



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1993

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1993

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HK'S EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER RELEASED
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED DETAILED STATISTICS ON EXTERNAL TRADE WITH BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY/TERRITORY AND COMMODITY FOR OCTOBER 1993.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN OCTOBER 1993, AT \$76,697 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 13% OVER OCTOBER 1992, WHEREAS THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AT \$19,665 MILLION DECREASED BY 10%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO MOST OF THE MAJOR DESTINATIONS: SINGAPORE (+24%), GERMANY (+22%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+21%), CHINA (+19%), JAPAN (+16%), THE UNITED STATES (+15%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+9.6%), FRANCE (+9.3%) AND CANADA (+2.8%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN DECREASED BY 17%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR DESTINATIONS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WAS \$677,099 MILLION, BEING 20% HIGHER THAN THAT IN THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992.

COMPARING THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO MOST OF THE MAJOR DESTINATIONS : CHINA (+33%), SINGAPORE (+26%), GERMANY (+23%), THE UNITED STATES (+21%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+19%), FRANCE (+18%), JAPAN (+17%), CANADA (+14%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+12%).

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN DECREASED BY 16%.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF ALL MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

MORE NOTABLE INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$14,854 MILLION OR 117%); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$13,868 MILLION OR 31%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$12,488 MILLION OR 29%); FOOTWEAR (BY \$10,322 MILLION OR 36%); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING OF MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$10,149 MILLION OR 12%); CLOTHING (BY \$9,733 MILLION OR 15%); AND TEXTILES (BY \$2,242 MILLION OR 4.0%).

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN OCTOBER 1993, AT \$19,665 MILLION, FELL BY 10% OVER OCTOBER 1992.

/DECREASES WERE

DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO GERMANY (-20%), JAPAN (-16%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (-16%), FRANCE (-14%), THE NETHERLANDS (-11%), THE UNITED STATES (-11%) AND CHINA (-11%). BUT INCREASES OF 5.5%, 3.3% AND 2.4% IN VALUE WERE RECORDED FOR THOSE TO TAIWAN, CANADA AND SINGAPORE RESPECTIVELY.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM (-14%), FRANCE (-13%), JAPAN (-13%), GERMANY (-9.6%), THE UNITED STATES (-8.7%), THE NETHERLANDS (-6.9%), CANADA (-5.8%) AND TAIWAN (-3.7%).

HOWEVER, INCREASES OF 10% AND 3.7% IN VALUE WERE RECORDED FOR THOSE TO SINGAPORE AND CHINA RESPECTIVELY.

TAKING ALL DESTINATIONS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993, AT \$183,300 MILLION, DECREASED BY 4.6% OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$2,014 MILLION OR 12%); MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY \$434 MILLION OR 17%); AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$422 MILLION OR 3.9%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$4,708 MILLION OR 7.5%); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$2,328 MILLION OR 14%); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$2,295 MILLION OR 15%); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING OF MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES (BY \$1,655 MILLION OR 8.9%); AND TEXTILES (BY \$700 MILLION OR 4.9%).

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN OCTOBER 1993 WAS \$93,566 MILLION, INCREASING BY 3.9% OVER THAT IN OCTOBER 1992.

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

COMPARING OCTOBER 1993 WITH OCTOBER 1992, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ITALY (+28%), MALAYSIA (+16%), SINGAPORE (+14%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+9.7%), CHINA (+9.2%) AND TAIWAN (+2.7%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM GERMANY (-14%), THE UNITED STATES (-6.6%), JAPAN (-4.7%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (-3.6%).

COMPARING THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL THE MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED: MALAYSIA (+24%), SINGAPORE (+23%), ITALY (+21%), THE UNITED STATES (+16%), GERMANY (+15%), CHINA (+13%), JAPAN(+11%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+10%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+9.8%) AND TAIWAN (+9.0%).

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS IN THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WAS \$884,078 MILLION, AN INCREASE OF 13% OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992.

TABLE 6 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF THE 10 MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST 10 MONTHS OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF MOST MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

MORE NOTABLE INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$20,234 MILLION OR 81%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$17,314 MILLION OR 22%); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$13,862 MILLION OR 23%); FOOTWEAR (BY \$8,787 MILLION OR 34%); CLOTHING (BY \$8,621 MILLION OR 13%); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING OF MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$7,254 MILLION OR 12%).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR TEXTILES (BY \$2,224 MILLION OR 2.6%).

ALL THE TRADE STATISTICS DESCRIBED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON.

A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE VOLUME AND PRICE MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR OCTOBER 1993 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY JANUARY 1994.

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

THE OCTOBER 1993 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON THE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN OCTOBER 1993 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT \$68.50 A COPY AROUND DECEMBER 17.

THE REPORT CAN BE PURCHASED AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, OR THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 582 4915).

TABLE 1 : RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR DESTINATIONS

DESTINATION	OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	OCT 93 OVER OCT 92 (% CHANGE)	JAN-OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-OCT 93 OVER JAN-OCT 92 (% CHANGE)
CHINA	23,632	+ 18.7	224,427	+ 32.8
UNITED STATES	18,263	+ 14.9	150,389	+ 21.3
JAPAN	4,805	+ 16.0	35,982	+ 16.5
GERMANY	3,746	+ 22.5	32,742	+ 23.0
UNITED KINGDOM	2,475	+ 9.6	20,028	+ 19.3
TAIWAN	1,841	- 16.9	18,171	- 16.0
SINGAPORE	1,545	+ 24.4	14,045	+ 26.1
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,444	+ 21.5	12,692	+ 12.2
CANADA	1,141	+ 2.8	10,703	+ 14.2
FRANCE	1,014	+ 9.3	10,630	+ 17.6

/TABLE 2

TABLE 2 : RE-EXPORTS OF THE 10 MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	OCT 93 OVER OCT 92 (% CHANGE)	JAN-OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-OCT 93 OVER JAN-OCT 92 (% CHANGE)
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	11,145	+ 3.6	91,475	+ 12.5
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	8,761	+ 13.1	74,439	+ 15.0
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	7,893	+ 26.4	58,781	+ 30.9
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6,457	+ 4.6	57,805	+ 4.0
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	6,382	+ 20.3	55,746	+ 28.9
FOOTWEAR	4,020	+ 16.6	39,346	+ 35.6
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3,583	+ 32.7	29,896	+ 24.5
ROAD VEHICLES	2,233	+ 16.5	27,518	+117.3
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	2,736	+ 40.3	22,791	+ 32.6
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS	2,390	+ 8.8	22,321	+ 12.1

/TABLE 3

TABLE 3 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR DESTINATIONS

DESTINATION	OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	OCT 93 OVER OCT 92 (% CHANGE)	JAN-OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-OCT 93 OVER JAN-OCT 92 (% CHANGE)
CHINA	5,091	- 10.7	52,416	+ 3.7
UNITED STATES	6,378	- 10.8	48,922	- 8.7
GERMANY	986	- 19.9	11,387	- 9.6
SINGAPORE	926	+ 2.4	9,258	+ 10.5
UNITED KINGDOM	861	- 15.5	8,788	- 14.1
JAPAN	814	- 16.2	8,116	- 12.7
TAIWAN	628	+ 5.5	5,075	- 3.7
CANADA	410	+ 3.3	3,958	- 5.8
NETHERLANDS	284	- 10.9	3,671	- 6.9
FRANCE	209	- 13.8	2,232	- 13.1

/TABLE 4

TABLE 4 : DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE 10 MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	OCT 93 OVER OCT 92 (% CHANGE)	JAN-OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-OCT 93 OVER JAN-OCT 92 (% CHANGE)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	6,945	- 9.4	58,183	- 7.5
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,837	- 1.4	18,442	+ 12.3
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	1,940	- 11.5	16,958	- 8.9
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	1,416	- 14.7	14,094	- 14.2
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,375	- 9.7	13,506	- 4.9
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,415	- 22.6	13,274	- 14.7
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	1,007	- 18.2	11,176	+ 3.9
MANUFACTURES OF METALS	407	- 2.4	3,845	- 4.5
MACHINERY SPECIALIZED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES	300	+ 27.7	3,000	+ 16.9
PLASTICS IN PRIMARY FORMS	284	+ 16.6	2,887	+ 1.7

TABLE 5 : IMPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

SUPPLIER	OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	OCT 93 OVER OCT 92 (% CHANGE)	JAN-OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-OCT 93 OVER JAN-OCT 92 (% CHANGE)
CHINA	37,552	+ 9.2	330,041	+ 13.2
JAPAN	14,968	- 4.7	149,471	+ 11.3
TAIWAN	8,038	+ 2.7	77,409	+ 9.0
UNITED STATES	6,490	- 6.6	65,472	+ 15.5
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	3,759	- 3.6	40,130	+ 9.8
SINGAPORE	4,261	+ 13.9	38,807	+ 22.5
GERMANY	1,915	- 13.8	20,578	+ 14.9
UNITED KINGDOM	1,802	+ 9.7	17,243	+ 10.0
ITALY	1,620	+ 27.9	14,542	+ 21.5
MALAYSIA	1,340	+ 15.8	12,969	+ 24.0

/TABLE 6

TABLE 6 : IMPORTS OF THE 10 MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	OCT 93 OVER OCT 92 (% CHANGE)	JAN-OCT 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-OCT 93 OVER JAN-OCT 92 (% CHANGE)
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	10,780	+ 22.6	94,583	+ 22.4
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	8,558	- 5.5	82,005	- 2.6
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	8,987	+ 18.9	74,906	+ 22.7
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	8,935	+ 10.1	74,700	+ 13.0
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	7,277	+ 1.3	66,723	+ 12.2
ROAD VEHICLES	3,018	- 14.3	45,077	+ 81.5
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	4,483	+ 9.7	39,867	+ 6.3
FOOTWEAR	3,535	+ 12.6	34,586	+ 34.1
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING MACHINES	3,207	+ 16.6	29,408	+ 7.6
NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES	2,872	+ 3.8	27,359	+ 12.4

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EDUCATION COMMISSION WORKING GROUPS OFF TO A GOOD START

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THE THREE WORKING GROUPS SET UP BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION TO STUDY IMPORTANT QUALITY-RELATED POLICY AREAS - EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS, LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY, AND SCHOOL RESOURCING - HAVE ALL GOT OFF TO A GOOD START, AND ARE TACKLING THEIR SUBJECTS WITH ENTHUSIASM.

THIS WAS THE MESSAGE WHICH THE THREE WORKING GROUP CHAIRMEN GAVE TO THE FULL COMMISSION AT ITS REGULAR MEETING TODAY (MONDAY).

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP ON EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS, MR ANDREW SO, TOLD THE COMMISSION THAT HIS GROUP HAD RECEIVED USEFUL POSITION PAPERS FROM THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY, VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL, UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE, AND HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION, AS WELL AS FROM THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE "TOWARDS A BETTER SCHOOL" MOVEMENT.

THESE PAPERS SET OUT HOW THE DIFFERENT SECTORS OF EDUCATION APPROACH THE QUESTION OF QUALITY ASSURANCE, MR SO SAID.

"AT OUR LAST MEETING ON DECEMBER 10, WE STUDIED TWO SUBSTANTIAL PAPERS ON QUALITY ASSURANCE AT THE SCHOOL LEVEL."

ONE PAPER DESCRIBES HOW SOME EDUCATION SYSTEMS ELSEWHERE HAVE INTRODUCED NEW MEASURES FOR ASSURING QUALITY.

THE OTHER IS A REVIEW OF QUALITY ASSURANCE PROCEDURES NOW USED IN HONG KONG.

"BOTH HAVE RAISED MANY INTERESTING QUESTIONS FOR US TO FOLLOW UP IN OUR FUTURE MEETINGS," MR SO ADDED.

THE WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY HAS INVITED LOCAL ACADEMIC EXPERTS ON LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION TO HELP IN THE STUDY.

"SEVERAL EXPERTS HAVE OFFERED TO CONDUCT A CRITICAL REVIEW FOCUSING ON ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION IN HONG KONG WHILE A FIRM PROPOSAL FOR A SIMILAR REVIEW IN THE AREA OF CHINESE LANGUAGE AND EDUCATION IS STILL AWAITED," SAID MRS ANGELA CHEUNG, THE WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN.

"IN THE MEANTIME, MY WORKING GROUP HELD A LIVELY DISCUSSION WITH FOUR INVITED EXPERTS ON DECEMBER 9."

AT THEIR NEXT MEETING ON DECEMBER 14, THE GROUP INTEND TO FIRM UP IDEAS ON A LARGE-SCALE SURVEY OF THE PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHERS, STUDENTS AND OTHERS ABOUT WHAT HELPS, AND WHAT HINDERS, THE ACQUISITION OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY, SHE ADDED.

THE WORKING GROUP ON SCHOOL RESOURCING HAS ALSO INVITED LOCAL ACADEMIC EXPERTS TO PROVIDE A CRITICAL REVIEW OF RELEVANT ISSUES LOCALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD, AND EXPERTS TO SELECT A CONSULTANT SHORTLY TO DO THIS REVIEW.

"WE HAVE IDENTIFIED THE MAIN THEMES OF OUR STUDY, AND ALL AGREE THAT THE ISSUES ARE BY NO MEANS MERELY TECHNICAL, BUT ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO THE QUESTION OF QUALITY IN SCHOOL EDUCATION," SAID PROFESSOR ROSIE YOUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION, WHO ALSO CHAIRS THIS WORKING GROUP.

"ALREADY IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT ISSUES SUCH AS THE FAIRNESS OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM, AND THE WAY IN WHICH RESOURCES ARE ALLOCATED TO THE CENTRE AND TO SCHOOLS, NEED TO BE LOOKED AT CRITICALLY," PROFESSOR YOUNG SAID.

THE COMMISSION AGREED ONLY IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR TO SET UP THE THREE WORKING GROUPS, AND IN LESS THAN THREE MONTHS THE GROUPS WERE SET UP AND HELD A TOTAL OF 10 MEETINGS.

TEN NON-COMMISSION MEMBERS, ALL PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS IN SCHOOLS AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS, HAVE BEEN CO-OPTED TO PROVIDE A WIDER INPUT TO THE STUDIES.

"ALL THREE STUDY AREAS ARE COMPLEX, AND IT WILL NEED TIME TO DEVELOP PRACTICABLE PROPOSALS."

PROFESSOR YOUNG HOPES THAT ALL THREE GROUPS WOULD BE ABLE TO REPORT BACK TO THE COMMISSION BY THE END OF NEXT MAY, AS PLANNED, WITH CLEAR ANALYSES OF THE PRESENT SITUATION, AND CLEAR PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENTS.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, THE COMMISSION ALSO STUDIED PROGRESS REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORTS 1 TO 5 AS WELL AS SITUATION REPORTS ON SCHOOLS MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE, TARGET-ORIENTED CURRICULUM, MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION GROUPING AND SIXTH FORM EDUCATION.

THE COMMISSION ALSO DISCUSSED THE PRESENT POSITION OF PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION, AND PROPOSALS MADE BY MR CHEUNG MAN-KWONG AND DR ALEXANDER FUNG ON THE WORK AND OPERATION OF THE COMMISSION.

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WORKERS SHOULD TAKE SAFETY MEASURES

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR CHAN TAT-KING, REITERATED THIS (MONDAY) EVENING THAT WORKERS SHOULD TAKE SAFETY MEASURES WHILE WORKING AT HEIGHT.

"TAKING A SIMPLE MEASURE, SUCH AS WEARING A SUITABLE SAFETY BELT WITH THE LANYARD HOOKED TO AN INDEPENDENT LIFE-LINE, WORKERS CAN PROTECT THEMSELVES FROM RECEIVING SERIOUS OR EVEN FATAL INJURIES CAUSED BY FALLING FROM HEIGHT," MR CHAN SAID.

HE MADE THE APPEAL FOLLOWING TWO FATAL ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR EARLIER TODAY.

THREE MEN DIED IN THESE ACCIDENTS AFTER FALLING FROM THE UPPER FLOORS OF TWO BUILDINGS.

"OUR INITIAL INVESTIGATIONS SHOWED THAT NONE OF THE VICTIMS HAD WORN A SAFETY BELT ALTHOUGH THEY WORKED AT HEIGHT," MR CHAN SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THERE WERE PROVISIONS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITE (SAFETY) REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE PROTECTION FOR WORKERS WHILE WORKING AT HEIGHT, SUCH AS THE USE OF SAFETY BELT OR SAFETY NET.

MR CHAN URGED ALL WORKERS TO SERIOUSLY OBSERVE SAFETY MEASURES PROVIDED FOR THEM BY THEIR EMPLOYERS WHEN THEY NEED TO WORK AT HEIGHT AND CONTRACTORS TO EXERCISE PROPER SUPERVISION WHEN THE JOB IS IN PROGRESS.

"A SIMPLE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE WILL HELP A WORKER SAVE HIS OWN LIFE," THE CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR SAID.

HE, HOWEVER, REGRETTED THAT SOMETIMES EVEN SIMPLE PRECAUTION LIKE THE USE OF SAFETY BELT WAS NOT OBSERVED BY WORKERS.

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THREE SITES FOR PUBLIC AUCTION
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THE LANDS DEPARTMENT WILL PUT UP THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND FOR SALE AT A PUBLIC AUCTION ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15).

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

THE FIRST LOT IS LOCATED OFF LUNG PING ROAD, KOWLOON.

COVERING AN AREA OF ABOUT 43,520 SQUARE METRES, IT IS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL USE.

THE SECOND LOT, AT THE JUNCTION OF LO PENG STREET AND PO PENG STREET, PENG CHAU, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,945 SQUARE METRES.

IT IS PLANNED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL (EXCLUDING GODOWNS, HOTELS AND OFFICES) USE.

THE THIRD LOT, IN TUI MIN HOI, SAI KUNG, HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,681 SQUARE METRES. IT IS INTENDED FOR INDUSTRIAL OR GODOWN USE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE AUCTION.

A PRESS AREA WILL BE DESIGNATED. PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE ADVISED TO BRING ALONG TELEPHOTO LENSES.

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AIR-MAIL SERVICES TO INDIA RESUME
* * * * *

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR M PAGLIARI, ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT ALL AIR-MAIL SERVICES TO INDIA, WHICH HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED SINCE DECEMBER 7 OWING TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION IN INDIA, HAVE NOW RESUMED.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1993

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MORE ECVII'S TO RETURN HOME

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT ANOTHER GROUP OF SOME 460 EX-CHINA VIETNAMESE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (ECVII'S) WILL BE RETURNED TO NANNING, GUANGXI BY AIR ON FOUR CONSECUTIVE DAYS STARTING FROM TOMORROW.

SINCE AN AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINESE OFFICIALS IN AUGUST THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 167 ECVII'S HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO CHINA BY LAND AND 876 BY AIR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID DISCUSSIONS WERE CONTINUING WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ON THE REPATRIATION OF THE REMAINING 1,000 ECVII'S IN HONG KONG.

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INT'L CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE AND LEARNING OPENS ON WEDNESDAY

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FIFTY-FIVE INTERNATIONAL AND 146 LOCAL LANGUAGE EDUCATIONISTS WILL PRESENT PAPERS AT THE THREE-DAY INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION CONFERENCE 1993 (ILEC 93) TO BE HELD FROM DECEMBER 15 TO 17 IN THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE CONFERENCE IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE INSTITUTE OF LANGUAGE IN EDUCATION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM STUDIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, AND THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS.

THERE WILL BE INTERNATIONAL PAPER PRESENTERS FROM AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THE UNITED KINGDOM, SPAIN, BULGARIA, THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, CANADA, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, CHINA, JAPAN, INDIA, THAILAND, MALAYSIA, INDONESIA, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN AND MACAU.

PLENARY SPEAKERS COMPRISE PROF MICHAEL A K HALLIDAY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY; PROF CHEN JIANMIN OF THE INSTITUTE OF APPLIED LINGUISTICS, CHINESE ACADEMY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, CHINA; DR GEOFF BRINDLEY OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND LINGUISTICS, MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA; PROF OVID TZENG OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AND DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE, NATIONAL CHUNG-CHENG UNIVERSITY; PROF GORDON WELLS OF THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION, CANADA; AND DR CHEN HSUAN-CHIH, SENIOR LECTURER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE THEME OF THE CONFERENCE IS LANGUAGE AND LEARNING.

THE FIRST PLENARY LECTURE WILL BE GIVEN BY PROF HALLIDAY, ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING EDUCATIONAL APPLIED LINGUISTS, WHO WILL SPEAK ON LANGUAGE LEARNING AND LEARNING IN GENERAL.

THE WELCOME ADDRESS TO THE PARTICIPANTS WILL BE GIVEN BY PROF WANG GUNG-WU, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

/THE DIRECTOR

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC S W WONG, WILL OFFICIALLY OPEN THE CONFERENCE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF ILEC 93 WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 8.45 AM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15) AT THE RAYSON HUANG THEATRE, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, POKFULAM ROAD.

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GOVT BACKS QUALITY EDUCATION
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PLAYED ITS PART IN DEVELOPING HIGH-LEVEL EDUCATION FOR ALL, THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY, MR DONALD TSANG, SAID THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPEAKING AT THE GROUND-BREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE CAMPUS OF THE OPEN LEARNING INSTITUTE IN HO MAN TIN, MR TSANG SAID THE GOVERNMENT KNEW JUST HOW IMPORTANT THE AVAILABILITY OF A GOOD, QUALITY EDUCATION WAS, NOT ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, BUT ALSO FOR HONG KONG AS A WHOLE, IN THE MAINTENANCE OF HONG KONG'S COMPETITIVE EDGE.

"OVER THE YEARS WE HAVE HELPED TO MEET THE INSTITUTE'S SETTING-UP COSTS, AND PROVIDED ONE-OFF GRANTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COURSES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT CAMPUS.

"WE ARE PROUD OF OUR ASSOCIATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE INSTITUTE, AND WISH YOU WELL AS YOU MOVE INTO AN ERA OF FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY," HE SAID.

MR TSANG PRAISED THE INSTITUTE AND ITS DEDICATED STAFF FOR THE GREAT STRIDES THEY MADE IN PROVIDING HIGH-LEVEL EDUCATION FOR ALL.

STUDENT INTAKE HAS INCREASED THREEFOLD TO SOME 15,000 THIS YEAR. STAFF MEMBERS HAVE RISEN FROM 120 IN 1989 TO THE PRESENT LEVEL OF 252.

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AIR QUALITY REPORT FOR NOVEMBER
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED AIR QUALITY INFORMATION FOR NOVEMBER.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS TO KEEP THE PUBLIC INFORMED OF THE AIR QUALITY LEVELS IN THE TERRITORY AND TO EXPLAIN THE MEASUREMENTS.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT NORMALLY CONTAINS MONITORING RESULTS OBTAINED AT ITS MONG KOK, CENTRAL/WESTERN AND KWAI CHUNG MONITORING STATIONS.

THESE LOCATIONS ARE TYPICAL OF THREE OF THE IMPORTANT LAND USE TYPES FOUND IN THE TERRITORY, NAMELY:

- * LOCATIONS CLOSE TO ROAD TRAFFIC IN BUILT-UP URBAN DISTRICTS,
- * COMBINED COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS, AND
- * DISTRICTS CLOSE TO INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

THE REPORTED AIR POLLUTANTS INCLUDE SULPHUR DIOXIDE (SO₂), NITROGEN DIOXIDE (NO₂), RESPIRABLE SUSPENDED PARTICULATES (RSP) AND TOTAL SUSPENDED PARTICULATES (TSP).

THE GASEOUS POLLUTANTS ARE MONITORED CONTINUOUSLY WHILST PARTICLE SAMPLES ARE COLLECTED FOR 24 HOURS, ONCE EVERY SIX DAYS.

IN TERMS OF AIR POLLUTION, NOVEMBER WAS A QUIET MONTH.

THERE WERE NO EXCEEDANCES OF THE 24-HOUR AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES AND ALL THREE MONITORING STATIONS FOLLOWED SIMILAR TRENDS.

AS USUAL, CONCENTRATIONS WERE HIGHEST AT THE STREET-LEVEL SITE OF MONG KOK, WHERE NO₂ AND PARTICULATES LEVELS WERE A SIGNIFICANT PROPORTION OF THE RESPECTIVE 24-HOUR AIR QUALITY OBJECTIVES.

THE FOUR POLLUTANTS DISCUSSED HAVE DIFFERENT ORIGINS. SO₂ MOSTLY ORIGINATES FROM THE COMBUSTION OF SULPHUR CONTAINING FOSSIL FUELS. NO₂ IS FORMED EITHER DIRECTLY DURING COMBUSTION OR, BY THE ATMOSPHERIC OXIDATION OF NITRIC OXIDE (NO) WHICH IS ALSO PRODUCED DURING COMBUSTION.

VEHICLE EXHAUST IS A MAJOR SOURCE OF NO AND NO₂.

VEHICLE EXHAUST IS ALSO A MAJOR SOURCE OF AIRBORNE PARTICLES; OTHER SOURCES INCLUDE INDUSTRY, FURNACES AND BOILERS, CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES, THE SEA AND SOIL DUST.

THE EPD CURRENTLY MONITORS AIR QUALITY CONTINUOUSLY AT EIGHT STATIONS, INCLUDING THE THREE MENTIONED ABOVE. SHORT-TERM MEASUREMENT CAMPAIGNS ARE ALSO UNDERTAKEN AS AND WHERE THE NEED ARISES.

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LEGCO TO MEET ON WEDNESDAY

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL DEBATE THREE SEPARATE MOTIONS ON AIRCRAFT NOISE, TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REVIEW AND CONSUMER PROTECTION AT ITS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15).

THE FIRST MOTION WILL BE MOVED BY THE HON JAMES TO. THE OTHER TWO WILL BE MOVED BY THE HON EDWARD HO AND THE HON MAN SAI-CHEONG RESPECTIVELY.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WILL ASK 20 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 11 BILLS.

OF THE 11 BILLS, FOUR WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. THEY ARE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS (MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS) (NO. 2) BILL 1993; EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1993; SECURITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 AND COMMODITIES TRADING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993.

DEBATES ON SEVEN OTHERS WILL BE RESUMED. THEY ARE DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THEY ARE: INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992; ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1992; ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993; FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993; INDUSTRIAL TRAINING (CLOTHING INDUSTRY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 AND BANKING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993.

THE COUNCIL WILL ALSO RESUME DEBATE ON A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL-PUBLIC OFFICERS (VARIATION OF CONDITIONS OF SERVICE) (TEMPORARY PROVISIONS) BILL.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ORDINANCE AND THE CORONERS ORDINANCE.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE AND THE STAMP DUTY ORDINANCE.

IN ADDITION, THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE FIXED PENALTY (CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS) ORDINANCE.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERY. THEY MAY RESERVE SEATS BY CALLING 869 9492.

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FESTIVE PROGRAMME FOR SHA TIN RESIDENTS

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THE FESTIVE LIGHTING DISPLAY IN SHA TIN WILL BE SWITCHED ON ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 17) EVENING, TO KICK OFF A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE THE ADVENT OF CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

A SWITCH-ON CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 6.30 PM ON THAT DAY AT SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A VARIETY SHOW.

THE LIGHTING WILL BE ARRAYED ALONG SHING MUN RIVER, IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES AND TWO HOTELS THERE. IT WILL BE TURNED ON AT 7 PM.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE ON SHA TIN FESTIVE LIGHTING, MR LAU KONG-WAH, SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (MONDAY) ONE OUTSTANDING FEATURE OF THE LIGHTING WAS THAT MORE THAN 60,000 SPECIALLY DECORATED LIGHT BULBS WOULD BE ON DISPLAY, THE LARGEST NUMBER OF LIGHT BULBS USED SINCE 1983.

LIGHTING WILL BE LINED UP TO TAI WAI ALONG CHE KUNG MIU ROAD FROM THE TRADITIONAL SPOTS OF LEK YUEN BRIDGE, SAND MARTIN BRIDGE, TSUI YUNG BRIDGE, TAI CHUNG KIU ROAD AND BOTH SIDES OF SHING MUN RIVER.

THE DISPLAY WILL BE TURNED ON DAILY FROM 6.30 PM TO MIDNIGHT BETWEEN FRIDAY (DECEMBER 17) AND JANUARY 9, AND BETWEEN FEBRUARY 3 AND 24. IT WILL BE SWITCHED ON THROUGHOUT THE NIGHT FROM CHRISTMAS EVE TO DECEMBER 26, FROM NEW YEAR EVE TO NEW YEAR DAY, AND FROM FEBRUARY 9 TO 12.

LARGE GRAPHIC DECORATIONS CONVEYING GREETING MESSAGES IN COLOURFUL BULBS WILL ALSO BE PUT UP.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROGRAMMES INCLUDE A VARIETY SHOW PRODUCED BY TELEVISION BROADCASTS LTD AT 10.15 PM ON THE NEW YEAR EVE AT SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK. THE SHOW WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE.

APART FROM PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR ARTISTES AND SINGERS, FIREWORKS DISPLAY AND SPECIAL LASER-BEAM EFFECT WILL BE SHOWN.

ADMISSION TICKETS TO THE NEW YEAR EVE SHOW ARE AVAILABLE FREE TO THE PUBLIC FROM 10 AM TO NOON AND 2 PM TO 4 PM ON NEXT WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22 AND 23, ON A FIRST-COME FIRST-SERVE BASIS.

MORE, A DANCING PARTY WILL BE HELD AT THE PODIUM OF THE SHA TIN CITY HALL AT 9 PM ON THE NEW YEAR EVE.

ENTRIES ARE INVITED TO A PHOTOGRAPH CONTEST ON SHA TIN LIGHTING DISPLAY.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN. THE DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES WILL BE FEBRUARY 28.

WINNERS WILL BE AWARDED PRIZES. ENQUIRIES ON THE CONTEST CAN BE MADE ON TEL 604 8078 EXT 33.

THIS YEAR'S FESTIVE PROGRAMME, COSTS ABOUT \$2.8 MILLION, IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL, CABLE TV, KOWLOON CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION. TELEVISION BROADCASTS LTD, AND HENDERSON LAND DEVELOPMENT LTD.

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DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR SHAM SHUI PO
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SHAM SHUI PO WILL LAUNCH A 38-DAY DISTRICT FESTIVAL THIS FRIDAY (DECEMBER 17) TO ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON, THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHAN TUNG, SAID THE THEME FOR THIS YEAR WAS "SHAM SHUI PO IS OUR HOME".

HE SAID MORE THAN 50 ACTIVITIES WOULD BE HELD DURING THE PERIOD WHICH WILL LAST UNTIL JANUARY 23 NEXT YEAR.

ALSO AIMED AT FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG THE RESIDENTS, THE FESTIVAL WILL INCLUDE VARIETY SHOWS, CONCERTS, SPORTS COMPETITIONS, CHINESE OPERA SHOWS, EXHIBITIONS, PHOTO CONTEST, A FIGHT CRIME CARNIVAL AND A CIVIC EDUCATION CARNIVAL.

ADMISSION IS FREE FOR MOST OF THE ACTIVITIES.

THE FESTIVAL'S HIGHLIGHT WILL BE A GRAND OPENING FOLLOWED BY A VARIETY SHOW AT THE HONG KONG COLISEUM THIS FRIDAY.

IT WILL FEATURE PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS AND A CHILDREN'S CHOIR.

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PAMPHLETS ON DETAILS OF THE FESTIVAL ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS BRANCH OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 720 4251.

COSTING MORE THAN \$1.3 MILLION, THE FESTIVAL IS SPONSORED THE BY SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD, URBAN COUNCIL AND LOCAL PERSONALITIES.

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BAND MUSIC HERALDS CHRISTMAS

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LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MUSICIANS WILL PRESENT CONCERTS FOR BAND MUSIC LOVERS DURING THE 1993 HONG KONG YOUTH BAND FESTIVAL TO BE HELD FROM DECEMBER 23 TO 28.

THE SIX-DAY FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH.

SYMPHONIC BANDS FROM A NUMBER OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS WILL TAKE PART IN THE SYMPHONIC BAND CONTEST TO BE HELD AT THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL AT 2 PM ON DECEMBER 23.

FROM DECEMBER 24 TO 27, CONCERTS WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE MUSIC OFFICE'S SYMPHONIC BANDS AND ALEXANDRA HILLS STATE HIGH SCHOOL WIND ORCHESTRA OF AUSTRALIA AT HENG ON SHOPPING CENTRE, METRO PLAZA AT KWAI FONG, LOK FU SHOPPING CENTRE PHASE II AND THE LANDMARK IN CENTRAL.

THE MARCHING BAND CONTEST WILL BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM AT 3 PM ON DECEMBER 27.

FREE ADMISSION COUPONS FOR THE SYMPHONIC BAND CONTEST AND THE MARCHING BAND CONTEST ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 399 2196 OR 796 7537.

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FRESH WATER CUT IN SHAM SHUI PO

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SHAM SHUI PO WILL GO OFF FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 15) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WASTE DETECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL THE PREMISES AT CASTLE PEAK ROAD, PRATAS STREET, FUK WING STREET, TONKIN STREET, UN CHAU STREET AND HING WAH STREET.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 73.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 432.339 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 359.435 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 61.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,461
REVERSAL OF LAF	+2,539
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	4,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+1,480
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	5,480
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 113.6 *+0.0* 13.12.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.00 PCT	14 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.30	3.64
1 MONTH	3.01 PCT	17 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.81	3.92
3 MONTHS	3.00 PCT	20 MONTHS	2508	4.625	100.90	4.10
6 MONTHS	3.20 PCT	23 MONTHS	2511	4.15	99.81	4.30
12 MONTHS	3.50 PCT	35 MONTHS	3610	4.20	98.63	4.77

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 12,989 MN

CLOSED 13 DECEMBER 1993

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