



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1993

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PARTIAL BILL WILL GO TO LEGCO TOMORROW

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD INTRODUCE THE BILL ON ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENT TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW AND THE BRITISH SIDE WOULD GO ON ASKING FOR AN 18TH ROUND OF TALKS.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING THE TIN YIU AND TIN SHUI ESTATES, MR PATTEN SAID: "WE HAVE ASKED ONCE AGAIN TODAY FOR CONFIRMATION FROM THE CHINESE SIDE OF AGREEMENT ON THE DATES FOR THE 18TH ROUND OF TALKS.

"WE ARE IN THE POSITION IN WHICH WE WANT THE TALKS TO CONTINUE."

RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT CIVIL SERVANTS JOINING THE PRELIMINARY WORKING COMMITTEE (PWC), THE GOVERNOR SAID: "WE HAVE EXISTING CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS, ABOVE ALL THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP BUT ALSO THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE.

"WE WANT TO SEE THOSE MECHANISMS WORKING SUCCESSFULLY."

NOTING THAT THE PWC ARE A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN PEKING, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "I VERY MUCH HOPE THEY WILL TELL PEKING WHAT LIFE IS REALLY LIKE IN HONG KONG; HOW SUCCESSFUL AND PROSPEROUS AND STABLE WE ARE IN HONG KONG.

"IF THEY WANT INFORMATION, LIKE ANY OTHER GROUP IN THE COMMUNITY, I AM SURE THE GOVERNMENT, SINCE IT BELIEVES IN INFORMED PUBLIC DEBATE, WILL LET THEM HAVE THE INFORMATION. BUT WE DO THAT WITH OTHER GROUPS AND WE TREAT THE PWC EXACTLY THE SAME."

ASKED IF THERE WOULD BE ANY TRANSITIONAL PROBLEM WITH DISTRICT BOARD AND MUNICIPAL COUNCILS MEMBERS, MR PATTEN SAID: "I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT IF ONE IS KEEN ON A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND THE LONG-TERM PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF HONG KONG THAT ONE SHOULD MAKE SURPRISING THREATS TO MEMBERS OF DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS.

"AFTER ALL AS SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE POINTED OUT, NOT LEAST THE SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, TO TAKE THE MEASURES WHICH APPARENTLY HAVE BEEN PROPOSED BY SOME CHINESE OFFICIALS WOULD HAVE NO BASIS IN THE BASIC LAW.

"SO I THINK RATHER THAN MAKE THOSE SORTS OF REMARKS WE SHOULD ALL WORK SUCCESSFULLY FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSITION."

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GOVERNOR SPEAKS TO REPORTERS

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SPEAKS TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING TIN YIU AND TIN SHUI ESTATES TODAY (TUESDAY):

GOVERNOR : THIS IS ONE OF OUR NEWEST TOWNS AND ONE OF OUR NEWEST COMMUNITIES AND I AM PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COME BACK AND VISIT IT. THE LAST TIME I WAS HERE I WAS ABLE TO DRIVE A TRAIN, BUT I HAVEN'T MANAGED TO DO THAT TODAY. I WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SEE THE NEW HARMONY BLOCKS WHICH I THINK ARE ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S PROGRAMME. THEY ARE PARTICULARLY GOOD FLATS AND I WAS PLEASED TO SEE HOW MUCH PLEASURE THE FAMILIES WHO'VE MOVED INTO THESE FLATS ARE GETTING FROM THEIR NEW HOMES.

JUST ONE THING WHICH I WOULD LIKE TO ADD ON A RATHER MORE SOMBER NOTE. WE KNOW HOW MUCH NEW CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IS TAKING PLACE IN HONG KONG TO BUILD HOMES AND COMMUNITIES LIKE THIS ONE. I SUPPOSE IT'S INEVITABLE THAT PEOPLE SHOULD WANT TO FINISH THE JOB AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. BUT THAT'S NO ARGUMENT, NO EXCUSE FOR TAKING RISKS, FOR CUTTING CORNERS, FOR PUTTING SAFETY AT PERIL. YESTERDAY WE HAD ANOTHER FOUR FATAL ACCIDENTS IN DEVELOPMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. IN THREE CASES, NO SAFETY HARNESS WAS WORN, NO LIFE LINE ATTACHED. WHAT THOSE FIGURES WHICH ARE SO TRAGIC FOR THE FAMILIES AND FRIENDS OF THOSE CONCERNED MEAN, AND I WOULD LIKE TO OFFER MY CONDOLENCES TO THOSE FAMILIES, WHAT THOSE FIGURES MEAN IS THAT WE HAVE THIS YEAR NOW HAD 90 DEATHS THROUGH INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, AND 74 OF THOSE DEATHS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY. THOSE ARE ABSOLUTELY APPALLING FIGURES. THEY ARE MUCH HIGHER THAN THE FIGURES FOR 1992. THEY ARE NOT FIGURES WHICH WE SHOULD TOLERATE IN A CIVILISED COMMUNITY, A SUCCESSFUL, DEVELOPED COMMUNITY LIKE HONG KONG. SO I WANT TO SAY ONCE AGAIN THAT WE WILL TAKE STERN ACTION WHEREVER WE SEE THE LAW ON INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BEING BROKEN. WE ARE TOUGHENING UP THAT LAW AS WELL. BUT I DO WANT TO MAKE AN APPEAL TO EMPLOYERS AND TO EMPLOYEES, NOT LEAST ON BEHALF OF THE FAMILIES OF THE MEN WHO WORK IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY, I WANT TO MAKE AN APPEAL TO THEM TO TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION, TO BE SENSIBLE, NOT TO FORGET ABOUT SAFETY BECAUSE THE CONSEQUENCES OF FORGETTING ABOUT SAFETY ARE THE SORT OF ACCIDENTS THAT TRAGICALLY WE SAW AGAIN YESTERDAY.

QUESTION : AS MR LU PING HAS SAID THAT THERE IS NO PROSPECT OF THE 18TH ROUND OF TALK BECAUSE BRITAIN HAS PRONOUNCED THE SO CAN YOU CONFIRM IF BRITAIN HAS DONE THAT ... AND THE MESSAGE TO CHINA TO MAKE THEM THINK THAT THE 17TH ROUND IS THE END OF THE TALKS IN ANY SENSE AND SECOND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS BRITAIN WILL RECONSIDER DELAYING THE TABLING OF THE BILL OF REFORM ?

/GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR : FIRST OF ALL, WE HAVE ASKED ONCE AGAIN TODAY FOR CONFIRMATION FROM THE CHINESE SIDE OF AGREEMENT ON THE DATES FOR THE 18TH ROUND OF TALKS. WE ARE IN THE POSITION IN WHICH WE WANT THE TALKS TO CONTINUE. AS I'VE SAID BEFORE, THE REASON WHY WE HAVE GAZETTED THE PARTIAL LEGISLATION ON NON-CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AND THE REASON WHY WE WILL BE INTRODUCING IT INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW IS PRECISELY IN ORDER TO GIVE OURSELVES MORE TIME TO DISCUSS MATTERS LIKE THE THROUGH TRAIN, LIKE THE ELECTION COMMITTEE AND LIKE THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES. THE CHINESE SIDE KNOW THAT PERFECTLY WELL. THEY KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT WE HAD TO START LEGISLATING ON THE MORE STRAIGHT FORWARD ISSUES AT THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER. THEY KNOW WHAT THE TIMING IS. THEY KNOW THAT WE WANT TO GO ON TALKING. WE'RE GOING PATIENTLY TO GO ON ASKING FOR AN 18TH ROUND OF TALKS. BUT IN THE MEANTIME, WE HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WHO YOU SEE TODAY ARE HAPPILY PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS, NO SIGNS OF TURMOIL IN HONG KONG, LOTS OF SIGNS OF PEOPLE SHOPPING HAPPILY FOR A PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS.

QUESTION : IS THERE ANY TRANSITIONAL PROBLEM WITH THE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND URBAN COUNCIL MEMBERS ?

GOVERNOR : I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE THAT IF ONE IS KEEN ON A SMOOTH TRANSITION AND THE LONG TERM PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF HONG KONG THAT ONE SHOULD MAKE SURPRISING THREATS TO MEMBERS OF DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS. AFTER ALL AS SEVERAL PEOPLE HAVE POINTED OUT, NOT LEAST THE SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, TO TAKE THE MEASURES WHICH APPARENTLY HAVE BEEN PROPOSED BY SOME CHINESE OFFICIALS WOULD HAVE NO BASIS IN THE BASIC LAW. SO I THINK RATHER THAN MAKE THOSE SORTS OF REMARKS WE SHOULD ALL WORK SUCCESSFULLY FOR A PEACEFUL TRANSITION. IF THERE ARE SOMETHINGS ABOUT WHICH WE CAN'T AGREE, THAT MEANS THAT WE SHOULD COOPERATE EVEN MORE ENTHUSIASTICALLY ON THE MAJORITY OF THINGS ON WHICH WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO AGREE IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG.

QUESTION: WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE CIVIL SERVANTS JOINING THE PWC?

GOVERNOR: I THINK AS A NUMBER OF NEWSPAPERS HAVE POINTED OUT THIS MORNING, WE HAVE EXISTING CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND WITH CHINESE OFFICIALS, ABOVE ALL THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP BUT ALSO THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE. WE WANT TO SEE THOSE MECHANISMS WORKING SUCCESSFULLY. THE PWC ARE A GROUP OF INDIVIDUALS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN PEKING, I THINK HAND-CHOSEN BY THE GOVERNMENT IN PEKING. I VERY MUCH HOPE THEY WILL TELL PEKING WHAT LIFE IS REALLY LIKE IN HONG KONG; HOW SUCCESSFUL AND PROSPEROUS AND STABLE WE ARE IN HONG KONG. IF THEY WANT INFORMATION, LIKE ANY OTHER GROUP IN THE COMMUNITY, I AM SURE THE GOVERNMENT, SINCE IT BELIEVES IN INFORMED PUBLIC DEBATE, WILL LET THEM HAVE THE INFORMATION. BUT WE DO THAT WITH OTHER GROUPS AND WE TREAT THE PWC EXACTLY THE SAME. I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THOSE MEMBERS OF THE PWC WILL, AS I SAY, GIVE THE TRUTH TO PEKING ABOUT WHAT LIFE IS LIKE IN HONG KONG. I HOPE THEY'LL POINT OUT THAT WE HAVE FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN HONG KONG, THAT WE HAVE A GOOD VIGOROUS DEBATE, THINGS WHICH ARE GUARANTEED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION, A DOCUMENT WHICH I COMMEND TO THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY.

QUESTION: SHOULD CHINA AGREE ON ANOTHER ROUND OF TALK, SHOULD WE CONCEIVABLY CHANGE TOMORROW'S LEGISLATION AGENDA?

GOVERNOR: NO, WE'VE MADE CLEAR WHY WE HAVE TO START LEGISLATING. I DON'T THINK THE COMMUNITY IS IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE REASONS FOR THAT AND I DON'T THINK THE MAJORITY OF THE COMMUNITY ARE IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT OUR SINCERITY. QUESTIONS ABOUT SINCERITY ARE I THINK ASKED OF OTHERS. BUT WE'LL BE INTRODUCING THE LEGISLATION TOMORROW. AND I VERY MUCH HOPE WE'LL BE HAVING THE 18TH ROUND OF TALKS AT THE END OF THE WEEK. ONE MORE.

QUESTION: WITH THE PRESENT POLITICAL ROW, ARE YOU STILL CONFIDENT THAT YOU WILL FLY OUT OF HONG KONG FROM CHEK LAP KOK IN 1997? DO YOU THINK THAT THE AIRPORT PROJECT WILL BE DELAYED ?

GOVERNOR: WELL, I WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE. I AM NOT SURE WHETHER I WILL FLY HOME. IT'S SOMETIMES BEEN SUGGESTED THAT I SHOULD TAKE THE THROUGH TRAIN AND GO HOME ON THE RAILWAY LINES. BUT WHEREVER I DEPART FROM ON THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1997, I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO SAY HAND ON HEART THAT I'VE DONE MY BEST TO SEE THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND I AM SURE THAT I'LL LEAVE A COMMUNITY WHICH WILL BE EVEN MORE PROSPEROUS THAN IT IS TODAY, ENJOYING ALL THE FREEDOMS WHICH HAVE HELPED TO MAKE HONG KONG SUCH AN OUTSTANDING PLACE FOR ALL THESE FAMILIES TO LIVE IN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

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BRITISH NATIONALITY SCHEME ENTERS FINAL PHASE

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THE FINAL PHASE OF THE BRITISH NATIONALITY SELECTION SCHEME WILL BE OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS FROM JANUARY 3 TO MARCH 31 NEXT YEAR.

COPIES OF A GENERAL GUIDE WHICH EXPLAINS THE SELECTION CRITERIA AND THE PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, IMMIGRATION OFFICES, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRES OF DISTRICT OFFICES AND POST OFFICES.

APPLICATION FORMS, TOGETHER WITH A SET OF GUIDANCE NOTES TO HELP APPLICANTS COMPLETE THE FORMS, WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THESE OFFICES FROM JANUARY 3.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE TWO-PHASE BRITISH NATIONALITY SELECTION SCHEME WOULD ENABLE UP TO 50,000 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS AND THEIR DEPENDANTS IN HONG KONG TO BE REGISTERED AS BRITISH CITIZENS.

THE FIRST PHASE BEGAN ON DECEMBER 1, 1990 AND WILL END ON JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

ABOUT 37,000 HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE BEEN REGISTERED BY THE END OF THE YEAR, LEAVING ABOUT 13,000 PLACES TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN THE FINAL PHASE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE QUOTA AVAILABLE FOR EACH OCCUPATIONAL GROUP AND APPROVED OCCUPATION WILL BE SET OUT IN A TABLE ENCLOSED WITH THE GUIDANCE NOTES.

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GOVERNOR MEETS RESIDENTS IN NEW TOWN

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (TUESDAY) MET PEOPLE OF THE TIN SHUI WAI NEW TOWN DURING A VISIT TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY'S TIN YIU AND TIN SHUI ESTATES.

A HOUSING SPOKESMAN SAID HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY, MS ROSANNA WONG, AND THE DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, MR FUNG TUNG.

HIS FIRST STOP WAS AT TIN YIU ESTATE - THE FIRST PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN TIN SHUI WAI - THE LAST PHASE OF WHICH WAS COMPLETED EARLY THIS YEAR.

MR PATTEN LEARNED THAT THERE WERE CURRENTLY 37,000 PEOPLE LIVING IN A TOTAL OF 15 TRIDENT AND HARMONY BLOCKS IN THE ESTATE AND A NEARBY HOME OWNERSHIP COURT, TIN YAU COURT.

HE TOURED THE ESTATE'S SHOPPING CENTRE WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE WIDE VARIETY OF FACILITIES AVAILABLE AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ESTATE.

ON HIS WAY, HE CALLED ON A DAY NURSERY RUN BY THE CHINESE RHENISH CHURCH HONG KONG SYNOD IN THE SHOPPING CENTRE TO SEE CARE AND ATTENTION BEING GIVEN TO CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SIX. HE WAS GREETED BY A CLASS WITH CHRISTMAS SONGS.

HE ALSO STOPPED AT THE POK OI HOSPITAL AFTER-SCHOOL CARE SERVICES CENTRE, LOCATED AT THE ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WHERE CHILDREN WERE DOING HOMEWORK AND STUDYING.

MR PATTEN THEN TOOK A FIVE-MINUTE DRIVE TO TIN SHUI -ESTATE, THE AUTHORITY'S SECOND PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE IN THE AREA. HE WAS BRIEFED ON DESIGNS OF HARMONY BLOCKS, THE LATEST IN THE SERIES OF PUBLIC HOUSING BLOCKS.

TO GET AN INSIGHT INTO THE LIVING CONDITIONS, HE CALLED ON A FAMILY OF SIX WHO FORMERLY LIVED IN SHAU KEI WAN AND HAD MOVED INTO A 52-SQUARE-METRE FLAT IN SHUI CHOI HOUSE LAST MONTH THROUGH THE WAITING LIST.

MR PATTEN SAW THEIR PLEASANT LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE THREE-BEDROOM FLAT FOR WHICH THE FAMILY PAID A MONTHLY RENT OF ABOUT \$1,000.

HE LEARNED THAT FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF THE FINAL PHASE LAST MONTH, THE ESTATE AND THE NEARBY TIN OI COURT WOULD ACCOMMODATE 23,000 PEOPLE IN 12 RENTAL AND HOME OWNERSHIP BLOCKS OF HARMONY DESIGN.

MR PATTEN ALSO MET SOME OF THE TENANTS WHO WERE VOLUNTARILY SERVING AS ESCORT TEAM MEMBERS AT A COMMAND POST IN THE TIN SHUI SHOPPING CENTRE.

THE ESCORT TEAM WAS PART OF A COMMUNITY AWARENESS SCHEME JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE FOR CRIME PREVENTION IN PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES.

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HE ALSO VISITED THE SINGLE-OPERATOR MARKET WHERE HE CHATTED TO VARIOUS STALL HOLDERS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MARKET WAS LET TO A SINGLE OPERATOR TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S EXPERTISE AND FLEXIBILITY IN MANAGEMENT. ALL TYPES OF DAILY NECESSITIES WERE AVAILABLE FROM THE 63 STALLS IN THE MARKET.

BOTH TIN YIU AND TIN SHUI ESTATES ARE WELL-PLANNED AND SELF-CONTAINED, WITH EDUCATIONAL, WELFARE, MEDICAL AND SHOPPING FACILITIES AVAILABLE WITHIN THE AREA.

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WORKERS ADVISED TO MIND OVERHEAD CABLES
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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) URGED CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS TO TAKE EVERY PRECAUTION AGAINST RISKS CARRIED BY HIGH-VOLTAGE OVERHEAD ELECTRIC CABLES.

DEPUTY CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR KAN HON-SANG, MADE THE APPEAL IN THE WAKE OF A FATAL ACCIDENT IN FAN KAM ROAD, YUEN LONG, YESTERDAY.

A WORKER WAS ELECTROCUTED WHEN THE JIB OF A MOBILE CRANE WAS UNLOADING A METAL LAMP POST UNDERNEATH AN 11-KILOVOLT OVERHEAD ELECTRIC CABLE.

"CONSTRUCTION SITE MANAGEMENT OR CONTRACTOR HAS A DUTY TO PREVENT ELECTRICAL DANGER, ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE ARE WORKERS OPERATING NEAR THESE CABLES," MR KAN SAID.

"A SAFE CLEARANCE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED BETWEEN THE LIVE CABLE AND THE MOBILE CRANE.

"IN ADDITION, A SIGNALLER SHOULD BE EMPLOYED TO OBSERVE THE MOVEMENTS OF THE CRANE AND ITS JIB," HE SAID.

UNDER THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS, WHERE THERE IS ANY ELECTRICALLY-CHARGED OVERHEAD CABLE OR APPARATUS, THE CONTRACTOR MUST TAKE PRECAUTIONS SUCH AS THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE AND SUITABLY PLACED BARRIERS OR OTHER MEANS.

THE PURPOSE IS TO PREVENT THE CABLE OR APPARATUS FROM BEING A SOURCE OF DANGER TO THE WORKERS.

"FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATION WOULD RENDER THE CONTRACTOR LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50,000," HE SAID.

A LEAFLET HIGHLIGHTING PRECAUTIONS NECESSARY ON WORK DONE NEAR HIGH VOLTAGE OVERHEAD CABLES IS AVAILABLE AT THE BRANCH OFFICES OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION.

THE LEAFLET IS JOINTLY PREPARED BY CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED, ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ON 815 0678.

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HK HAS FINE TEXTILES EXPORT CONTROL SYSTEM

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HONG KONG HAS BEEN PRAISED BY ITS MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS FOR HAVING ONE OF THE BEST TEXTILES EXPORT CONTROL AND CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN SYSTEMS IN THE WORLD, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCH MEETING OF PO LEUNG KUK, MR CHAU SAID THIS WAS A RESULT OF THE RIGOROUS ENFORCEMENT MEASURES TAKEN BY THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

"THE CUSTOMS RIGOROUSLY ENFORCE THE TEXTILES EXPORT CONTROL AND CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN SYSTEMS BY MEANS OF REGULAR FACTORY INSPECTIONS AND CONSIGNMENT CHECKS TO ENSURE THAT GOODS DECLARED TO BE OF HONG KONG ORIGIN ARE REALLY MANUFACTURED HERE.

"THEY ALSO CARRY OUT BORDER INSPECTIONS ON IMPORTS TO ENSURE ACCURATE ORIGIN LABELLING AND PROPER DISPOSAL.

"STEPPED-UP MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN ENFORCEMENT INCLUDE THE OPERATION OF A REWARD SCHEME AND THE SETTING UP OF A SPECIAL TASK FORCE.

"I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT STRONG CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT PROTECTS LEGITIMATE TRADE AND HELPS OUR NEGOTIATORS IN BILATERAL TEXTILE CONSULTATIONS," HE SAID.

MR CHAU SAID ANOTHER ASPECT OF THE CUSTOMS WORK WAS THE ENFORCEMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION LEGISLATION.

THIS YEAR THE CUSTOMS ALSO ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENFORCING THE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY ORDINANCE WHICH REGULATES THE SAFETY OF TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS BY STIPULATING THE SAFETY STANDARDS THAT HAVE TO BE MET BEFORE THEY CAN BE PUT ON THE MARKET.

"THE CONSUMER GOODS SAFETY BILL, WHICH IS NOW BEING FINALISED, SEEKS TO ACHIEVE A SIMILAR OBJECTIVE, BUT WITH A MUCH WIDER SCOPE THAN THE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY ORDINANCE.

"WHEN IT IS ENACTED, IT WILL BRING ALMOST ALL CONSUMER GOODS WITHIN STATUTORY CONTROL. THIS LEGISLATION WILL ALSO BE ENFORCED BY THE CUSTOMS.

"IT IS BELIEVED THAT RIGOROUS CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT OF THESE SAFETY LAWS CAN ONLY BENEFIT HONG KONG TRADE BY ENHANCING OUR IMAGE AS A RESPONSIBLE MANUFACTURER AND CONSUMER," HE SAID.

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50 CAR MARKS UP FOR AUCTION

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WILL PUT UP 50 LUCKY VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS FOR BIDDING ON SATURDAY (DECEMBER 18).

THEY ARE:

FL6888	FM168	FM3188	FM6368	FM815
FM968	FL388	AP105	EA921	AT129
*FK23	*FS3	*3393	*FT888	*CC95
AA2808	FM1633	FM112	FM1392	FM2628
FM3336	AA336	BM399	AA3353	AP6318
BB166	FM1618	FM2228	FM806	FM1680
FM162	FM332	FM628	FM8616	CY4606
*1990	*DK28	*DL333	*AD39	*FT24
FM238	FM320	FM839	FM1891	FM435
FM3133	FM908	FM3363	FM317	FM8358

* SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)

THE AUCTION WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM AT THE CITY HALL RECITAL HALL.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS MUST PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT REMINDED BIDDERS THAT THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK WOULD BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO A VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE AUCTION.

THE CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION MUST BE PRODUCED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE AUCTION IF THE MARK IS TO BE REGISTERED UNDER THE NAME OF BODY CORPORATE.

PROCEEDS OF THE AUCTION, AFTER DEDUCTION OF EXPENSES, WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND.

THE COMING AUCTION WILL BE THE 208TH ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973.

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STATUTORY HOLIDAY REMINDER

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS TO DESIGNATE EITHER THE WINTER SOLSTICE (DECEMBER 22) OR CHRISTMAS DAY (DECEMBER 25) AS ONE OF THE 11 STATUTORY HOLIDAYS FOR EMPLOYEES.

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, ALL EMPLOYEES, IRRESPECTIVE OF THEIR WAGE LEVELS, ARE ENTITLED TO STATUTORY HOLIDAYS. THEY 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

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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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CARNIVAL TO BEEF UP HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION
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A CARNIVAL ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION TO PROMOTE ITS WORK WILL BE HELD AT SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 19).

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC S W WONG, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION, MR TIK CHI-YUEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY.

PROGRAMMES INCLUDE A DRAWING COMPETITION, STALL GAMES AND A VARIETY SHOW PRESENTED BY TEACHERS, PARENTS AND STUDENTS.

THERE WILL BE DRAGON DANCE, CHINESE ORCHESTRA, CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND DANCES PERFORMED BY KINDERGARTEN PUPILS. THE SHOW WILL START AT 2 PM.

OTHER OFFICIATING GUESTS ARE ARTS FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION CHAIRLADY, MS MARIAN FANG; HONG KONG NEW GENERATION CULTURAL ASSOCIATION GENERAL SECRETARY, MR CHAN TAK-MING; ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SERVICES), MRS GRACE YUNG; AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), MR TSUI SEE-MING.

WINNING PROJECTS OF THE LOGO DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITIONS AND THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE DISPLAYED.

PRIZES OF LOGO DESIGN AND PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITIONS WILL BE PRESENTED AT 1 PM.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION CARNIVAL OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 1 PM ON SUNDAY (DECEMBER 19) IN SHA TIN CENTRAL PARK.

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COMPANIES PROSECUTED FOR POLLUTING ENVIRONMENT
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) RELEASED A LIST OF COMPANIES THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND GUILTY IN THE COURTS DURING NOVEMBER OF BREACHING ANTI-POLLUTION LEGISLATION CURRENTLY ENFORCED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE MADE MONTHLY.

BECAUSE THE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS COULD BE TIME CONSUMING, THERE WAS SOMETIMES A LENGTHY TIME GAP BETWEEN THE DATE OF THE OFFENCE AND THE CONVICTION DATE.

FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF PROSECUTION CASES AND THE ASSOCIATED FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS DURING NOVEMBER THIS YEAR:

NAME (COMPANY/ PERSON)	ADDRESS	DATE OF OFFENCE	NATURE OF OFFENCE	FINES(\$)	RECORD OF OFFENCE	COURT
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1.GOSON ENTERPRISES LTD	HANKOW RD, TSIM SHA TSUI	18.12.92- 28.01.93	APCO : UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF FURNACES	4,000	1ST	SOUTH KOWLOON
2.CITICALL LTD	FA YUEN STREET, MONG KOK	7.1.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRE- MENT IN A NOISE ABATE- MENT NOTICE	1,500	1ST	NORTH KOWLOON
3.WONG MENG- WAH	JORDAN RD, YAU MA TEI	7.1.93	NCO : "	50,000	2ND	SOUTH KOWLOON
4.SHUN FAI CONSTRUCTION CO LTD	ROBINSON RD, MID-LEVELS	10.1.93	NCO : CARRY OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT	5,000	1ST	WESTERN
5.LEUNG YIU- NAM AS NAM HOI RESTAURANT	TIN HAU RD, TUEN MUN	16.3.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE	10,000	1ST	TUEN MUN

6.LAU CHAK- MAN, NORMAN	CASTLE PEAK RD, TSUEN WAN	24.3.93	NCO : USE PRODUCTS DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 17(1)	6,500	1ST	TSUEN WAN
7.LEUNG SAI- MAN	CASTLE PEAK RD, TSUEN WAN	24.3.93	NCO : CAUSE TO BE USED PRODUCTS DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 17(1)	6,500	1ST	TSUEN WAN
8.SHUM KUI- ON	SAI LAU KOK RD, TSUEN WAN	24.3.93	NCO : "	10,000	1ST	"
9.LAI YIU- KEUNG	CONNAUGHT RD WEST, SAI YING PUN	16.4.93	NCO : "	5,000	1ST	WESTERN
10.WONG MUN- HING	"	16.4.93	NCO : "	5,000	1ST	"
11.PENTA- OCEAN CONSTRUCTION CO LTD	CANTON RD, TSIM SHA TSUI	18.4.93	NCO : CARRY OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT	40,000	2ND	SOUTH KOWLOON
12.FAR EAST WAGNER CONSTRUCTION LTD	SEYMOUR RD & CASTLE STEPS, MID-LEVELS	18.4.93	NCO : "	5,000	3RD	EASTERN
13.SUN PEI	"	18.4.93	NCO : "	2,000	1ST	"
14.KWAN TANG CONSTRUCTION LTD	TO KWA WAN RD & SAN MA TAU STREET, TO KWA WAN	5.5.93	NCO : CARRY OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK WITHOUT A VALID PERMIT	6,500	1ST	SAN PO KONG

15.CHEUNG CHUM-WAH	TO KWA WAN RD & SAN MA TAU ST, TO KWA WAN	5.5.93	NCO : "	2,000	1ST	"
16.KWAN TANG CONSTRUCTION LTD	TO KWA WAN RD & SAN MA TAU ST, TO KWA WAN	5.5.93	NCO : CAUSE TO BE USED PRODUCTS DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 17(1)	3,000	1ST	SAN PO KONG
17.CHEUNG CHUM-WAH	"	5.5.93	NCO: USE PRODUCTS DID NOT COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT OF SECTION 17(1)	3,000	1ST	"
18.EVER- DEVELOP COMPANY LTD- LICENSEE	TEXACO RD, TSUEN WAN	20.5.93	DASO : DUMPING CONTAMINATED MARINE MUD AT SEA OF THE RAMBLER CHANNEL NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITIONS	3,000	3RD	EASTERN
19.A-1 BAKERY CO. (HK) LTD	WONG CHUK YEUNG ST, FO TAN	20.5.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN THE TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL WATER CONTROL ZONE	25,000	1ST	SHATIN
20.CHAN CHUNG-CHAK AS KOON CHUN HING KEE	AU TAU, YUEN LONG	3.6.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE	7,500	1ST	FANLING
21.TAK SHUN KNITTING FTY LTD	KWAI TING RD, KWAI CHUNG	9.6.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATE- MENT NOTICE	30,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN

22.WINSON KNITTING FTY CO LTD	"	9.6.93	NCO :	"	30,000	1ST	"
23.SHA TIN HSIN KUANG RESTAURANT LTD	SHA TIN CENTRE ST, SHA TIN	10.6.93	WPCO :		40,000	1ST	SHATIN
			DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN THE TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL WATER CONTROL ZONE				
24.CHINA HARBOUR ENGINEERING COMPANY - LICENSEE	KING'S RD, NORTH POINT	11.6.93	DASO :		4,000	3RD	EASTERN
			PERMIT DUMPING ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF MARINE MUD AT SEA SOUTH OF CHEUNG CHAU NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITIONS				
25.FUTURE'S SAFE COMPANY LTD	YUEN LONG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, YUEN LONG	22.6.93	WPCO :		10,000	3RD	FANLING
			DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE				
26.WINCO PAPER PRODUCTS COMPANY LTD	PING CHE, FANLING	22.6.93	WPCO :	"	5,000	2ND	"
27.DELON CO LTD	NORTH TSING YI	23.6.93	NCO :		5,500	1ST	TSUEN WAN
			FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRE- MENT IN A NOISE ABATE- MENT NOTICE				
28.KUI LEE SAUCE & PRESERVED FRUIT FTY LTD	KWU TUNG, SHEUNG SHUI	25.6.93	WPCO :		7,500	1ST	FANLING
			DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN THE DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE				

29.KWOK YUN- FAT AS SHUN HING BEAN CURD FTY	SAN TIN, YUEN LONG	2.7.93	WPCO : "	30,000	1ST	"
30.TOP STRONG DEVELOPMENT LTD	SHAN KING ESTATE, TUEN MUN	6.7.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRE- MENT IN A NOISE ABATE- MENT NOTICE	10,000	1ST	TUEN MUN
31.LI YUN- TUNG ERIC, AS YUEN YUEN DAIRY FARM	PING CHE, FANLING	14.7.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN THE DEEP BAY WATER CONTROL ZONE	15,000	2ND	FANLING
32.YIU CHUN- FAT, AS FAT KEE BEAN CURD FTY	KWU TUNG, SHEUNG SHUI	15.7.93	WPCO : "	40,000	3RD	"
33.FANTA (CFC) CONSTRUCTION CO LTD - LICENSEE	HOI BUN RD, KWUN TONG	15.7.93	DASO : DUMPING ABOUT 750 CUBIC METRES OF CONTAMINATED MARINE MUD AT SEA EAST OF SHA CHAU NOT IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITIONS	4,000	6TH	EASTERN
34.TSE SUM- LAI AS LEADER ELECTROPLATING FTY	KIN WONG ST, TUEN MUN	20.7.93	WPCO : DISCHARGED POLLUTING MATTER IN NORTH WESTERN WATER CONTROL ZONE	20,000	1ST	TUEN MUN
35.K100 TOURIST CATERRING EXPERT	PAU CHUNG ST, TO KWA WAN	4.8.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,000	1ST	SAN PO KONG

36.AUSTRIA PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LTD	TAK MAN ST, HUNG HOM	5.8.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENT IN A NOISE ABATEMENT NOTICE	6,500	1ST	"
37.FANTA (CFC) CONSTRUCTION CO LTD	BELCHER BAY, SHEK TONG TSUI	13.8.93	NCO : CARRY OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT	5,000	1ST	WESTERN
38.YU PUI- CHI	"	13.8.93	NCO : CAUSE TO BE CARRIED OUT CONSTRUCTION WORK NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONDITIONS OF A PERMIT	5,000	1ST	"
39.K100 TOURIST CATERRING EXPERT	PAU CHUNG ST, TO KWA WAN	16.8.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,000	2ND	SAN PO KONG
40.TRANS- WORLD BLEACHING & DYEING FTY LTD	WAI YIP ST, KWUN TONG	25.8.93	APCO : "	5,000	2ND	KWUN TONG
41.SILVER LUCKY LTD	BONHAM STRAND WEST, SHEUNG WAN	13.9.93	NCO : FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRE- MENT IN A NOISE ABATE- MENT NOTICE	15,000	2ND	WESTERN
42.TWICE STRONG WASHING & DYEING FTY LTD	WAI YIP ST, KWUN TONG	16.9.93	APCO : EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,500	2ND	KWUN TONG

NOTE :

APCO : AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE
 NCO : NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE
 WPCO : WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE
 DASO : DUMPING AT SEA ACT 1974 (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES) ORDER 1975

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NOTE TO EDITORS :

ENQUIRIES ON SPECIFIC CASES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING
 PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICERS:

APCO :	MR FRANKLIN CHUNG	TEL	594 6200
NCO :	MR STEVEN HO	TEL	594 6500
DASO :	MR PAUL HOLMES	TEL	755 3553
WPCO :	CASES 19,23,26,28,31 AND 32	MR PATRICK LEI	TEL 685 1133
	CASES 5,20,25,29 AND 34	MR MURRAY LUO	TEL 415 9211

HOWEVER, ENQUIRIES ON GENERAL ISSUES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE
 DEPARTMENT'S MEDIA RELATIONS UNIT.

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WEATHER SUMMARY FOR NOVEMBER

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STORMY WEATHER ASSOCIATED WITH TYPHOON IRA ON NOVEMBER 4 AND 5
 AND A COLD SNAP BROUGHT BY AN INTENSE SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON ON
 NOVEMBER 21 AND 22 WERE THE TWO MAIN WEATHER EVENTS IN THE MONTH.

THE MONTHLY WEATHER SUMMARY WAS PUBLISHED BY THE ROYAL
 OBSERVATORY TODAY (TUESDAY).

TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS, WHICH HAD NOT BEEN RAISED IN
 THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER SINCE 1974, WERE HOISTED FOR THE LATE-SEASON
 PASSAGE OF IRA.

RAIN ASSOCIATED WITH THE TYPHOON WAS ALSO EXCEPTIONAL AS
 INTENSE CONVECTION EMBEDDED WITHIN ONE OF ITS TRAILING RAINBANDS
 BROUGHT CONCENTRATED HEAVY RAIN TO THE WESTERN PART OF THE TERRITORY
 EARLY ON NOVEMBER 5.

OVERALL, THE MONTH WAS CLOUDIER AND MORE HUMID THAN NORMAL.

THE TOTAL RAINFALL OF 144.6 MILLIMETRES AND THE 131.2 HOURS OF
 BRIGHT SUNSHINE IN THE MONTH WERE RESPECTIVELY THE FIFTH HIGHEST AND
 SIXTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR NOVEMBER.

WITH THE MONTHLY RAINFALL MORE THAN FOUR TIMES THE NOVEMBER
 NORMAL OF 35.1 MILLIMETRES, THE RAINFALL TOTAL SINCE JANUARY 1
 AMOUNTED TO 2,328.2 MILLIMETRES, SIX PER CENT ABOVE THE NORMAL OF
 2,187.0 MILLIMETRES FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

RELATIVELY COOL WEATHER BROUGHT BY A SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON TOWARDS THE END OF OCTOBER CONTINUED INTO NOVEMBER.

THE WEATHER WAS BRILLIANTLY FINE TO START WITH BUT TURNED CLOUDIER OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS.

AS TYPHOON IRA MOVED INTO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, NORTHERLY WINDS FRESHENED ON THE NIGHT OF NOVEMBER 2 AND BECAME STRONG OFFSHORE LATE IN THE EVENING ON NOVEMBER 3.

WITH IRA MOVING TOWARDS THE COAST OF WESTERN GUANGDONG, WINDS TURNED EASTERLY ON NOVEMBER 4 AND REACHED GALE FORCE STRENGTH OFFSHORE AND ON HIGH GROUND.

LANDING IN WINDY AND RAINY CONDITIONS, A BOEING-747 AIRCRAFT SKIDDED OFF THE RUNWAY TO THE HARBOUR AROUND NOON TIME.

RAIN WAS PERSISTENT THROUGHOUT THE DAY ON NOVEMBER 4 AND TURNED HEAVY DURING THE NIGHT. FROM MIDNIGHT TO DAYBREAK, A NORTH-SOUTH ORIENTATED RAINBAND REMAINED ALMOST STATIONARY OVER THE WESTERN PART OF THE TERRITORY.

ALONG THIS CORRIDOR OF ACTIVE CONVECTION, INTENSE RAIN CELLS DEVELOPED EXPLOSIVELY OVER THE COASTAL WATERS AND MOVED NORTHWARDS, HITTING LANTAU ISLAND AND THE TUEN MUN AREA REPEATEDLY.

ALTOGETHER, MORE THAN 700 MILLIMETRES OF RAIN WERE RECORDED NEAR CHEK LAP KOK DURING THE PASSAGE OF IRA ON NOVEMBER 4 AND 5.

ABOUT 80 CASES OF FLOODING AND 15 CASES OF LANDSLIDES WERE REPORTED ON LANTAU AND IN TUEN MUN AND YUEN LONG.

AN INUNDATED WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN TUEN MUN AND A BURST OF WATER MAINS ON CHEUNG CHAU RESULTED IN THESE AREAS HAVING NO FRESH WATER SUPPLY FOR FOUR DAYS.

EXTENSIVE LANDSLIDES MADE THE MAJOR ROADS ON LANTAU ISLAND VIRTUALLY IMPASSABLE.

WINDS AND RAIN EASED OFF DURING THE DAY ON NOVEMBER 5. FOLLOWING SOME LIGHT RAIN THAT NIGHT AND EARLY NEXT DAY, THE WEATHER TURNED BRIGHTER ON NOVEMBER 7 AS TEMPERATURES CLIMBED TO THE MONTH'S HIGHEST OF 27.8 DEGREES.

FOR THE NEXT 11 DAYS, THE WEATHER WAS GENERALLY FINE APART FROM OCCASIONAL LIGHT RAIN IN THE EARLY HOURS.

DURING THE PERIOD, THE WINTER MONSOON REMAINED RATHER INACTIVE. A WEAK NORTHERLY AIRSTREAM ON NOVEMBER 12 BROUGHT ONLY LIGHT RAIN, MIST, HAZE AND A SLIGHT DROP IN TEMPERATURES.

FROM NOVEMBER 18 ONWARDS, THERE WERE MORE FREQUENT OUTBREAKS OF THE WINTER MONSOON. A STRONG EASTERLY AIRSTREAM CAUSED THE WEATHER TO TURN CLOUDY WITH MORNING RAIN ON NOVEMBER 19.

HOWEVER, FINE WEATHER SOON RETURNED THE NEXT DAY. IT WAS ONLY WHEN NORTHERLY WINDS STRENGTHENED EARLY ON NOVEMBER 21 THAT TEMPERATURES STARTED TO FALL SIGNIFICANTLY.

BY THE EARLY MORNING ON NOVEMBER 22, TEMPERATURES HAD PLUNGED TO THE MONTH'S LOWEST OF 11.9 DEGREES AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY. IT WAS GENERALLY BELOW 10 DEGREES OVER THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE WEATHER STAYED FINE AND SUNNY UNTIL THE ARRIVAL OF A REPLENISHMENT OF THE WINTER MONSOON FROM THE NORTH ON NOVEMBER 24. THE MONSOON WAS COUPLED WITH THE ADVECTION OF MOIST AIR FROM THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND LIGHT RAIN BECAME MORE FREQUENT, PARTICULARLY ON NOVEMBER 25.

APART FROM SOME SUNNY PERIODS ON NOVEMBER 27 AND 29, THE WEATHER TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH REMAINED GENERALLY CLOUDY WITH DRIZZLE AT NIGHT.

AS THE WINTER MONSOON WEAKENED, TEMPERATURES GRADUALLY ROSE AND CONDITIONS TURNED MORE HUMID WITH MORNING COASTAL MIST ON NOVEMBER 30.

THREE TROPICAL CYCLONES AFFECTED THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN THE MONTH.

DURING NOVEMBER, 15 AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED BECAUSE OF ADVERSE WEATHER. DETAILS OF THE ISSUANCE/HOISTING AND CANCELLATION/LOWERING OF VARIOUS WARNINGS/SIGNALS IN THE MONTH ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 1.1. MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR NOVEMBER ARE TABULATED IN TABLE 1.2.

/TABLE 1.1

TABLE 1.1 WARNINGS AND SIGNALS IN NOVEMBER 1993

WARNINGS / SIGNALS	EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME			

TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS				
NAME OF T.C.	SIGNAL NO.			
IRA	1	NOV 2	1550	- NOV 4 0410
	3	NOV 4	0410	- NOV 5 0035

STRONG MONSOON SIGNALS		NOV 18	1145	- NOV 20 0920
		NOV 20	2300	- NOV 22 0900
		NOV 23	2045	- NOV 24 0755

LANDSLIP WARNINGS		NOV 5	0550	- NOV 5 1405

FLOOD WARNINGS		NOV 5	0450	- NOV 5 1415

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS		NOV 5	0000	- NOV 5 1100

FIRE DANGER WARNINGS				
YELLOW		NOV 13	0630	- NOV 15 0000
		NOV 21	0600	- NOV 22 0640
		NOV 28	0600	- NOV 28 1835
RED		OCT 30	0000	- NOV 3 0350
		NOV 22	0640	- NOV 22 1630
		NOV 23	0915	- NOV 24 0500

GAS HEATER ALERTS		NOV 21	1630	- NOV 22 1630
		NOV 23	1630	- NOV 24 1630

/TABLE 1.2

TABLE 1.2 FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL - NOVEMBER 1993

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	131.2 HOURS ; 50.3 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	10.34 MJ/SQM ; 3.05 MJ/SQM BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	144.6 MM ; 109.5 MM ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN CLOUD AMOUNT	66 % ; 13 % ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	76 % ; 7 % ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	23.7 DEGREES ; 0.5 DEGREE BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	21.7 DEGREES ; 0.3 DEGREE ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	19.9 DEGREES ; 0.7 DEGREE ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	16.9 DEGREES ; 1.7 DEGREES ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	80.6 MM ; 48.5 MM BELOW NORMAL

NOTE: ALL MEASUREMENTS WERE MADE AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY EXCEPT SUNSHINE, SOLAR RADIATION AND EVAPORATION WHICH WERE RECORDED AT KING'S PARK.

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228 VIETNAMESE LEAVE HK

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A GROUP OF 228 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER A VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.

COMPRISING 85 MEN, 63 WOMEN, 46 BOYS AND 34 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 187TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BROUGHT TO 11,430 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 37,742 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	14 DEC 93
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q350
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD2,620 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD1,000 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	2.99 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	3.01 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 50 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	3.02 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 20 DEC 1993 -

TENDER DATE	21 DEC 93	21 DEC 93
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q351	H380
ISSUE DATE	22 DEC 93	22 DEC 93
MATURITY DATE	23 MAR 94	22 JUN 94
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD1,000 + 200 MN	HKD400 + 80 MN

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/23

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1993

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

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	5,480
REVERSAL OF LAF	-1,480
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	4,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+880
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	4,880
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 113.7 *+0.1* 14.12.93	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS			EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS			
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.85 PCT	14 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.30	3.64
1 MONTH	2.97 PCT	17 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.85	3.90
3 MONTHS	2.99 PCT	20 MONTHS	2508	4.625	100.89	4.11
6 MONTHS	3.18 PCT	23 MONTHS	2511	4.15	99.77	4.32
12 MONTHS	3.49 PCT	35 MONTHS	3610	4.20	98.61	4.78

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 14,203 MN

CLOSED 14 DECEMBER 1993

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