



Received by PRO
on - 1 APR 1993

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1993

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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1993

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ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE, MR TONY EASON, TODAY (MONDAY) CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO BE MORE CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED TO USE ENERGY EFFICIENTLY IN THEIR DAILY LIVES.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO LAUNCH THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN TODAY (MONDAY), MR EASON SAID APART FROM ACTUAL MONEY SAVINGS IN DOLLARS AND CENTS TERMS, THE PUBLIC CAN ALSO HELP REDUCE AIR POLLUTION WHICH IS CAUSED BY THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS IN THE PROCESS OF GENERATING ENERGY.

"FOR EVERY UNIT OF ENERGY SAVED, AN EQUIVALENT OF THREE UNITS OF FOSSIL FUELS IS CONSERVED."

MR EASON SAID VERY SIMPLE GOOD HOUSEKEEPING PRACTICES COULD MAKE A LOT OF DIFFERENCE.

"WITH THE SUMMER COMING, PEOPLE CAN HELP CONTRIBUTE TO ENERGY CONSERVATION BY MAKING SURE THAT THEIR AIR-CONDITIONERS ARE NOT OPERATING AT TEMPERATURES WHICH ARE TOO LOW AND THAT THE DOORS AND WINDOWS ARE CLOSED WHEN THE AIR-CONDITIONER IS ON," HE SAID.

OTHER ENERGY-SAVING TIPS :

- * DON'T SWITCH ON YOUR ELECTRICAL OR GAS APPLIANCES UNTIL YOU WANT TO USE THEM.
- * SWITCH OFF LIGHTS WHEN ROOMS ARE UNOCCUPIED.
- * DON'T OPERATE YOUR REFRIGERATOR AT AN EXCESSIVE LOW TEMPERATURE.

THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAMPAIGN WILL INCLUDE BROADCASTING ANNOUNCEMENTS IN PUBLIC INTEREST ON TELEVISION AND RADIO, DISPLAY OF POSTERS IN PUBLIC PLACES AND WIDE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL BOOKMARKS TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ENERGY-SAVING AND TO GIVE TIPS ON HOW TO SAVE ENERGY.

THE CAMPAIGN IS ALSO TARGETED AT DEVELOPERS, MANAGERS AND TENANTS OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS WHO WILL BE RECEIVING ADVISORY NOTES AND LEAFLETS ON ENERGY CONSERVATION.

"CENTRALLY, THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS PLANNING AN AWARD SCHEME FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS AND IS ALSO CONSIDERING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY DISPLAY AND INFORMATION CENTRE," HE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE INTENDS TO EXTEND ITS WORK ON IDENTIFYING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS TO OTHER AREAS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.

"WORK IS UNDERWAY TO PRODUCE MORE ADVISORY NOTES FOR THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR AND TO COLLECT DATA ON OTHER HEAVY ENERGY CONSUMPTION SECTORS SUCH AS THE TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRIAL SECTORS AS POSSIBLE FURTHER TARGETS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES AND CAMPAIGNS," MR EASON SAID.

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PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR FEBRUARY
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IN FEBRUARY, RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO SURGE, WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS REGISTERED A SMALL DECLINE.

IMPORTS GREW MARKEDLY.

THESE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY ROSE BY \$12,183 MILLION OR 25% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO \$61,564 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY \$683 MILLION OR 3.9% TO \$16,807 MILLION.

TAKING RE-EXPORTS AND DOMESTIC EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY GREW BY \$11,500 MILLION OR 17% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO \$78,371 MILLION.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY \$14,674 MILLION OR 22% TO \$82,848 MILLION.

AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS SMALLER THAN THAT OF TOTAL IMPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$4,477 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 5.4% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN FEBRUARY.

TAKING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS TOGETHER, A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$4,103 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 2.8% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED. THIS COMPARED WITH A TRADE DEFICIT OF \$4,039 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 3.3% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED A YEAR EARLIER.

COMMENTING ON THE FEBRUARY TRADE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO BE ROBUST WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS REMAINED SLUGGISH.

THIS REFLECTED LARGELY THE CONTINUED SHIFT FROM DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO RE-EXPORTS AS LOCAL PRODUCTION PROCESSES WERE RELOCATED TO SOUTH CHINA, THUS RESULTING IN MORE GOODS BEING SHIPPED OUT FROM HONG KONG AS RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN RATHER THAN AS DOMESTIC EXPORTS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THERE WAS A SUSTAINED GROWTH IN RETAINED IMPORTS.

IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1993, THE VALUE OF RETAINED IMPORTS WAS 6.7% HIGHER THAN A YEAR EARLIER. THIS WAS IN LINE WITH THE CONTINUED GROWTH IN DOMESTIC DEMAND.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR FEBRUARY.

A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE BY COMMODITY AND COUNTRY FOR FEBRUARY WILL BE RELEASED IN MID-APRIL.

PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR FEBRUARY 1993

MERCHANDISE: DOMESTIC EXPORTS :	\$16,807 MILLION
RE-EXPORTS :	\$61,564 MILLION
TOTAL EXPORTS :	\$78,371 MILLION
IMPORTS :	\$82,848 MILLION
TRADE BALANCE :	-\$4,477 MILLION

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	DEC 92 TO	DEC 91 TO	CHANGE	
	FEB 93	FEB 92	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	53,025	53,954	-930	-1.7
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(23.3%)	(27.7%)		
RE-EXPORTS	175,013	140,876	+34,137	+24.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	228,038	194,830	+33,207	+17.0
IMPORTS	236,431	201,057	+35,373	+17.6
TRADE BALANCE	-8,393	-6,227	-2,166	
SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	FEBRUARY	FEBRUARY	CHANGE	
	1993	1992	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	16,807	17,490	-683	-3.9
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(21.4%)	(26.2%)		
RE-EXPORTS	61,564	49,381	+12,183	+24.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	78,371	66,871	+11,500	+17.2
IMPORTS	82,848	68,175	+14,674	+21.5
TRADE BALANCE	-4,477	-1,304	-3,173	
LAST MONTH	FEBRUARY	JANUARY	CHANGE	
	1993	1993	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	16,807	14,559	+2,247	+15.4
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(21.4%)	(22.8%)		
RE-EXPORTS	61,564	49,165	+12,399	+25.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	78,371	63,724	+14,647	+23.0
IMPORTS	82,848	63,350	+19,498	+30.8
TRADE BALANCE	-4,477	+374	-4,851	
CALENDAR YEAR TO-DATE	JAN-FEB	JAN-FEB	CHANGE	
	1993	1992	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	31,366	31,655	-289	-0.9
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(22.1%)	(26.4%)		
RE-EXPORTS	110,729	88,389	+22,340	+25.3
TOTAL EXPORTS	142,095	120,044	+22,051	+18.4
IMPORTS	146,199	124,084	+22,115	+17.8
TRADE BALANCE	-4,103	-4,039	-64	

LAST 12 MONTHS	MAR 92 TO	MAR 91 TO	CHANGE	
	FEB 93	FEB 92	HK\$ MN.	%
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	233,835	229,178	+4,656	+2.0
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(24.7%)	(29.3%)		
RE-EXPORTS	713,169	552,748	+160,421	+29.0
TOTAL EXPORTS	947,004	781,926	+165,078	+21.1
IMPORTS	977,410	797,396	+180,014	+22.6
TRADE BALANCE	-30,406	-15,470	-14,936	

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PRE-WAR BUILDINGS IN WESTERN DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (MONDAY) DECLARED FOUR PRE-WAR BUILDINGS IN WESTERN DISTRICT DANGEROUS AND LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

DECLARED DANGEROUS IS 8 UI ON LANE, WHILE 2, 4 AND 6, TOGETHER WITH A STRUCTURE IN THE REAR LANE OF 2-8, HAVE BEEN DECLARED LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

THE BUILDINGS CONCERNED HAD LOAD-BEARING BRICK WALLS AND, EXCEPT NO. 4, TIMBER FLOOR AND ROOF JOISTS. THE FLOOR AND ROOF OF NO. 4 WERE REPLACED BEFORE 1971 WITH REINFORCED CONCRETE BEAMS AND SLABS SUPPORTED ON THE LOAD-BEARING WALLS.

THE CONDITIONS OF THE ORIGINAL STRUCTURAL TIMBER MEMBERS AND ROOF AND FLOOR BOARDS OF NO. 8 ARE VERY POOR WITH SOME BADLY DEFECTIVE TIMBERS, PARTICULARLY IN THE REAR KITCHEN BLOCK. TEMPORARY TIMBER SUPPORTS WERE INSTALLED THERE BY A GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED CONTRACTOR EARLIER THIS MONTH AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE AGAINST AN IMMINENT COLLAPSE OF THE FLOOR AND ROOF.

SIMILAR BADLY DEFECTIVE STRUCTURAL TIMBERS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AT NO. 2 AS EVIDENCED BY THE SAGGING ROOF.

THE LOAD-BEARING WALLS ARE ALSO DEFECTIVE AS EVIDENCED BY FRACTURES IN AND THROUGH THE WALLS, WITH OPEN-JOINTED AND ERODED BRICKWORK AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS. RECENT OUTWARD MOVEMENT HAS ALSO BEEN NOTED AT THE JUNCTION OF THE REAR AND GABLE WALLS OF NO. 2.

IN VIEW OF THE EXTENT OF THE DEFECTIVE STRUCTURAL TIMBERS AT NO. 8, COUPLED WITH THE DANGER OF COLLAPSE OF PARTS OF THIS BUILDING, AND THE POOR CONDITION OF THE LOAD-BEARING WALLS, THE BUILDING SHOULD BE CLOSED AND SUBSEQUENTLY DEMOLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

THE BUILDING AT NO. 2 SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED AS LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS BECAUSE OF THE SAGGING ROOF AND SIGNS OF RECENT MOVEMENT.

THE BUILDINGS AT NOS. 4 AND 6, WHICH ARE STRUCTURALLY DEPENDANT ON ONE ANOTHER FOR SUPPORT, CANNOT SAFELY WITHSTAND THE DEMOLITION OF THE ADJOINING BUILDING AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE CLOSED AS LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS AND DEMOLISHED TOGETHER WITH NOS. 2 AND 8 IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY.

THERE ARE TEMPORARY UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANES SURROUNDING THE ABOVE PRE-WAR BUILDINGS.

DEMOLITION OF THESE BUILDINGS CANNOT BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT AFFECTING THE STABILITY OF THESE STRUCTURES AND HENCE THEY SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED AS LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS AT THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 10 IN RESPECT OF 2, 4, 6 AND 8 UI ON LANE AND THE STRUCTURES AT THE REAR OF THESE BUILDINGS WERE POSTED ON THE BUILDINGS TODAY.

IN ADDITION, DISTRICT LANDS OFFICER/HONG KONG WEST HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO TAKE PARALLEL ACTION TO VACATE AND DEMOLISH THE STRUCTURES IN THE PUBLIC LANES BESIDE 2 AND 8 UI ON LANE.

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LAST FLYPAST BY RHKAAF
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THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE (RHKAAF), THE LAST REMAINING OPERATIONAL COMMONWEALTH AUXILIARY AIR FORCE, WILL BE FORMALLY DISBANDED ON APRIL 1.

TO MARK THIS HISTORIC EVENT, A FLYPAST OF TWO SUPER KING AIR AIRCRAFT, THREE SLINGSBY FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT AND THREE SIKORSKY S76 HELICOPTERS WILL BE HELD OVER VICTORIA HARBOUR AT NOON ON WEDNESDAY (MARCH 31).

THE FLYPAST WILL SALUTE THE HONORARY AIR COMMODORE, R G PENLINGTON, WHO WILL FIRE THE JARDINE NOONDAY GUN AT CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE PUBLIC CAN OBSERVE THE FLYPAST ON THE WATERFRONTS OF THE HARBOUR.

THERE WILL BE A LAYING UP CEREMONY OF THE SQUADRON STANDARD AT ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL AT 4 PM ON WEDNESDAY. IT IS AN AIR FORCE TRADITION THAT WHEN A SQUADRON IS DISBANDED, ITS STANDARD IS LODGED IN A LOCAL CHURCH.

THE RHKAAF SQUADRON STANDARD WAS APPROVED BY THE QUEEN ON JUNE 8, 1972 AND PRESENTED TO THE UNIT BY THE PRINCE OF WALES ON MARCH 5, 1979.

THE RHKAAF WILL BE SUCCEEDED BY THE GOVERNMENT FLYING SERVICE, WHICH WILL BECOME OPERATIONAL ON APRIL 1.

MR BRIAN CLUER HAS BEEN APPOINTED THE FIRST CONTROLLER OF THE SERVICE, WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL FLYING SERVICE FOR THE COMMUNITY.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE NEW CONTROLLER OF THE GOVERNMENT FLYING SERVICE, MR BRIAN CLUER, WILL MEET THE MEDIA AT THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE AT 10 AM ON WEDNESDAY. ALSO PRESENT AT THE SESSION WILL BE RHKAAF WING COMMANDER, MR DICKY YIP, AND THE CHIEF PILOT, SQUADRON LEADER, MR BRIAN BUTT. YOU ARE INVITED TO ASSEMBLE AT THE MAIN GATE OF THE RHKAAF HEADQUARTERS, 1 CHEUNG YIP STREET, KOWLOON BAY AT 9.30 AM.

FROM THE HEADQUARTERS, THEY WILL ALSO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COVER THE TAKING OFF OF PLANES AND HELICOPTERS FOR THE FLYPAST FORMATION AFTER THE SESSION. PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING ALONG TELEPHOTO LENS.

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REVIEW ARTICLE ON SALARY OF MIDDLE-LEVEL EMPLOYEES

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THE JANUARY 1993 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS CONTAINS A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE WHICH OUTLINES THE METHODOLOGY AND ANALYSES THE FINDINGS OF THE ANNUAL SURVEY OF SALARIES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS - MANAGERIAL AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES (EXCLUDING TOP MANAGEMENT) FOR THE PERIOD 1984 TO 1992.

DURING THE PERIOD, THE AVERAGE SALARY RATE FOR MIDDLE-LEVEL MANAGERS AND PROFESSIONALS IN THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND INSURANCE SECTOR SHOWED A HIGHER PERCENTAGE INCREASE COMPARED WITH OTHER ECONOMIC SECTORS.

ANALYSED BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUP, EMPLOYEES IN BANKING AND INSURANCE MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, AND MARKETING AND PURCHASING MANAGEMENT ENJOYED A HIGHER RATE OF INCREASE IN SALARY.

THE ARTICLE ALSO CONTAINS STATISTICS FOR JUNE 1992 ON THE AVERAGE MONTHLY SALARY OF SELECTED COMMON OCCUPATIONS ACROSS DIFFERENT ECONOMIC SECTORS AND THE PERCENTAGE OF EMPLOYEES ENTITLED TO VARIOUS KINDS OF FRINGE BENEFITS.

THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS AVAILABLE AT \$48 PER COPY. PURCHASE CAN BE MADE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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AIDS RESOURCE KIT ON LOAN TO COMPANIES

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COMPANY EXECUTIVES MAY BORROW A COMPREHENSIVE INFORMATION KIT DESIGNED TO FOSTER AIDS EDUCATION AND CONCERN AT WORKPLACES FREE OF CHARGE STARTING FROM THURSDAY (APRIL 1).

PRODUCED BY THE COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP UNDER THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS (CEPAIDS), THE KIT CONTAINS ATTRACTIVE SLIDES, VIDEOS, QUESTIONNAIRES AND LEAFLETS DESIGNED TO AROUSE INTEREST AND CONCERN ON THE SUBJECT OF AIDS AMONG STAFF AT WORK.

PUBLICISING THE KIT, A SPOKESMAN FOR CEPAIDS SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT 80 PER CENT OF THE REPORTED HIV-INFECTED POPULATION ARE PEOPLE AGED BETWEEN 25 AND 55 WHO ARE AT WORK.

"THE KIT SERVES TO ENRICH THE KNOWLEDGE OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES, AND CLEAR MISCONCEPTIONS, SO THAT THEY CAN ACCEPT AND SHOW CONCERN FOR AN HIV-INFECTED WORKMATE AND MAINTAIN A HARMONIOUS WORKING ATMOSPHERE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN CALLED ON COMPANY EXECUTIVES, PARTICULARLY THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR PERSONNEL, MANAGEMENT, WELFARE AND TRAINING, TO FULLY UTILISE THE KIT TO ORGANISE ACTIVITIES FOR THEIR STAFF.

ENTITLED "AIDS AND THE WORKPLACE RESOURCE KIT", THE INFORMATION PACKAGE CAN BE BORROWED FROM THE FOLLOWING PLACES:

- * AIDS COUNSELLING AND HEALTH EDUCATION SERVICE,
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ROOM 203, SENIOR NURSING QUARTER, QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL,
KOWLOON.
TEL 710 2924
- * OFFICES OF THE CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT,
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
SEVENTH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE,
130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.
TEL 572 1476
- * SHA TIN HEALTH EDUCATION CENTRE,
SECOND FLOOR, LEK YUEN HEALTH CENTRE,
SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES.
TEL 692 8753
- * YUNG FUNG SHEE HEALTH EDUCATION CENTRE,
GROUND FLOOR, YUNG FUNG SHEE MEMORIAL CENTRE,
CHA KWO LING ROAD, KWUN TONG, KOWLOON.
TEL 727 8229
- * HONG KONG AIDS FOUNDATION,
FIFTH FLOOR, SHAU KEI WAN JOCKEY CLUB CLINIC,
CHAI WAN ROAD, SHAU KEI WAN, HONG KONG.
TEL 560 8528
- * FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION'S REFERENCE LIBRARY,
EIGHTH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE,
130 HENNESSY ROAD, HONG KONG.
TEL 575 4477 EXTENSION 71

BEACH WATER QUALITY REPORT 1992

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) PUBLISHED A REPORT ENTITLED "BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG, 1992".

PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY), DR MALCOLM BROOM, SAID THE REPORT GAVE A COMPREHENSIVE ACCOUNT OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF 42 GAZETTED BEACHES AND 14 NON-GAZETTED BEACHES IN THE TERRITORY WHICH WERE UNDER THE DEPARTMENT'S WATER MONITORING PROGRAMME.

HE SAID THE REPORT ANALYSED THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY TRENDS OF BATHING BEACHES, DISCUSSED THE SOURCES OF POLLUTION OF BEACHES IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS AND THE REMEDIAL ACTIONS REQUIRED.

"INFORMATION IS ALSO PROVIDED TO BEACH-GOERS ON THE LATEST WATER QUALITY AND THE ASSOCIATED RISK TO HEALTH OF SWIMMING AT THE BEACHES," HE SAID.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY AT ANGLERS', APPROACH, BUTTERFLY, HOI MEI WAN, GEMINI, KADOORIE AND TING KAU BEACHES WAS CONSISTENTLY POOR DURING 1992, WHILE WATER QUALITY AT CASTLE PEAK, OLD CAFETERIA AND ROCKY BAY BEACHES WAS VERY POOR.

"ALL 10 BEACHES FAILED OUR BATHING BEACH WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVE," DR BROOM ADDED.

HE NOTED THAT THE GENERAL MOMENTUM TOWARDS IMPROVEMENT IN BACTERIOLOGICAL BEACH WATER QUALITY, BUILT UP DURING 1990, HAD STALLED IN 1992.

"THIS TIME WE HAVE 18 GAZETTED BEACHES GRADED GOOD, 14 FAIR, AND SEVEN POOR," HE SAID. "THIS IS ROUGHLY THE SAME AS FOR 1991. THERE HAS BEEN NO IMPROVEMENT."

A SUMMARY OF THE RANKING OF ALL GAZETTED AND NON-GAZETTED BEACHES IN THE SWIMMING SEASON OF 1992 IS PRESENTED IN THE REPORT.

THE REPORT, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, IS ON SALE AT \$34 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

AS IN THE PAST YEAR, THE GRADINGS ON WATER QUALITY OF BATHING BEACHES WILL BE ANNOUNCED FORTNIGHTLY STARTING FROM APRIL 22.

HOWEVER, GRADINGS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED FOR THOSE BEACHES WHICH ARE CLOSED TO SWIMMERS BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL.

SECOND LOT OF 1993 UNCIRCULATED COIN SETS

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IN VIEW OF THE KEEN PUBLIC DEMAND FOR THE HONG KONG 1993 COMMEMORATIVE COIN COLLECTIONS, AN ADDITIONAL 10,000 SETS OF BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED COINS HAVE BEEN ORDERED AND WILL BE PUT ON SALE FROM MAY.

"ALL OF THE LIMITED EDITION PROOF COIN SETS AVAILABLE TO HONG KONG LAST MONTH WERE SOLD WITHIN 10 DAYS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE OFFICE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"BECAUSE OF THE HEAVY DEMAND FOR THE BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED COIN COLLECTIONS ON WHICH THERE IS NO PRODUCTION LIMIT, AN ADDITIONAL 10,000 SETS ARE BEING STRUCK BY THE BRITISH ROYAL MINT," HE ADDED.

DATED 1993, THE SEVEN COINS IN EACH SET ARE SUPERBLY CRAFTED AND CAREFULLY SELECTED. THEY COME PROTECTED AND SEALED WITHIN A HANDSOME PRESENTATION FOLDER.

"THE ISSUE OF THE COIN COLLECTIONS IS TO COMMEMORATE THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW-DESIGNED COINS FEATURING A BAUHINIA FLOWER, WHICH ARE GRADUALLY REPLACING THE TERRITORY'S PRESENT CIRCULATED COINS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE UNCIRCULATED SETS, PRICED AT \$128 EACH, WILL BE ON SALE FROM MAY AT DESIGNATED BRANCHES OF HONGKONG BANK AND THE OVERSEAS TRUST BANK.

"FURTHER PUBLICITY WILL BE ARRANGED NEARER THE TIME," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, PUBLIC INTEREST IN THE 1988 COIN COLLECTIONS HAS BEEN REKINDLED.

ALL 1988 PROOF COIN SETS HAVE NOW BEEN SOLD, WHILE A SMALL QUANTITY OF THE 1988 BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED SETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING BANKS:

* HONGKONG BANK:

MAIN OFFICE IN CENTRAL, AND BRANCHES AT MONG KOK, CAUSEWAY BAY (PATERSON STREET), KOWLOON HOTEL (21 NATHAN ROAD) AND WAYFOONG HOUSE (82-84 NATHAN ROAD).

* OVERSEAS TRUST BANK:

BRANCHES AT GLOUCESTER ROAD, YUEN LONG AND KOWLOON (524 NATHAN ROAD).

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KOREA IMPOSES DUTIES ON PHOSPHORIC ACID FROM CHINA

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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT THE AUTHORITIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAVE ANNOUNCED THE FINAL RESOLUTION ON ANTI-DUMPING PROCEEDINGS AGAINST PHOSPHORIC ACID IMPORTED FROM CHINA.

WITH EFFECT FROM FEBRUARY 20, THIS YEAR, IMPORT OF CERTAIN TYPES OF PHOSPHORIC ACID FROM CHINA IS SUBJECT TO FINAL ANTI-DUMPING DUTIES RANGING FROM 40.46 PER CENT TO 54.28 PER CENT, FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

ACCORDING TO TRADE STATISTICS, HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF PHOSPHORIC ACID OF CHINESE ORIGIN TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AMOUNTED TO \$2.1 MILLION LAST YEAR, COMPARED TO \$2 MILLION IN 1991.

MEANWHILE, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT REMINDED TRADERS THAT EXISTING TEXTILE EXPORT LICENCE APPLICATION FORMS NO. TRA 502 AND NO. TRA 503 WOULD ONLY BE ACCEPTED UNTIL THE END OF THIS WEEK (APRIL 3).

REVISED FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM RELEVANT LICENSING COUNTERS IN TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, 700 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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CHING MING A STATUTORY HOLIDAY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDS EMPLOYERS THAT CHING MING FESTIVAL, WHICH FALLS ON APRIL 5, IS ONE OF THE 11 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS FOR EMPLOYEES.

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, ALL EMPLOYEES, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR WAGE LEVELS, ARE ENTITLED TO THE HOLIDAY AND MUST BE PAID FOR THE DAY OFF IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THE SAME EMPLOYER FOR THREE MONTHS OR LONGER IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE STATUTORY HOLIDAY.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS ON A FULL WORKING DAY AND SHOULD INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AS WELL AS ALLOWANCES THAT CAN BE EXPRESSED IN MONEY TERMS SUCH AS MEALS AND COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD, WHICH COULD BE BETWEEN 28 AND 31 DAYS, PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OFF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE ON 717 1771.

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MONDAY, MARCH 29, 1993

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 51.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 303.607 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 200.231 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 34.2 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	1,020
REVERSAL OF LAF	+1,130
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,150
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+330
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,480

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 113.6 *-0.1* 29.3.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.64 PCT	14 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.41	3.35
1 MONTH	2.69 PCT	17 MONTHS	2408	5.50	101.19	3.52
3 MONTHS	2.84 PCT	20 MONTHS	2411	4.375	101.45	3.73
6 MONTHS	3.05 PCT	23 MONTHS	2502	4.625	101.49	3.96
12 MONTHS	3.34 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 18,229 MN

CLOSED 29 MARCH 1993

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