



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1994

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HK STANDS READY TO HELP IN CHINA FLOODS	1
INDUSTRY DIRECTOR VISITS EUROPE	1
SWEATER IMPORTS "NO INJURY" FINDINGS AFFIRMED	2
VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND IN APRIL	3
THIRD PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT TV LICENCES	4
WARNING ON DISMISSAL OF PREGNANT EMPLOYEES	5
SCHOOLS POSITIVE ABOUT JOINING MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE SCHEME	6
WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET PHASE II OPENS TOMORROW	8
WATER STORAGE FIGURE	9
HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS	9

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1994

- 1 -

HK STANDS READY TO HELP IN CHINA FLOODS

* * * * *

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS MADE CLEAR TO CHINA THAT IT STANDS READY TO PROVIDE WHATEVER ASSISTANCE IT CAN IN THE DEVASTATING FLOODS IN CHINA, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES' OFFICE IN HONG KONG, MR PATTEN SAID THE RELIEF AGENCY WAS ALREADY IN TOUCH WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES TO SEE WHAT THEY COULD DO.

"THE DEVASTATING FLOODS IN CHINA HAVE SHOCKED EVERYBODY IN HONG KONG.

"WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY AT THE LARGE LOSS OF LIFE WHICH THOSE FLOODS HAVE ALREADY CAUSED," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE NOTED THAT A DISASTER RELIEF FUND HAD BEEN SET UP RECENTLY IN HONG KONG.

"I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WILL SOON BE IN TOUCH WITH MY OFFICIALS TO TALK ABOUT HOW WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL HELP TO YOU AND TO OTHERS IN THIS INSTANCE, AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE IN THE FUTURE," MR PATTEN ADDED.

WELCOMING THE ORGANISATION TO SET UP AN OFFICE IN HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR SAID THE COMMUNITY HAD MORE THAN JUST CASH TO OFFER.

"WE HAVE A WEALTH OF SKILLED AND TALENTED PEOPLE, AND MANY HIGHLY TRAINED DOCTORS AND NURSES - SOME OF THE VERY BEST IN THE WORLD," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

INDUSTRY DIRECTOR VISITS EUROPE

* * * * *

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MISS DENISE YUE, WILL LEAVE HONG KONG TONIGHT (MONDAY) FOR A FOUR-DAY VISIT TO GERMANY, FRANCE AND ITALY AS PART OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT'S ONGOING CAMPAIGN TO ATTRACT OVERSEAS INDUSTRIALISTS TO INVEST IN HONG KONG.

MISS YUE WILL FIRST GO TO FRANKFURT WHERE SHE WILL MEET GERMAN BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LEADERS AND DISCUSS WITH THEM THE CURRENT STATE OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY AND MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE TERRITORY.

SHE WILL LEAVE FRANKFURT ON JUNE 22 FOR PARIS WHERE SHE WILL ADDRESS A SPECIAL SEMINAR ON "HONG KONG'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRENCH MANUFACTURERS".

ON JUNE 23 SHE WILL TRAVEL TO MILAN WHERE SHE WILL ADDRESS THE HONG KONG - ITALY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

MISS YUE'S ITINERARY INCLUDES A NUMBER OF VISITS TO LEADING EUROPEAN MANUFACTURERS AS WELL AS MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR INDUSTRY MATTERS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1994

- 2 -

SWEATER IMPORTS "NO INJURY" FINDINGS AFFIRMED

* * * * *

A TRADE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL TODAY (MONDAY) DESCRIBED AS "EXCELLENT NEWS FOR HONG KONG" THE RULING MADE LAST WEEK BY THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT (CAFC) CONCERNING IMPORTS OF MAN-MADE FIBRE SWEATERS FROM HONG KONG.

THE RULING AFFIRMS THE EARLIER DECISION OF THE U.S. COURT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE (CIT) TO UPHOLD THE U.S. INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION (ITC) DETERMINATION THAT IMPORTS OF MAN-MADE FIBRE SWEATERS FROM HONG KONG, SOUTH KOREA AND TAIWAN DID NOT INJURE THE U.S. SWEATERS INDUSTRY.

"THE RESULT REFLECTS THE CONCERTED EFFORTS MADE BY THE HONG KONG SWEATER INDUSTRY AND THE GOVERNMENT TO DEFEND HONG KONG'S TRADE INTEREST," SAID DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR THOMAS YIU.

"HOWEVER, IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN IF THE PETITIONER, NATIONAL KNITWEAR AND SPORTSWEAR ASSOCIATION, WILL PURSUE THE CASE FURTHER, FOR EXAMPLE, BY FILING A PETITION URGING THE SUPREME COURT TO HEAR THE CASE. SUCH A MOVE MAY DELAY THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE CAFC RULING," HE SAID.

MR YIU SAID SHOULD THE ASSOCIATION DECIDE NOT TO PURSUE THROUGH LEGAL ACTION, THE CAFC RULING WOULD LEAD TO THE REVOCATION OF THE ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ORDER, WHICH HAD BEEN IN PLACE SINCE 1990.

"THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR DEVELOPMENTS AND WORK CLOSELY WITH THE INDUSTRY," HE SAID.

IN SEPTEMBER 1990, BASED ON AN ITC FINDING THAT THE U.S. DOMESTIC INDUSTRY WAS INJURED BY DUMPED IMPORTS, THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ISSUED AN ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ORDER REQUIRING U.S. IMPORTERS OF MAN-MADE FIBRE SWEATERS FROM HONG KONG TO PAY ANTI-DUMPING DUTY AT A RATE OF 5.86 PER CENT.

IN JULY 1992, THE CIT HANDED DOWN A RULING ON THE CONSOLIDATED APPEALS BROUGHT BY HONG KONG, TAIWAN AND SOUTH KOREA COMPANIES THAT THE ITC INJURY DETERMINATION WAS "NOT SUPPORTED BY SUBSTANTIAL EVIDENCE OR OTHERWISE NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LAW".

THE ITC WAS MANDATED TO REVIEW THE INJURY DETERMINATION. SUBSEQUENTLY, IT REPORTED A "NO INJURY" DETERMINATION TO CIT IN NOVEMBER 1992. CIT UPHELD THIS "NO INJURY" DETERMINATION IN AUGUST 1993.

NATIONAL KNITWEAR AND SPORTSWEAR ASSOCIATION FILED AN APPEAL AGAINST THE CIT DECISION WITH CAFC IN OCTOBER 1993. THE CAFC AFFIRMED CIT'S DECISION ON JUNE 15 THIS YEAR.

----- 0 -----

VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND IN APRIL

* * * * *

THE VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND FOR LOCAL PRODUCTION IN APRIL 1994 RETURNED TO A SMALL POSITIVE INCREASE OF 2% OVER A YEAR EARLIER, AFTER HAVING DECLINED IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR.

THIS IS PART OF THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A MONTHLY SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND REFER TO ORDERS AND PARTS OF ORDERS RECEIVED EARLIER BY MANUFACTURERS FOR LOCAL PRODUCTION WHICH REMAIN UNFILLED AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

ORDERS RECEIVED BY TRADERS NOT ENGAGED IN PRODUCTION ARE INCLUDED IF SUCH ORDERS ARE FURTHER PLACED TO MANUFACTURERS FOR PRODUCTION LOCALLY.

HOWEVER, ORDERS PLACED TO MANUFACTURING FIRMS FOR PRODUCTION IN CHINA AND OTHER PLACES OUTSIDE HONG KONG ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS SERIES OF ORDERS-ON-HAND STATISTICS.

COMPARING APRIL 1994 WITH APRIL 1993, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF OUTSTANDING ORDERS WERE RECORDED IN THE ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY (+18%) AND THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY (+15%). MODERATE INCREASE IN ORDERS WAS RECORDED IN THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY (+6%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, SIGNIFICANT DECREASE IN ORDERS WAS RECORDED IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY (-17%). THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND THE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING INDUSTRY RECORDED SMALL DECREASES IN ORDERS (-2% AND -1% RESPECTIVELY). ORDERS IN THE ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1994, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, THE VALUE OF MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND IN APRIL 1994 INCREASED BY 7%.

THE MONTHLY SURVEY OF ORDERS-ON-HAND COVERS A SAMPLE OF SOME 300 MANUFACTURING FIRMS ENGAGING 50 OR MORE WORKERS.

BEGINNING FROM JANUARY 1994, A NEW SERIES OF STATISTICS ON MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND IN VALUE TERMS COMPILED IN THE FORM OF AN INDEX IS PRODUCED, TO REPLACE THE OLD SERIES WHICH WAS EXPRESSED IN TERMS OF NUMBER OF MONTHS TO COMPLETE THE OUTSTANDING ORDERS.

THE NEW STATISTICAL SERIES PROVIDES A MORE DIRECT MEASURE OF THE OVERALL VALUE OF ORDERS IN THE LOCAL MANUFACTURING SECTOR THAT LEAD TO THE GENERATION OF LOCAL MANUFACTURING OUTPUT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN INTERPRETING THE MANUFACTURERS' ORDERS-ON-HAND FIGURES IN A SINGLE MONTH.

INSTEAD, THE TREND MOVEMENT OF THE SERIES AS DISPLAYED OVER A WIDER SPAN OF TIME POINTS SHOULD BE LOOKED AT.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR APRIL 1994, AT \$4.5 A COPY, IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SECTION, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 805 6441.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE YEAR-ON-YEAR PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN DIFFERENT MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES:

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF
ORDERS-ON-HAND IN

	MARCH 1994 OVER MARCH 1993 ----- (REVISED)	APRIL 1994 OVER APRIL 1993 ----- (PROVISIONAL)
ALL INDUSTRIES COVERED IN THE SURVEY	-3	+2
. WEARING APPAREL	-18	-17
. TEXTILES	-6	+6
. ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	+17	+18
. ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS	+5	*
. FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-4	+15
. PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-12	-2
. PRINTING AND PUBLISHING	-7	-1

* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

----- 0 -----

THIRD PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT TV LICENCES

* * * * *

THE THIRD PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE ATV AND TVB LICENCES WILL BE HELD IN THE SHATIN TOWN HALL CULTURAL ACTIVITIES HALL IN THE NEW TERRITORIES ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 22).

THE SESSION WILL START AT 6.30 PM AND LAST UNTIL 9.30 PM.

ADMITTANCE WILL BE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (BA) SAID: "MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED TO COMMENT ON A RANGE OF TOPICS COVERING THE PROGRAMMES AND ADVERTISEMENTS BROADCAST ON ATV AND TVB."

THE LICENCES FOR BOTH TELEVISION STATIONS WERE RENEWED FOR A TERM OF 12 YEARS EXPIRING IN DECEMBER 2000. EACH LICENCE CARRIES A CONDITION THAT IT IS SUBJECT TO RENEWAL BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL NOT BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 1994.

THE BA WILL SEEK THE VIEWS OF THE PUBLIC ON WHAT HAS BEEN BROADCAST OVER THE PAST FIVE OR SIX YEARS. THIS WILL HELP THE BA DETERMINE WHETHER ANY CHANGES TO THE REGULATORY SYSTEM FOR COMMERCIAL BROADCASTING IS REQUIRED.

PAMPHLETS GIVING DETAILS OF THE PUBLIC HEARINGS ARE AVAILABLE FROM DISTRICT OFFICES.

ENQUIRIES ON THE PUBLIC HEARING CAN BE MADE ON TEL 594 5792.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WARNING ON DISMISSAL OF PREGNANT EMPLOYEES

* * * * *

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT CASES INVOLVING DISMISSAL OF PREGNANT EMPLOYEES AND WILL STEP UP PROSECUTION AGAINST EMPLOYERS WHO BREACH EMPLOYMENT LAWS.

THE WARNING WAS PUBLISHED IN THE 33RD EDITION OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS NEWSLETTER RECENTLY PRODUCED BY THE LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT (LRPU).

IN A FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE, THE DEPARTMENT REMINDED ALL EMPLOYERS TO OBSERVE THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE (EO).

IN HONG KONG, THE HISTORY OF PROTECTING EMPLOYEES FROM BEING DISMISSED WHEN THEY ARE PREGNANT CAN BE TRACED BACK TO 1967.

IN THAT YEAR, A WORKING PARTY ON SOCIAL SECURITY ADVOCATED THAT THE PROTECTION FROM LOSING EMPLOYMENT DUE TO PREGNANCY WAS A SUBJECT OF IMMEDIATE IMPORTANCE.

WITH THE ENACTMENT OF THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1970 IN JANUARY 1970, PREGNANT EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN ENJOYING EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION BY LAW.

THE LAW PROVIDES THAT WHEN A PREGNANT EMPLOYEE WHO IS ENTITLED TO MATERNITY LEAVE HAS COMPLETED 12 WEEKS' SERVICE WITH HER EMPLOYER AND HAS SERVED NOTICE OF HER INTENTION TO TAKE MATERNITY LEAVE WILL ENJOY EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION.

ONCE THE NOTICE IS SERVED, THE EMPLOYER IS PROHIBITED FROM TERMINATING THE CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT, OTHERWISE THE EMPLOYER HAS TO PAY WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE, MATERNITY LEAVE PAY AND A SUM EQUIVALENT TO SEVEN DAYS' WAGES.

IN ADDITION TO MONETARY COMPENSATION, THE EMPLOYER HAS ALSO COMMITTED AN OFFENCE, THE MAXIMUM FINE OF WHICH IS \$10,000.

THE SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE LRPV, MR HO HONG-WAI, SAID COPIES OF A LEAFLET EXPLAINING THE MATERNITY PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE IN SIMPLE TERMS WERE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION AT ALL PUBLIC HOSPITALS, MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH CENTRES AND THE 11 OFFICES OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

"THE LEAFLET WILL FACILITATE FEMALE EMPLOYEES SEEKING MATERNITY PROTECTION TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THEIR STATUTORY RIGHTS AND BENEFITS," HE SAID.

THE LEAFLET IS ATTACHED WITH A STANDARD FORM OF NOTICE SPECIFYING THE EXPECTED DATE OF CONFINEMENT AND THE DATE ON WHICH THE MATERNITY LEAVE IS TO COMMENCE. THE STANDARD FORM SERVES TO HELP PREGNANT EMPLOYEES COMPLY WITH THEIR OBLIGATION UNDER THE LAW.

ALSO PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSLETTER IS AN ARTICLE ON "LABOUR RELATIONS" WITHIN THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD BY BOARD MEMBER MR CHEUNG LUN.

THE DEPARTMENT'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION EXPLAINED IN A LENGTHY STORY WHY OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

COURT RESULTS OF TWO LABOUR TRIBUNAL APPEAL CASES, ONE ON THE DEFINITION OF WAGES AND THE OTHER ON CONSTRUCTIVE DISMISSAL, WERE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PUBLICATION AS REFERENCE MATERIAL FOR EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES.

MORE THAN 25,000 COPIES OF THE NEWSLETTER WERE PRINTED FOR FREE DISTRIBUTION TO COMPANIES EMPLOYING 20 OR MORE WORKERS, EMPLOYERS' ASSOCIATIONS AND REGISTERED TRADE UNIONS IN THE TERRITORY.

EMPLOYERS AND OTHER PARTIES INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER MAY FAX THEIR REQUEST TO 854 4723 OR WRITE TO THE LABOUR RELATIONS PROMOTION UNIT, LABOUR DEPARTMENT, P.O. BOX 25114, HARBOUR BUILDING POST OFFICE, HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SCHOOLS POSITIVE ABOUT JOINING MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE SCHEME

* * * * *

PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS OF SCHOOLS UNDER THE SCHOOL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVE (SMI) SCHEME WERE POSITIVE ABOUT JOINING THE SCHEME, SAYING THAT THEIR SCHOOL HAD MADE "AN APPROPRIATE CHOICE".

THIS WAS REVEALED BY AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SURVEY OF SCHOOLS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRST PHASE OF THE SCHEME.

THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR TO EXAMINE HOW FAR THE AIMS OF THE SCHEME HAD BEEN ACHIEVED, THE PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY SCHOOLS, AND TO ANALYSE THEIR RESPONSES TO THE CHANGES IN GREATER DEPTH.

/ON THE

ON THE WHOLE, RESPONDENTS INCLUDING SCHOOL SUPERVISORS, PRINCIPALS, TEACHERS, PARENTS AND PAST STUDENTS CONSIDERED THAT JOINING THE SCHEME WAS AN APPROPRIATE CHOICE FOR THEIR SCHOOL.

ANNOUNCING THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY TODAY (MONDAY), THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), MR S M TSUI, SAID THE OVERALL RESULTS OF THE SURVEY WERE ENCOURAGING.

RESPONDENTS HAD MADE TANGIBLE PROGRESS IN SETTING UP A NEW MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK IN THEIR SCHOOLS.

MR TSUI NOTED THAT ALL PHASE ONE SCHOOLS HAD RESTRUCTURED THEIR SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES AND MANY HAD INCLUDED THEIR PRINCIPALS AND TEACHERS INTO THE COMMITTEE.

ALL OF THESE SCHOOLS HAD DRAWN UP THEIR ANNUAL SCHOOL PLAN IN WHICH SCHOOLS FORMULATED THEIR MISSION AND GOALS. MORE THAN 90 PER CENT OF THEM HAD STARTED IMPLEMENTING A FORMAL STAFF APPRAISAL SYSTEM.

IT WAS FOUND THAT EVERY PHASE ONE SCHOOL HAD DEVELOPED A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF SCHOOL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. SCHOOLS IN GENERAL COULD HANDLE THE DEVOLVED RESPONSIBILITIES PROPERLY.

MR TSUI WAS GLAD THAT THE SMI SCHEME WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTED BY PHASE ONE SCHOOLS AS A MEANS TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE OF SCHOOLS AND TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION.

THE SURVEY IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF DIFFICULTIES IN IMPLEMENTING THE SCHEME.

THESE INCLUDE TEACHERS' NEED FOR MORE TIME TO ADAPT TO THE SCHEME; THE HUGE DEMAND ON LEADERSHIP SKILLS IN MIDDLE MANAGEMENT; AND WORRIES THAT IT WOULD NOT BE EASY TO SET UP A PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION.

AT A MEETING LAST WEEK, THE SMI ADVISORY COMMITTEE ENDORSED THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY RESPONDENTS ON THE FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMI SCHEME:

- * SMI SCHOOLS SHOULD BE ADVISED TO DRAW UP REALISTIC WORK PLANS FOR PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PLAN OR SCHOOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL SO AS TO AVOID OVERLOADING TEACHERS. THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SHOULD SET UP A RESOURCE CENTRE FOR KEEPING REFERENCE/TRAINING MATERIALS AND PROVIDE LOAN SERVICES TO SCHOOLS.
- * MORE TIME SHOULD BE GIVEN TO NEW SMI SCHOOLS TO DEVELOP THEIR STAFF APPRAISAL SYSTEM AND TO CULTIVATE THE CONCEPTS OF ASSESSMENT OF TEACHERS' PERFORMANCE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AMONG TEACHERS.
- * THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SHOULD ASSIST SCHOOLS IN ORGANISING SCHOOL-BASED TRAINING FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS. IT SHOULD PROVIDE MORE TRAINING FOR SENIOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOL HEADS ON LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOP MORE SCHOOL-BASED MANAGEMENT TRAINING PACKAGES/MATERIALS FOR SMI SCHOOLS.

- * SCHOOLS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO DEVELOP CLOSE LINKS WITH THE HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION UNIT OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. THE CONCEPT OF ENCOURAGING ALUMNI TO CARE FOR AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR ALMA MATER SHOULD BE FOSTERED.
- * AN "SMI INDICATOR" SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE SCHOOL LIST IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES ALLOCATION SYSTEM TO IDENTIFY THE SCHOOLS UNDER THE SMI SCHEME. SMI SCHOOLS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO PUBLISH PROSPECTUSES OR INFORMATION LEAFLETS TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS. PUBLICITY SHOULD CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE IDEA OF SMI AMONG NON-SMI SCHOOLS.
- * THERE SHOULD BE STRONGER SUPPORT FROM DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICERS, SUBJECT INSPECTORS AND OFFICERS OF THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE.

MR TSUI SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER ALL RECOMMENDATIONS.

THE SMI SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN 1991 TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION BY GIVING GREATER FLEXIBILITY TO THE MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL FINANCES AND AFFAIRS AND ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF TEACHERS, PARENTS, STUDENTS AND PAST STUDENTS IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SCHOOL.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET PHASE II OPENS TOMORROW

* * * * *

THE SECOND PHASE OF THE WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET WILL BE OFFICIALLY OPENED TOMORROW (TUESDAY), MARKING THE COMPLETION OF THIS MODERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET IN THE SOUTH EAST ASIAN REGION.

OCCUPYING AN AREA OF 6.2 HECTARES, THE MARKET WILL BRING FIVE WHOLESALE TRADES, NAMELY FRUIT, VEGETABLES, POULTRY, FRESHWATER FISH AND EGGS TOGETHER UNDER ONE ROOF.

OFFICIATING AT TOMORROW'S OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR ERIC LI AND THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE.

- - - - -

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE WESTERN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET-PHASE II TO BE HELD TOMORROW (TUESDAY) AT 10.45 AM AT THE MARKET LOCATED AT 8 FUNG MAT ROAD, WESTERN RECLAMATION, SAI YING PUN, HONG KONG.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1994

- 9 -

WATER STORAGE FIGURE
* * * * *

STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 68.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 402.249 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 403.053 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 68.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
	-----	-----	-----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	968	0930	+90
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,447	1000	+90
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+280
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+479	1200	+279
LAF TODAY	NIL	1500	+279
		1600	+479
LAF RATE 2.50 BID/4.50 OFFER	TWI 124.0	*-0.1*	20.6.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.95	17 MONTHS	2511	4.15	98.04	5.68
1 MONTH	3.97	23 MONTHS	2605	6.35	100.59	6.10
3 MONTHS	4.20	28 MONTHS	3610	4.20	95.35	6.46
6 MONTHS	4.61	31 MONTHS	3701	4.60	95.49	6.62
12 MONTHS	5.24	34 MONTHS	3704	6.15	98.76	6.74

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 14,233 MN

CLOSED 20 JUNE 1994

- - - - 0 - - - -