



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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LINKED RATE HELPS EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS

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THE LINKED EXCHANGE RATE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE HK DOLLARS HAS HELPED THE EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS OF LOCAL EXPORTERS BECAUSE IT HAS REDUCED THE RISK OF EXCHANGE LOSSES, THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY, MR K Y YEUNG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE HONG KONG WATCH AND CLOCK FAIR '92 AT THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, MR YEUNG REFUTED ACCUSATION THAT THE DOLLAR LINK HAD RESULTED IN IMPORTED INFLATION.

"THIS ALLEGATION DOES NOT STAND UP TO CLOSE EXAMINATION," HE SAID.

"IN THE CASE OF WATCH AND CLOCK MOVEMENTS AND PARTS IMPORT PRICES, IN 1991 WERE ON AVERAGE 4.5 PER CENT LOWER THAN THEY WERE IN 1983, WHEN THE LINK WAS INTRODUCED.

"DURING THE PERIOD 1986 TO 1991, SUCH IMPORT PRICES FELL BY AN AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF 0.2 PER CENT. IN OTHER WORDS, CONTRARY TO COMMON BELIEF, THE U.S./HK DOLLAR LINK HAS FOSTERED RATHER THAN INHIBITED GROWTH DURING THE 1980S," HE SAID.

MR YEUNG POINTED OUT THAT THE WATCHES AND CLOCKS INDUSTRIES HAD BEEN PHENOMENALLY SUCCESSFUL IN THE PAST DECADE.

THE GROSS OUTPUT OF THE WATCH AND CLOCK INDUSTRIES HAS GROWN FROM \$8.7 BILLION IN 1980 TO \$17.1 BILLION IN 1990, AN INCREASE OF 97 PER CENT; WHILE THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS ROSE, IN THE SAME DECADE, FROM \$6.5 BILLION TO \$19.1 BILLION, OR BY 191 PER CENT.

HE ATTRIBUTED THIS SUCCESS TO THE TWO INDUSTRIES' ABILITY TO ADAPT TO CHANGE.

"IN MAKING PRODUCTS AS SUSCEPTIBLE TO RAPID CHANGE IN FASHION AS GARMENTS, OUR INDUSTRIALISTS HAVE INCREASINGLY PUT THEMSELVES IN A POSITION WHERE THEY COULD RESPOND VERY QUICKLY TO CHANGES IN DESIGN AND PRODUCTION," HE SAID.

"UNDERPINNING THIS WILLINGNESS TO ADAPT TO CHANGE IS THE FACT THAT , DURING THE 1980S, BOTH INDUSTRIES WERE WELL SERVED BY SUPPORT INDUSTRIES IN HONG KONG AND GUANGDONG," HE ADDED.

MR YEUNG ALSO PRAISED THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR ITS MASSIVE AND SUSTAINED PROMOTIONAL EFFORT WHICH HELPED LOCAL INDUSTRIES TO EXPAND MARKET SHARES AND TO OPEN UP NEW MARKETS.

"ALMOST THE ENTIRE OUTPUT OF OUR (WATCH AND CLOCK) INDUSTRIES WAS EXPORTED IN 1990, COMPARED WITH ONLY TWO-THIRDS 10 YEARS AGO, AND DURING THE LAST DECADE THAT OUTPUT HAS DOUBLED.

"THERE IS NO BETTER PROOF THAT THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL HAS DONE A FIRST-CLASS JOB," MR YEUNG SAID.

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POLICE CONDUCT MANAGEMENT REVIEW

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THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE TODAY (MONDAY) SIGNED A CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT WITH MESSRS COOPERS AND LYBRAND MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS LTD, MARKING A FURTHER SIGNIFICANT STEP IN THE FORCE'S MAJOR REVIEW OF ITS ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT AND COMMAND STRUCTURE.

THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, BY MR KEITH LOMAS, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE (MANAGEMENT), AND MR ROBERT A COCHRANE, DIRECTOR (MANAGING) OF COOPERS AND LYBRAND.

MR LOMAS POINTED TO THE MANY DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE FORCE SINCE THE MAJOR REVIEWS OF THE LATE 1970s AND EARLY 1980s (THE UNIFORM BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT REVIEW OF 1977, THE UNIFORM BRANCH DEVELOPMENT REVIEW OF 1981 AND THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT REVIEW OF 1981).

DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN THE FORCE HAVE INCLUDED MODERNISATION AND EXPANSION OF THE MARINE POLICE FLEET, RESTRUCTURING OF KOWLOON AND NEW TERRITORIES REGIONS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIELD PATROL DETACHMENT.

MR LOMAS STRESSED THAT REVIEWS AND INSPECTIONS OF SPECIFIC FORMATIONS ARE A REGULAR FEATURE OF POLICE MANAGEMENT PRACTICE BUT THAT THE FORCE, AS WITH ANY LARGE ORGANISATION, BENEFITS FROM PERIODIC OVERALL REVIEW.

"WE BELIEVE THAT NOW IS THE RIGHT TIME TO EXAMINE THE FORCE IN DEPTH AND TO DETERMINE THE MANNING LEVELS AND COMMAND/MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE THAT WILL PLACE THE FORCE ON A SOUND AND REALISTIC FOOTING TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS," MR LOMAS SAID, ADDING THAT THIS WILL BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER IN HONG KONG.

THE REVIEW IS BEING DIRECTED BY A STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY AND A REVIEW WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY MR LOMAS. THE BULK OF THE STUDIES INTO FORMATION ESTABLISHMENTS IS BEING CONDUCTED BY TEAMS OF EXPERIENCED POLICE OFFICERS HEADED BY MR JIM MAIN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

THE STUDIES COMMENCED IN MAY AND JUNE. EXAMINATIONS OF MANNING LEVELS FOR REGIONS, DISTRICTS AND DIVISIONS, THE POLICE TACTICAL UNIT AND FRONTIER PATROL DETACHMENT, MARINE REGION AND CRIME WING ARE NOW IN PROGRESS. THESE FORMATIONS ACCOUNT FOR MORE THAN 80 PER CENT OF FORCE ESTABLISHMENT.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE EXAMINATION OF THE REMAINING FORMATIONS CAN BE COMPLETED BY MARCH 1993.

ONE AREA OF ESTABLISHMENT REVIEW, TRAFFIC HEADQUARTERS AND REGIONAL TRAFFIC FORMATIONS, HAS BEEN SET ASIDE FOR STUDY BY MESSRS COOPERS AND LYBRAND - ENABLING THE FORCE TO COMPARE ITS OWN REVIEW METHODOLOGY WITH THAT EMPLOYED BY THE CONSULTANTS AND TO SEE IF THERE ARE NEW LESSONS TO BE LEARNT.

THE CONSULTANCY PHASE COMMENCES TODAY (MONDAY) AND RUNS THROUGH TO FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR. THE CONSULTANTS' ROLE IS THREE-FOLD:

- (A) TO PROVIDE IN-PUT, THROUGH THEIR MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING GROUP, ON STUDIES CARRIED OUT BY THE POLICE STUDY TEAMS;
- (B) TO CONDUCT THE REVIEW OF ESTABLISHMENT FOR TRAFFIC HEADQUARTERS AND REGIONAL TRAFFIC FORMATIONS; AND
- (C) TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE FORCE MANAGEMENT AND COMMAND STRUCTURE. THIS STUDY IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN LATE OCTOBER AND TO BE COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 1993.

MR LOMAS STRESSED THAT ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THE REVIEW IS TO DETERMINE A REALISTIC ESTABLISHMENT.

HE EMPHASISED THAT IF, AS A RESULT OF CHANGING COMMITMENTS, THERE ARE MANPOWER SAVINGS TO BE MADE IN SOME AREAS THEN THE RESOURCES WILL BE RETAINED BY THE FORCE AND CHANNELLED TO MEET NEW OR INCREASING POLICING COMMITMENTS IN OTHER AREAS.

STUDY TEAMS WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION DURING THE COURSE OF THEIR STUDIES:

- (A) IDENTIFICATION OF FUNCTIONAL ROLES FOR ADDITIONAL SERGEANT AND STATION SERGEANT POSTS (A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL STUDY ON RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION OF JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS);
- (B) POSSIBLE AREAS FOR AN INCREASED ROLE FOR WOMEN POLICE; AND
- (C) POSSIBLE AREAS FOR GREATER CIVILIANISATION.

HONG KONG ALIVE TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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HONG KONG IS ALIVE TO THE NEED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THERE ARE PLANS TO REPAIR THE DAMAGE AND PREVENT MORE.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, AT THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EAST ASIA AND WESTERN PACIFIC METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE.

APART FROM THE PUBLICATION OF THE WHITE PAPER ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN JUNE 1989 WHICH OUTLINED POSITIVE STEPS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, MR EASON SAID MORE ROOM WAS MADE ON HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENTAL AGENDA FOR BROADER ISSUES SUCH AS THE INITIATIVES ARISING FROM THE RECENT EARTH SUMMIT IN RIO DE JANEIRO, GLOBAL WARMING, OZONE DEPLETION AND ACID RAIN.

WHILE THE GOVERNMENT ARE EXAMINING THE AGREEMENTS REACHED AT RIO AND CONSIDERING THEIR IMPLICATIONS, IT IS CONFIDENT THAT HONG KONG WILL FULFIL WHATEVER INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS ARISE AND WOULD POINT TO THE PERFORMANCE ON CONTROLLING OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES UNDER THE MONTREAL CONVENTION, HE SAID.

ON GLOBAL WARMING, MR EASON SAID IT WAS AGREED THAT PROFLIGATE USE OF ENERGY CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROBLEM.

IN THIS RESPECT, HONG KONG SET UP AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE LAST YEAR TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON POSSIBLE IMPROVEMENTS AND TO FORMULATE A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

ITS RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED A PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY TO BE STARTED LATER THIS YEAR AND PUBLISHING A SERIES OF ADVISORY NOTES ON GOOD ENERGY HOUSEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES, INITIALLY FOR COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS IN NOVEMBER TO BE FOLLOWED BY RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS LATER.

ALSO INCLUDED WERE THE INTRODUCTION OF OVERALL THERMAL TRANSFER VALUE CONTROLS AND THE SET UP OF AN ENERGY DISPLAY AND INFORMATION CENTRE.

MR EASON SAID SINCE THE ENACTMENT OF THE OZONE LAYER PROTECTION ORDINANCE WHICH PROHIBITS THE LOCAL MANUFACTURE OF AND IMPOSES STRICT CONTROLS ON THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF THE CHLOROFLUOROCARBONS (CFCs) AND HALONS, HONG KONG HAD SUCCEEDED IN REDUCING BY HALF THE CONSUMPTION OF CFCs.

"CONSUMPTION DROPPED FROM 3,855 TONNES TO 1,962 TONNES, A TARGET ORIGINALLY SET FOR 1995," HE SAID.

"AMENDMENTS TO THE OZONE LAYER PROTECTION ORDINANCE ARE BEING PROCESSED WHICH WILL FACILITATE MORE ACTIVE CONTROL OF A BROADER RANGE OF OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES."

"TWELVE SUCH ITEMS WILL BE ADDED TO THE LIST OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES UNDER THE ORDINANCE TO REFLECT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE 'LONDON AMENDMENT' TO THE PROTOCOL."

"MANDATORY RECOVERY AND RECYCLING AND A BAN ON THE VENTING OF SCHEDULED SUBSTANCES WILL ALSO BE IMPOSED. WE EXPECT TO IMPLEMENT THESE MEASURES IN 1993," HE SAID.

MR EASON SAID THE LEVELS OF BOTH SULPHUR DIOXIDE AND NITROGEN DIOXIDE IN THE ATMOSPHERE, WHICH CONTRIBUTED TO ACID RAIN FORMATION WERE CLOSELY MONITORED.

"SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FUEL RESTRICTION REGULATION IN 1990 - WHICH OBLIGED INDUSTRY TO USE FUEL OIL WITH A SULPHUR CONTENT OF 0.5 PER CENT - SULPHUR DIOXIDE LEVELS IN HONG KONG HAVE FALLEN SIGNIFICANTLY.

"HOWEVER, NITROGEN DIOXIDE LEVELS REMAIN HIGH AND WE MUST THEREFORE LOOK MORE CLOSELY AT HOW WE CAN LIMIT AIR POLLUTION FROM DIESEL ENGINES," HE ADDED.

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HK AIMS FOR HOLISTIC APPROACH TO REHABILITATION

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THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MRS ELIZABETH WONG, TODAY (MONDAY) DESCRIBED REHABILITATION AS A CULTURE, A MOVEMENT REQUIRING THE SUPPORT OF EVERY ONE.

SHE SAID REHABILITATION PERMEATED THROUGH EVERY SPHERE OF ACTIVITIES AND TOUCHED UPON DIVERSE ASPECTS OF LIFE.

"THE NEEDS OF DISABLED PERSONS ARE IN RESPECT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING, ACCESS, TRANSPORT, RECREATION AND IN FACT EVERY ASPECT OF DAY-TO-DAY LIFE," SHE SAID.

"WE AIM FOR INTEGRATION, A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO REHABILITATION: THE SPECIAL NEEDS OF DISABLED PERSONS SHOULD BE ACCOMMODATED IN MAINSTREAM SERVICES, NOT SEGREGATED, NOT SEPARATED.

"AND THIS CALLS FOR CLOSE LIAISON AND CO-ORDINATION AMONG SERVICE PROVIDERS, BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE GOVERNMENT," SHE ADDED.

MRS WONG WAS ADDRESSING REPRESENTATIVES FROM MORE THAN 80 COUNTRIES AT THE PLENARY SESSION OF THE REHABILITATION INTERNATIONAL 17TH WORLD CONGRESS BEING HELD IN NAIROBI, KENYA.

SHE SAID HONG KONG HAD JUST COMPLETED A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF ITS REHABILITATION POLICIES BY A WORKING PARTY MADE UP OF PEOPLE FROM A WIDE SPECTRUM OF THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS, INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN REHABILITATION SERVICES, THE DISABLED COMMUNITY AND THE BUSINESS SECTOR.

A GREEN PAPER CONTAINING THE WORKING PARTY'S RECOMMENDATIONS HAS BEEN FORMULATED AND PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION.

MRS WONG NOTED THAT PUBLIC RESPONSE TO THE GREEN PAPER HAD BEEN OVERWHELMINGLY SUPPORTIVE AND THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW ASSESSING THE MANY HUNDREDS OF SUBMISSIONS TO MAP OUT THE WAY FORWARD.

BUT SHE BELIEVED THE STRATEGIES FOR NEW POLICIES WOULD INCLUDE:

- * IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT OF DISABILITIES WITH A VIEW TO PREVENTING IMPAIRMENT AND MINIMISING DISABILITIES;
- * THE BROADER ENVIRONMENT TO MINIMISE HANDICAPS TO DISABLED PERSONS, SO THAT THEY CAN ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF SOCIETAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES;
- * POSITIVE PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARDS DISABLED PERSONS; AND
- * REMOVAL OF PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL BARRIERS.

MRS WONG ALSO SPOKE ON LEGISLATIVE MEASURES WHICH ARE CONSIDERED BY MANY AS AN EFFECTIVE MEANS TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF DISABLED PERSONS AND ADVANCE THEIR INTERESTS.

IN HONG KONG, SHE SAID, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF LAWS WHICH AIM TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF DISABLED PERSONS.

"IN RESPECT OF PERSONS WITH MENTAL DISABILITY, WE HAVE LAWS WHICH STIPULATE SPECIAL PROVISIONS IN LEGAL REPRESENTATION AND PROCEEDINGS, SPECIAL PROTECTION AGAINST ABUSE, AND GUARDIANSHIP CONDITIONS FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT TAKE CARE OF THEMSELVES," MRS WONG SAID.

"WE ALSO HAVE LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS IN PLACE TO REQUIRE DEVELOPERS TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE ACCESS FACILITIES FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS IN PUBLIC PLACES.

"OVERALL, OUR LAWS ARE NOT DISCRIMINATORY."

ALTHOUGH THE EXISTING LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES IN HONG KONG ALREADY PROVIDE FOR THE RIGHTS AND PROTECTION OF DISABLED PERSONS IN MANY AREAS, MRS WONG STRESSED THE NEED FOR NEW LEGISLATION TO STATE MORE EXPLICITLY THE RIGHTS OF DISABLED PERSONS.

"THE QUESTION OF SPECIFIC LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF DISABLED PERSONS IS, THEREFORE, A LIVE ISSUE.

"OUR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE IS THE REALISATION OF A PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH DISABLED PERSONS ACTUALLY EXERCISE AND ENJOY THEIR RIGHTS," SHE SAID.

"EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND FULL PARTICIPATION: A BETTER TOMORROW FOR ALL" IS OUR VISION FOR HONG KONG, MRS WONG SAID.

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SEMINAR ON RED TIDES

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HONG KONG'S FIRST EVER COLLOQUIUM ON RED TIDES WILL BE HELD FROM SEPTEMBER 9 TO 11 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT AND THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE COLLOQUIUM WILL FOCUS ON RED TIDES IN HONG KONG AND SOUTH CHINA.

APART FROM LOCAL EXPERTS, ACADEMICS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN THE FIELDS OF MARINE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, MORE THAN 10 PARTICIPANTS FROM CHINA AND ONE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM WILL ATTEND THE EVENT.

SENIOR FISHERIES OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE, DR PATSY WONG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY): "IT WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPERTS IN HONG KONG AND CHINA TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AND SHARE THEIR KNOWLEDGE ON THE COMMON PROBLEM OF RED TIDES IN THE REGION.

"BECAUSE OF INCREASING OCCURRENCE OF RED TIDES IN RECENT YEARS, THE SUBJECT HAS ATTRACTED PUBLIC CONCERN. IT IS HOPED THAT THE COLLOQUIUM WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR MORE CO-OPERATION IN RESEARCH WORK IN FUTURE."

THE THREE-DAY FUNCTION WILL BE OPENED BY THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON ON SEPTEMBER 9. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, PROFESSOR BRIAN MORTON, WILL ROUND UP THE TALKS AND DISCUSSION SESSIONS ON SEPTEMBER 10.

TALKS AND DISCUSSIONS WILL CENTRE ON OCCURRENCE OF RED TIDES; TOXIC RED TIDES AND RELATED SHELLFISH POISONING; AS WELL AS ENVIRONMENT AND FORMATION OF RED TIDES.

ON THE LAST DAY (SEPTEMBER 11) OF THE COLLOQUIUM, PARTICIPANTS WILL TAKE A FIELD TRIP TO TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL, WHERE HIGHEST OCCURRENCE OF RED TIDES HAS BEEN RECORDED IN HONG KONG.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE COLLOQUIUM ON RED TIDES TO BE HELD AT 10.45 AM ON SEPTEMBER 9 (WEDNESDAY) IN ROOM G05, JAMES LEE SCIENCE BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

REPORTERS WHO COME IN THEIR OWN CARS ARE ADVISED TO ENTER THE UNIVERSITY FROM THE UNIVERSITY DRIVE OFF KOTEWELL ROAD.

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SURVEY ON DRUG USE AMONG YOUTHS TO GET UNDER WAY
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THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT WILL CONDUCT A SURVEY NEXT MONTH TO COLLECT MORE COMPREHENSIVE AND UP-TO-DATE DATA ON DRUG USE AMONG YOUNGSTERS.

THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 115,000 STUDENTS IN THE LOCAL CHINESE-SPEAKING SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR KEN WOODHOUSE, WHILE BRIEFING ABOUT 150 THIRD-YEAR MEDICAL STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG ON THE PROBLEM OF DRUG ABUSE AND PREVENTION AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SURVEY ARE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT DRUG ABUSE AMONG STUDENTS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTES IN HONG KONG AS WELL AS TO ASSESS STUDENTS' KNOWLEDGE ON DRUGS AND THEIR ATTITUDE TOWARDS DRUG ABUSE.

THE SURVEY ALSO AIMS TO FIND OUT WHY THE STUDENTS ABUSE DRUGS, THE SOURCE FROM WHERE THEY OBTAIN DRUGS, AND HOW THEY LEARN ABOUT DRUGS.

THEIR AWARENESS OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES FOR DRUG ABUSERS WILL ALSO BE ASSESSED.

TWO SIMILAR SURVEYS WERE CONDUCTED IN 1987 AND 1990.

REFERRING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PREVENTIVE EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY EFFORTS, MR WOODHOUSE SAID A WIDE RANGE OF PROGRAMMES FOR DIFFERENT TARGET GROUPS WERE LAUNCHED EACH YEAR.

"THE PRIMARY AIM OF OUR EFFORTS IS TO PUBLICISE THE DANGERS OF DRUG ABUSE AND TO PROMOTE THE ADVANTAGES OF A DRUG-FREE LIFESTYLE.

"CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ARE REMINDED OF THE DANGERS OF EXPERIMENTING WITH DRUGS, WHICH CAN LEAD TO DEPENDENCY," HE SAID.

HE ALSO URGED THE MEDICAL STUDENTS TO HELP IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE WHEN THEY ENTERED THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

"HONG KONG'S FIGHT AGAINST DRUG AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IS NOT A BATTLE WHICH THE GOVERNMENT CAN WIN SINGLE-HANDEDLY. WE NEED THE SUPPORT OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, OF THE MEDICAL PROFESSION, INCLUDING YOUNG DOCTORS LIKE YOU, AND OTHER CARING PROFESSIONS," HE SAID.

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PROPOSALS TO AMEND RATEABLE VALUES PROCESSED

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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT HAS NOW DEALT WITH ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED IN APRIL AND MAY THIS YEAR TO ALTER THE RATEABLE VALUES IN THE VALUATION LISTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT URGED RATEPAYERS WHO HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A NOTICE OF DECISION FOR THEIR PROPOSALS TO IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT ON 805 7666.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT IF A RATEABLE VALUE HAD BEEN ALTERED AS A RESULT OF A PROPOSAL, THE AMENDMENT TO THE RATEABLE VALUE AND ANY ADJUSTMENT TO THE RATES PAYABLE WOULD BE EFFECTIVE FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

ANY SUCH ADJUSTMENT WILL BE MADE BY THE TREASURY IN THE RATES DEMANDS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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MOVEMENT OF MOON IN MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL

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THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY (MONDAY) ADVISED THE PUBLIC ON THE TIMES ON MOONRISE, TRANSIT AND MOONSET DURING THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL PERIOD.

ON THURSDAY (SEPTEMBER 10), MOONRISE WILL BE AT 5.17 PM, TRANSIT (MERIDIAN PASSAGE - DIRECTION DUE SOUTH, ELEVATION 61 DEGREES) AT 11.14 PM, AND MOONSET AT 5.15 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

ON THE DAY OF THE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL (FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11), MOONRISE WILL BE AT 5.50 PM, TRANSIT (MERIDIAN PASSAGE - DIRECTION DUE SOUTH, ELEVATION 66 DEGREES) AT 11.55 PM, AND MOONSET AT 6.04 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

ON SEPTEMBER 12 (SATURDAY), MOONRISE WILL BE AT 6.22 PM, TRANSIT (MERIDIAN PASSAGE - DIRECTION DUE SOUTH, ELEVATION 71 DEGREES) AT 00.36 AM, AND MOONSET AT 6.53 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

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SERVICE INDUSTRY REPORTS ON SALE

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED THREE REPORTS THAT CONTAIN A WIDE RANGE OF STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURAL AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF VARIOUS INDUSTRIES FOR 1990.

THE REPORTS ARE ON:

- * 1990 SURVEY OF WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS;
- * 1990 SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES; AND
- * 1990 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES.

THESE ARE NOW ON SALE AT \$22, \$21 AND \$24 A COPY RESPECTIVELY.

THE STATISTICS ARE COMPILED FROM DATA COLLECTED FROM SOME 12,800 SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS.

EXAMPLES OF THE STATISTICAL ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE REPORTS ARE:

- * GROSS OUTPUT; SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS; BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOME
- * COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES
- * PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE
- * OPERATING EXPENSES
- * NET PREMIUMS, NET CLAIMS AND FUNDS AND RESERVES (FOR INSURANCE INDUSTRY ONLY)
- * VALUE ADDED (A MEASURE OF CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT) AND GROSS SURPLUS
- * GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS

APART FROM STATISTICS RELATING TO THE YEAR 1990, THE REPORTS ALSO CONTAIN SOME SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1988 AND 1989 TO SHOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDUSTRIES IN RECENT YEARS.

THE STATISTICS ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR POLICY FORMULATION, DECISION MAKING, ECONOMIC ANALYSIS AND MARKET RESEARCH.

THE REPORTS ARE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICES STATISTICS BRANCH OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1248.

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EARLY WELFARE PAYMENT

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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE WHO HOLD CASH ORDER BOOK COUPONS MAY RECEIVE THEIR WELFARE PAYMENT EARLIER IF THEIR PAY-DAY FALL ON THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS THIS WEEK.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) SAID PAYMENT SCHEDULED ON SEPTEMBER 12 AND 13 WOULD BE ADVANCED TO SEPTEMBER 10 AND 11 RESPECTIVELY.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR RECIPIENTS TO COLLECT THEIR WELFARE PAYMENT AT THE DESIGNATED POST OFFICES AND TREASURY SUB-OFFICES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 85.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 499.610 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 258.417 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 44.1 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 | 1,500 |
| REVERSAL OF LAF | NIL |
| BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF | 1,500 |
| NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY | NIL |
| EFFECT OF LAF TODAY | NIL |
| CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT | 1,500 |
| LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER | TWI 108.8 *+0.0* 7.9.92 |

/HONG KONG

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1992

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

| TERMS | YIELD | TERM | ISSUE | COUPON | PRICE | YIELD |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| 1 WEEK | 2.33 PCT | 14 MONTHS | 2311 | 6.25 | 103.59 | 3.19 |
| 1 MONTH | 2.33 PCT | 17 MONTHS | 2402 | 5.50 | 102.89 | 3.46 |
| 3 MONTHS | 2.32 PCT | 20 MONTHS | 2405 | 5.50 | 102.90 | 3.75 |
| 6 MONTHS | 2.53 PCT | 23 MONTHS | 2408 | 4.375 | 100.92 | 3.92 |
| 12 MONTHS | 3.03 PCT | | | | | |

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 8,457MN

CLOSED 7 SEPTEMBER 1992

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