



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1992

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
STATEMENT ON DEBT RATINGS .....	1
MORE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE POSTINGS ANNOUNCED .....	1
NUMBER OF CRIME HAS DROPPED .....	3
VOLUME AND PRICE MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN SEPTEMBER ...	5
ROOM FOR NURTURING PRIMARY RESOURCE INDUSTRIES .....	10
FIVE EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES NOMINATED TO LAB .....	11
CHINESE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS ATTEND SEMINAR .....	12
244 VM'S RETURNED .....	13
SALT WATER CUTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT & SOUTHEAST KOWLOON .....	13
LEGCO TO MEET TOMORROW .....	13
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND TENDER RESULTS .....	14
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	15

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1992

- 1 -

STATEMENT ON DEBT RATINGS

\* \* \* \* \*

IN ANSWER TO QUESTIONS ON THE STANDARD AND POOR'S (S&P) ANNOUNCEMENT, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS WERE STRONG AND WERE NOT IN ANY WAY UNDERMINED BY S&P'S DECISION TO PLACE HONG KONG'S LONG-TERM DEBT RATINGS ON CREDIT-WATCH.

"THE DECISION ONLY APPLIES TO LONG-TERM DEBT, NOT SHORT-TERM DEBT, AND IT DOES NOT INVOLVE ANY IMMEDIATE DOWNGRADING OF HONG KONG'S RATING.

"THIS IS AN 'IMPLIED' RATING IN THAT IT HAS BEEN PREPARED AT S&P'S INITIATIVE, NOT AT THE REQUEST OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

"NO DECISION WILL BE TAKEN ON DOWNGRADING UNTIL AFTER S&P'S ANNUAL REVIEW, DUE EARLY NEXT YEAR, WHEN THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT THE AGENCY WILL REAFFIRM ITS CONFIDENCE IN THE LONG-TERM STABILITY OF THE TERRITORY."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID EVEN IF S&P WERE TO DOWNGRADE THE RATING, HONG KONG WOULD REMAIN WITHIN THE PREMIER INVESTMENT GRADE CATEGORIES FAVOURED BY INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS.

"HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS ARE FIRMLY BASED WITH ANNUAL GDP GROWTH RUNNING AT ABOUT 5 PER CENT. THIS IS CLOSELY LINKED TO THE ECONOMY OF SOUTH CHINA WHICH HAS A DOUBLE-DIGIT GROWTH RATE.

"HONG KONG ALSO HAS THE WORLD'S 12TH LARGEST FOREIGN CURRENCY RESERVES AND A STRONG AND STABLE CURRENCY.

"DESPITE RECENT SHORT-TERM VOLATILITY IN THE STOCK MARKET, THE HANG SENG INDEX IS STANDING ABOUT 22 PER CENT ABOVE ITS LEVEL AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

MORE SENIOR CIVIL SERVICE POSTINGS ANNOUNCED

\* \* \* \* \*

THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE FOLLOWING SENIOR POSTINGS:-

- \* MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR DAVID NENDICK, THE CURRENT SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, IN MID-JANUARY 1993. ON THE CREATION OF THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY, THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH WILL BE RETITLED AS THE FINANCIAL SERVICES AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS BRANCH. MR CARTLAND WILL BECOME THE SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES AND ECONOMIC ANALYSIS;

/\* MRS ROSE GOODSTADT, .....

- \* MRS ROSE GOODSTADT, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, WILL SUCCEED MR KEITH SHIPLEY ON HIS RETIREMENT IN FEBRUARY 1993 TO HEAD THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT; AND
- \* MR IAN STRACHAN, DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR CARTLAND AS DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN LATE DECEMBER 1992.

THIS COMPLETES THE ROUND OF POSTINGS BEGAN BY THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE POSTING OF MR JOSEPH YAM AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE (DESIGNATE) OF THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FOLLOWING ARE BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF THE ABOVE OFFICERS:

MR MICHAEL D CARTLAND, JP  
-----

AGED 47, MR CARTLAND FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE IN 1972 AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER. HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN JANUARY 1991.

DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS CAREER, MR CARTLAND SERVED IN THE THEN SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THE THEN NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE SECURITY BRANCH.

MORE RECENTLY, HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF TRADE FROM 1982 TO 1984, COUNSELLOR (GENEVA) FROM 1984 TO 1988 AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY FROM 1988 TO 1989. HE BECAME DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN JANUARY 1990.

MRS ROSE GOODSTADT, JP  
-----

AGED 56, MRS GOODSTADT JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS A SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICER II IN 1962.

THROUGH A SERIES OF PROMOTION, SHE ROSE TO THE RANK OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN 1984 AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE IN 1989.

MRS GOODSTADT HAS VAST EXPERIENCE IN SOCIAL ADMINISTRATION. HER CAREER IN SOCIAL WELFARE WAS DEVOTED TO REHABILITATION WORK FOR THE DISABLED AND SOCIAL SECURITY.

SHE HAS ALSO WORKED IN THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH AS PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEALING WITH POLICIES ON MEDICAL SERVICES.

MR IAN R STRACHAN, JP  
-----

AGED 48, MR STRACHAN FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE IN 1965 AND WAS APPOINTED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1971. HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B1 IN 1989.

DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS CAREER, MR STRACHAN SERVED IN THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, THE THEN HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, THE THEN SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND THE FINANCE BRANCH.

MORE RECENTLY, HE WAS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HOUSING FROM 1986 TO 1987, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY FROM 1987 TO 1988 AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MARINE FROM 1988 TO 1990.

HE BECAME DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR SECURITY IN MAY 1990.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### NUMBER OF CRIME HAS DROPPED

\* \* \* \*

THE NUMBER OF ROBBERIES UP TO NOVEMBER THIS YEAR HAS DROPPED BY ABOUT SIX PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, MR EDDIE HUI KEI-ON SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AFTER THE PRESENTATION OF THE GOOD CITIZEN AWARDS CEREMONY HELD AT THE METROPLAZA CRYSTAL ATRIUM IN KWAI FONG, MR HUI ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CRIME FOR THE PAST 11 MONTHS HAD DROPPED BY 4.8 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

HE SAID THAT GOLDSMITH SHOP ROBBERIES HAD DECREASED FROM 145 CASES LAST YEAR TO 38 THIS YEAR.

MR HUI ATTRIBUTED THE DECLINE OF CRIME, IN PARTICULAR ROBBERIES TO SEVERAL FACTORS INCLUDING IMPROVED INTELLIGENCE NETWORK, PUBLIC SUPPORT AND EFFECTIVE DEPLOYMENT OF POLICE RESOURCES, NEWLY INSTALLED COMPUTERISED TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEM AND THE CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CHINESE COUNTERPARTS.

HE CITED AN EXAMPLE WHEREBY TWO ROBBERS WERE ARRESTED MINUTES AFTER THEY ROBBED OFF ALMOST A MILLION DOLLAR OF GOLD ORNAMENTS FROM A MAN IN A RAILWAY STATION IN HUNG HOM YESTERDAY (MONDAY). THE ROBBERS WERE ARRESTED IN WONG TAI SIN BY TWO PATROLLING BEAT CONSTABLES.

STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF RELATIONS WITH THE CHINESE COUNTERPARTS, MR HUI NOTED THAT CHINA HAS RETURNED A TOTAL OF 15 WANTED PERSONS TO HONG KONG SO FAR THIS YEAR.

COMMENTING ON THE UPGRADING OF POLICE EQUIPMENT, MR HUI SAID THAT NEW POLICE REVOLVERS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT WOULD ARRIVE SOON. HE IS HOPEFUL THAT OFFICERS WILL BE FULLY EQUIPPED WITH NEW FIREARMS BY MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR.

IN REPLY TO A QUESTION ON IMPROVEMENT TO EQUIPMENT USED BY THE SPECIAL DUTIES UNIT (SDU), MR HUI SAID THEY GOT THE FINEST ACCOUTREMENTS IN THE WORLD.

ON STOLEN CARS AND ANTI-SMUGGLING, MR HUI POINTED OUT THAT A LARGE SCALE OPERATION WAS MOUNTED JOINTLY BY THE ANTI-SMUGGLING TASK FORCE, MARINE POLICE AND THE ROYAL NAVY DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THE OPERATION AIMED AT DENYING THE ENTRY OF "TAI FEIS", (HIGH POWERED SPEEDBOATS) INTO HONG KONG WAS SUCCESSFUL AND THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES HAD BEEN REDUCED.

ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF STOLEN CARS WAS ON THE DECLINE DURING THE ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATION, THERE ARE STILL REPORTS OF VEHICLES BEING STOLEN, MR HUI ADDED.

"WE BELIEVED THAT A LOT OF VEHICLES ARE STILL BEING HIDDEN INSIDE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE CARPARKS.

"I THEREFORE CALL UPON ATTENDANTS OF CAR PARKS TO CALL THE POLICE IF THEY SPOT ANY SUSPECTED STOLEN VEHICLES," MR HUI APPEALED.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR JUSTIN WONG, SAID PUBLIC SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION WAS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR EFFORTS TO FIGHT CRIME AND MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER.

"IT IS THUS THE CENTRAL FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE HAS ADOPTED THE THEME OF THE FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN 1992/93 TO BE "JOIN FORCES AGAINST CRIME," MR WONG SAID.

"IN THIS CONTEXT, WE ENCOURAGE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO REPORT CRIME INFORMATION, AND I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPEAL TO YOU ALL TO JOIN US IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME AND TO FOLLOW THE GOOD EXAMPLE SET BY THOSE WHO WILL RECEIVE THE AWARDS TODAY," HE ADDED.

THE GOOD CITIZEN AWARD SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED IN 1973 AND HAS SINCE BECOME A MACHINERY THROUGH WHICH MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE GIVEN POSITIVE AND VALUABLE SUPPORT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME ARE GIVEN DUE RESPECT AND RECOGNITION.

AT TODAY'S PRESENTATION CEREMONY, A TOTAL OF 46 PUBLIC-MINDED CITIZENS WERE PRESENTED THE GOOD CITIZEN AWARD AND THEY WILL ADD TO A LIST OF 2,128 OTHERS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE AWARDS SINCE 1973.

"BY THEIR GOOD DEEDS, THEY HAVE DEMONSTRATED GOOD INITIATIVE AND COMMON SENSE IN PREVENTION OR DETECTION OF CRIME, OR IN APPREHENSION OF CRIMINALS. THEIR BRAVERY ACTS AND RESOURCEFULNESS ARE MOST EXEMPLARY TO US," MR WONG SAID.

JOINTLY LAUNCHED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE AND THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE GOOD CITIZEN AWARD SCHEME WAS INTRODUCED TO PAY TRIBUTE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAVE PLAYED A POSITIVE AND ACTIVE ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

AMONG TODAY'S AWARDEES, THE ELDEST IS A 73-YEAR-OLD MAN AND THE YOUNGEST IS A 12-YEAR-OLD STUDENT WHILE THE CASES INVOLVED RANGES FROM HOMICIDE, ARMED ROBBERY, THEFT, INDECENT ASSAULT, POSSESSION OF DANGEROUS DRUGS TO PICKPOCKETING.

## VOLUME AND PRICE MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN SEPTEMBER

\* \* \* \* \*

THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR INCREASED BY 1% AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 29%, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 21%. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 22% IN VOLUME.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES WITH THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES BEING DISCOUNTED.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS BOTH INCREASED BY 1%. IMPORT PRICES REMAINED VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

PRICE CHANGES ARE REFLECTED BY CHANGES IN UNIT VALUE INDEXES, WHICH ARE COMPILED BASED ON AVERAGE UNIT VALUES OR, FOR CERTAIN COMMODITIES, BASED ON SPECIFIC PRICE DATA.

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX, DEFINED AS THE RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX, INCREASED BY 1% IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1992 WITH SEPTEMBER 1991, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 1% WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 27%. THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 20%. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 23%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 2%, WHILE THOSE OF RE-EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BOTH ROSE BY 1%.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1992 WITH SEPTEMBER 1991, COMMODITY GROUPS WHICH RECORDED SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+50%); AND ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+43%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-40%); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-38%); FOOTWEAR (-26%); AND TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-19%).

AS REGARDS DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES, COMMODITY GROUPS WHICH RECORDED SIGNIFICANT INCREASES INCLUDED TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (+8%); CLOTHING (+6%); METAL MANUFACTURES (+4%); AND FOOTWEAR (+4%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES OF RADIOS OF ALL KINDS; ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS; AND TEXTILE FABRICS DECLINED BY 6%, 4% AND 3% RESPECTIVELY.

/THE IMPORT .....

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 3% IN SEPTEMBER 1992 AS COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1991.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF TEA AND COFFEE; WHEAT AND FLOUR; AND ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES. HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL, VEGETABLE OIL AND LARD; SUGAR; AND VEGETABLES.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 31%.

COMMODITY ITEMS WITH CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME INCLUDED PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; WATCHES; TOBACCO MANUFACTURES; AND RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 12% IN SEPTEMBER 1992 AS COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1991.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR BASE METALS (OTHER THAN IRON AND STEEL); THERMIONIC CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, DIODES, TRANSISTORS AND ELECTRICAL MICROCIRCUITS; WOVEN FABRICS OF WOOL AND MIXTURES; AND IRON AND STEEL.

HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW COTTON; SILK FABRICS; MAN-MADE FIBRES; AND YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 7% IN VOLUME IN SEPTEMBER 1992 AS COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1991.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 39% IN SEPTEMBER 1992 OVER SEPTEMBER 1991.

NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY; OFFICE MACHINES; AND TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT.

THE IMPORT PRICES OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN SEPTEMBER 1992 OVER SEPTEMBER 1991 : CAPITAL GOODS (+3%); CONSUMER GOODS (+2%); FUELS (+2%); AND FOODSTUFFS (+1%).

HOWEVER, THE IMPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 2%.

THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY BY 46% IN SEPTEMBER 1992 COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1991. THAT OF CONSUMER GOODS; FUELS; RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES; AND FOODSTUFFS REGISTERED INCREASES OF 29%, 19%, 16%, AND 12% RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS, CAPITAL GOODS AND CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 3%, 3% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1992

- 7 -

THE RE-EXPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES; AND FOODSTUFFS BOTH DECREASED BY 3%.

DETAILS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE SEPTEMBER 1992 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS".

THE REPORT WILL BE ON SALE AROUND NEXT MONDAY (DECEMBER 14) AT HK\$6 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL 582 4918).

- - - - -

NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

/Table 1 : .....

Table 1 : Changes in domestic exports by principal commodity group

Commodity group	Comparing SEP 1992 with SEP 1991			Comparing JAN-SEP 1992 with JAN-SEP 1991		
	Value %	Unit		Value %	Unit	
		Value %	Volume %		Value %	Value %
Clothing	2	6	-4	3	3	*
Textile fabrics	-9	-3	-6	1	1	*
Textile yarn and thread	-20	-2	-19	-7	-3	-5
Textile made-ups and related articles	-35	8	-40	-22	7	-26
Radios of all kinds	11	-6	19	-31	-2	-30
Electronic components	37	-4	43	20	-5	26
Footwear	-23	4	-26	-25	4	-28
Metal manufactures	-3	4	-7	7	4	3
Metal ores and scrap	52	1	50	*	-4	5
Watches and clocks	-2	1	-4	-10	-1	-9
Travel goods, handbags and similar articles	-3	*	-4	*	1	-2
Domestic electrical appliances	-39	-2	-38	-35	1	-36
ALL COMMODITIES	3	2	1	2	1	1

\* less than 0.5%

/Table 2 : .....

Table 2 : Changes in imports by end-use category

End-use category	Comparing SEP 1992 with SEP 1991			Comparing JAN-SEP 1992 with JAN-SEP 1991		
	Value	Unit	Volume	Value	Unit	Volume
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Foodstuffs	3	1	3	9	1	8
Consumer goods	34	2	31	30	3	27
Raw materials and semi-manufactures	9	-2	12	13	-2	15
Fuels	-6	2	-7	3	-10	15
Capital goods	43	3	39	37	2	34
ALL COMMODITIES	24	1	23	23	*	22

\* less than 0.5%

Table 3 : Changes in re-exports by end-use category

End-use category	Comparing SEP 1992 with SEP 1991			Comparing JAN-SEP 1992 with JAN-SEP 1991		
	Value	Unit	Volume	Value	Unit	Volume
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Foodstuffs	8	-3	12	6	1	5
Consumer goods	32	2	29	33	3	29
Raw materials and semi-manufactures	13	-3	16	21	-2	23
Fuels	23	3	19	7	-7	14
Capital goods	50	3	46	50	1	48
ALL COMMODITIES	28	1	27	31	1	29

ROOM FOR NURTURING PRIMARY RESOURCE INDUSTRIES

\* \* \* \* \*

WITH THE CURRENT ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN HONG KONG, THERE IS STILL ROOM TO NURTURE LOCAL PRIMARY RESOURCE INDUSTRIES, THE VIABILITY OF WHICH DEPENDS ON MAINTAINING AN OFTEN FRAGILE ENVIRONMENTAL BALANCE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS E M BOSHER, WHEN ADDRESSING THE OPENING OF THE FOURTH GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING OF THE NETWORK OF AQUACULTURE CENTRES IN ASIA PACIFIC (NACA) THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

ON ONE OF THE TERRITORY'S PRIMARY RESOURCE INDUSTRIES - AQUACULTURE, MRS BOSHER POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE TO THE POTENTIALLY ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT OF THE MANY FORMS OF WATER POLLUTION THAT SO OFTEN WENT WITH RAPID DEVELOPMENT.

"WE IN HONG KONG ARE TRYING TO ENSURE AS FAR AS POSSIBLE THAT THE MASSIVE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT IS ACHIEVED WITH THE MINIMUM POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT.

"WE HAVE PASSED LEGISLATION UNDER WHICH WE ARE ABLE TO SET WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES ACCORDING TO THE USE TO WHICH WATER IS PUT," SHE SAID.

MRS BOSHER BELIEVED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO CONTROL POLLUTION IN LOCAL WATERS AND TO MANAGE THE IMPACTS OF CURRENT DEVELOPMENT WERE CRUCIAL TO MAINTAINING A THRIVING AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG.

SHE WAS ALSO PLEASED TO NOTE THAT SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MARICULTURE ZONES IN 1982, IN CAREFULLY SELECTED AREAS, PRODUCTION HAD INCREASED MORE THAN THREE-FOLD FROM LESS THAN 1,200 TONNES TO SOME 4,000 TONNES LAST YEAR.

ON THE TERRITORY'S FRESHWATER POND FISH INDUSTRY, MRS BOSHER SAID THERE WAS A PRODUCTION AREA OF 1,350 HECTARES IN THE NORTH WESTERN NEW TERRITORIES AND THE CENTRE OF THIS AREA WAS THE INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED MAI PO MARSHES NATURE RESERVE, RICH IN MANGROVE COMMUNITIES AND A VITAL FEEDING STATION FOR MIGRATORY BIRDS IN THE REGION.

SHE SAID WITHIN THE RESERVE, TRADITIONAL AQUACULTURE PRACTICE OF USING 'TAMBAKS' KNOWN LOCALLY AS 'GAE WAIS' WERE ENCOURAGED TO ACT AS A BUFFER TO PROTECT THE RESERVE FROM URBAN ENCROACHMENT.

"THE PLANNING STRATEGY FOR THE AREA, IS A GOOD EXAMPLE OF THE WAY TO FIND THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN PRESSURES FOR URBAN AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, THE NEEDS OF THE LOCAL ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION."

/TURNING TO .....

TURNING TO NACA, AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL BODY SET UP TO PROMOTE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION IN AQUACULTURE AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY SAID SINCE ITS OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENT IN JANUARY 1990, IT HAD PROVIDED GREATLY ENHANCED OPPORTUNITIES FOR INCREASED AND MORE DIVERSIFIED AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT, TO THE BENEFIT OF LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND EXPORT EARNING IN MEMBER COUNTRIES.

AN INDICATOR OF THE SUCCESS OF NACA WAS THAT IT HAD GROWN RAPIDLY FROM ITS ORIGINAL FIVE MEMBERS TO THE PRESENT 12, THEREBY EXPANDING SUBSTANTIALLY THE RANGE OF EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE ON WHICH MEMBERS COULD DRAW AND THE SCOPE FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, SHE SAID.

IN HIS WELCOMING SPEECH, THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE SAID THE FORMATION OF NACA HAD PROVIDED AN EXCELLENT FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION AMONG ITS MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.

"HONG KONG IS ALSO LOOKING TO NACA FOR ASSISTANCE AND COLLABORATION IN TRAINING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENTS AIMED AT RESOLVING PROBLEMS OF POLLUTION AND FISH HEALTH," DR LEE SAID.

ON THE LOCAL FISHERIES SIDE, DR LEE NOTED THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF OPEN SEA CAGE CULTURE WAS BEING EXPLORED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

IN RESPONSE TO OUTBREAKS OF FISH KILLS, DR LEE SAID HIS DEPARTMENT WAS CONSIDERING STRENGTHENING ITS STAFF'S TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE TO TACKLE PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH FISH DISEASES.

THE FOUR-DAY NACA GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING HOSTED BY HONG KONG BETWEEN TODAY AND FRIDAY (DECEMBER 11) AT THE ROYAL PACIFIC HOTEL WILL COVER MAJOR AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDING THE CO-OPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH UNITED NATIONS' FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ASSOCIATION, THE REVIEW OF ITS ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE PROGRAMMES AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL ISSUES.

MORE THAN 30 REPRESENTATIVES AT THE MINISTER OR DIRECTOR LEVEL FROM 17 ASIAN AND PACIFIC COUNTRIES OR TERRITORIES, INCLUDING CHINA, INDONESIA, THAILAND, PHILIPPINES, MALAYSIA, KOREA AND VIETNAM TOOK PART IN THE CONFERENCE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### FIVE EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES NOMINATED TO LAB

\* \* \* \* \*

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE FOLLOWING NOMINATIONS FROM FIVE MAJOR EMPLOYERS' ORGANISATIONS FOR EMPLOYERS' REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

THEY ARE:

\* MR HO SAI-CHU OF THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

/\* DR LUI MING-WAH .....

- 12 -

- \* DR LUI MING-WAH OF THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG
- \* MR ANDREW LEUNG OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES
- \* MR MICHAEL SOMERVILLE OF THE EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION OF HONG KONG
- \* MISS ANGELA KOO OF THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

IN ADDITION, ONE EMPLOYER AND ONE EMPLOYEE MEMBERS WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO SIT ON THE BOARD.

THEIR APPOINTMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD WILL SERVE FOR A NEW TERM OF TWO YEARS STARTING FROM JANUARY NEXT YEAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

#### CHINESE ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICIALS ATTEND SEMINAR

\* \* \* \* \*

A FIVE-MEMBER DELEGATION FROM CHINA NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING CENTRE (CNEMC) IS IN HONG KONG TO ATTEND A SEMINAR ON QUALITY ASSURANCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING ORGANISED BY THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY FROM TODAY (TUESDAY) TO WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 9).

THE CHINESE DELEGATION WAS LED BY MR CHAI WENQI, HEAD OF CNEMC IN BEIJING WHICH IS THE HIGHEST AUTHORITY FOR STANDARDS USED IN ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING WORK THROUGHOUT CHINA.

THE GOVERNMENT CHEMIST, MR LEE NAM-SANG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY'S WORKING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE CENTRE DATED BACK TO 1986.

IT STARTED WITH EXCHANGES OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE IN AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND THAT THE SEMINAR WOULD ENHANCE FURTHER CO-OPERATION WITH THE CENTRE TO THE BENEFITS OF BOTH PARTIES CONCERNED.

TOPICS DELIVERED BY EXPERTS FROM THE CENTRE INCLUDE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING IN CHINA AND ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS OF STANDARD REFERENCE MATERIALS AND QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING IN CHINA.

ON THE HONG KONG SIDE, THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY PRESENTS TOPICS ON QUALITY ASSURANCE IN WATER ANALYSIS, QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR MEASUREMENTS OF AIR POLLUTANTS AND RELATED SUBSTANCES AND QUALITY ASSURANCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING LABORATORIES.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTIONS, OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND LOCAL TESTING LABORATORIES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR HAVE ALSO BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEMINAR.

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1992

- 13 -

244 VM'S RETURNED

\* \* \*

A GROUP OF 244 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 92 MEN, 65 WOMEN, 44 BOYS AND 43 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 137TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 11,639 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 25,619 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

- - - - 0 - - - -

SALT WATER CUTS IN WESTERN DISTRICT & SOUTHEAST KOWLOON

\* \* \* \* \*

SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN THE WESTERN DISTRICT WILL GO OFF FROM 10.30 PM ON THURSDAY (DECEMBER 10) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE PUMPING STATION IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL THE PREMISES AT KOTEWALL ROAD, CONDUIT ROAD, LYTTTELTON ROAD, BONHAM ROAD, ROBINSON ROAD, SEYMOUR ROAD, CASTLE ROAD, PEEL STREET, SHELLEY STREET, MACDONNELL ROAD, KENNEDY ROAD, OAKLANDS PATH, WESTERN END PATH, PARK ROAD, MOSQUE STREET, MOSQUE JUNCTION AND BOWEN ROAD.

TO ALLOW FOR CONNECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SOUTHEAST KOWLOON WILL ALSO BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (DECEMBER 11) TO 10 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY.

ALL PREMISES IN HUNG HOM, TO KWA WAN, KOWLOON CITY, LOK FU, WANG TAU HOM, KOWLOON TONG, TUNG TAU, CHUK YUEN, WONG TAI SIN, TSZ WAN SHAN, SAN PO KONG, KAI TAK, CHOI HUNG, HAMMER HILL AS WELL AS THOSE BOUNDED BY ARGYLE STREET, WATERLOO ROAD AND PEACE AVENUE WILL BE AFFECTED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LEGCO TO MEET TOMORROW

\* \* \* \* \*

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 19 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER FOUR BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

OF THE FOUR BILLS, TWO WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READING. DEBATES ON THEM ARE DUE TO BE ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE HOUSING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 AND WATER POLLUTION CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992.

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

/THEY ARE .....

- 14 -

THEY ARE EXCHANGE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1992.

THE HON LEE WING-TAT AND JAMES TO WILL MOVE MOTIONS ON THE HOUSING SUBSIDY POLICY AND APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE RESPECTIVELY.

THE HON MARTIN LEE WILL ALSO MOVE AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON "HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC STABILITY AND DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT".

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES. THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY CALLING 869 9492.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
TENDER RESULTS

\* \* \* \* \*

TENDER DATE	8 DEC 92	8 DEC 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	H279	Q250
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 520 MN	HKD 1,710 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 300 MN	HKD 800 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	4.56 PCT	4.36 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	4.60 PCT	4.42 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 50 PCT	ABOUT 83 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	4.61 PCT	4.43 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 14 DECEMBER 1992 -

TENDER DATE	15 DEC 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q251
ISSUE DATE	16 DEC 92
MATURITY DATE	17 MAR 93
TENOR	91 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 800+160 MN

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1992

- 15 -

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

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
REVERSAL OF LAF	NIL
BALANCE AFTER REVERSL 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 113.7 \*-0.3\* 8.12.1992

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS				HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS		
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.22 PCT	15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.37	5.24
1 MONTH	3.90 PCT	18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.30	5.35
3 MONTHS	4.26 PCT	21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.34	5.48
6 MONTHS	4.43 PCT	24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.37	5.60
12 MONTHS	4.88 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 3,751 MN

CLOSED 8 DECEMBER 1992

- - - - 0 - - - -