS IN THE FIRST AND SECOND PHASES OF THE SCHEME.

MR WONG NOTED THAT THE INITIAL RESPONSE TO THE SCHEME WAS NOT VERY ENTHUSIASTIC.

"THIS IS UNDERSTANDABLE BECAUSE PEOPLE BY NATURE ARE SCEPTICAL OF REFORMS, PARTICULARLY WHEN THEY ARE UNCERTAIN ABOUT WHAT CHANGES ARE IN STORE," HE SAID.

"FORTUNATELY, AS CONFIRMED BY OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE, THESE EARLY WORRIES WILL DISAPPEAR IN THE COURSE OF TIME AS PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE NEW MANAGEMENT SYSTEM," HE EXPLAINED.

MR WONG WAS IMPRESSED BY THE HIGH STANDARD OF SCHOOL PLANS PREPARED BY SCHOOLS IN THE FIRST PHASE OF THE SCHEME, SAYING THAT SUCH OUTSTANDING PLANNING WORK WOULD NOT ONLY FACILITATE A MORE SENSIBLE USE OF FUNDS, BUT WOULD ALSO SET AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE FOR OTHER SCHOOLS TO FOLLOW, ALL TO THE BENEFIT OF STUDENTS IN HONG KONG.

"TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMI SCHEME IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, THE GOVERNMENT WILL SPEND MORE THAN \$80 MILLION TO BUILD UP A MODERN MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM IN SMI SCHOOLS," HE POINTED OUT, ADDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO SPEND OVER \$50 MILLION ON TRAINING STAFF IN THESE SCHOOLS.

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DURING THE SEMINAR, COPIES OF THE SMI MANUAL ON SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION CONTAINING COMPREHENSIVE ADVICE AND INFORMATION WERE INTRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED TO PARTICIPANTS.

THEY WERE ALSO BRIEFED ON THE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SMI SCHOOLS DURING THE 1992-93 SCHOOL YEAR.

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CONTRACT AWARDED TO DEMOLISH LOK ON PAI CHIMNEYS  
\* \* \* \* \*

THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) AWARDED A \$4 MILLION CONTRACT FOR THE DEMOLITION BY EXPLOSIVES OF TWO CHIMNEYS AND OTHER ASSOCIATED WORKS AT LOK ON PAI DESALTER.

THE TWO 126-METRE HIGH REINFORCED CONCRETE CHIMNEYS HAVE TO BE DEMOLISHED TO MAKE WAY FOR A TRANSHIPMENT AREA FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW AIRPORT BY THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY.

THE CONTRACT WILL BEGIN LATER THIS MONTH. THE BLASTING WORK IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER THIS YEAR.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WHEN EXPLOSIVES ARE USED IN HONG KONG FOR DEMOLITION WORKS.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
\* \* \* \* \*

	\$ MILLION
	-----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,440
REVERSAL OF LAF	-940
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	NIL
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 109.9 *+0.3* 1.10.92

/HONG KONG .....

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.27 PCT	14 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.43	3.16
1 MONTH	2.32 PCT	17 MONTHS	2402	5.50	102.97	3.30
3 MONTHS	2.45 PCT	20 MONTHS	2405	5.50	103.00	3.62
6 MONTHS	2.52 PCT	23 MONTHS	2408	4.375	101.09	3.80
12 MONTHS	3.01 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 11,545MN

CLOSED 1 OCTOBER 1992

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