



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 1992

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GOVT GIVES CLOSE ATTENTION TO FLOODING

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WORKS BRANCH SAID THE GOVERNMENT IS GIVING CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE PROBLEM OF FLOODING DURING HEAVY RAIN IN LOW-LYING AREAS IN NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES.

A NUMBER OF MEASURES ARE TAKEN TO MINIMISE THE RISK OF FLOODING IN THESE AREAS.

IN THE LONG TERM, THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS LAUNCHED A \$1.1 BILLION WORKS PROJECT TO WIDEN AND REALIGN KAM TIN RIVER CHANNEL WHICH, ON COMPLETION, WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE THE CAPACITY OF THE RIVER TO DIRECT FLOOD WATER FROM THE CATCHMENT AREAS TO DEEP BAY.

FUNDS FOR PHASES I AND II OF THE PROJECT HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED AND DETAILED DESIGN FOR THE FINAL PHASE IS IN HAND.

THE PROJECT INVOLVES LAND ACQUISITION. THE DEPARTMENT IS HANDLING AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE THE STATUTORY PROCEDURES FOR DEALING WITH OBJECTIONS ARISING FROM LAND ACQUISITION.

HOWEVER, WORKS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BEGIN UNTIL ALL OBJECTIONS HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH.

IT IS HOPED THAT PHASE I OF THE PROJECT WILL BEGIN IN MID-1993 FOR COMPLETION IN 1997. THE WHOLE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY 1999, WHICH IS A REALISTIC TARGET DATE FOR A PROJECT OF THIS NATURE.

THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS ALSO WORKING ON TWO OTHER SEPARATE PROJECTS TO IMPROVE RIVER CHANNELS, AT SAN TIN NEAR LOK MA CHAU, AND AT AGAU TAM MEI NEAR FAIRVIEW PARK.

ON COMPLETION, THESE WILL FURTHER REDUCE THE RISK OF FLOODING IN THE AREAS MENTIONED.

IN THE SHORT TERM, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED AMENDING THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE TO TIGHTEN CONTROL ON UNAUTHORISED LAND FORMATION WORKS, WHICH OTHERWISE CONTRIBUTE TO FLOODING RISKS DURING HEAVY RAIN.

THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS ALSO EXPERIMENTING WITH FLOOD WARNING SYSTEMS FOR THE RURAL LOW-LYING AREAS.

TRIALS ARE IN PROGRESS OF A SYSTEM WHICH USES A SIREN, WHICH SOUNDS WHEN FLOOD WATER REACHES A PRE-DETERMINED LEVEL TO WARN DWELLERS OF THE IMMINENT RISK OF FLOODING.

ANOTHER FLOOD WARNING SYSTEM ON A LARGER AREA BASIS, IS BEING TRIED OUT AT THE INDUS RIVER BASIN. EXTENSION OF THESE SCHEMES, IF SUCCESSFUL, TO OTHER BASIN AREAS SUCH AS KAM TIN WILL BE CONSIDERED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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TAC DISCUSSES TAXIS, SKY RAIL AND BUS SERVICES

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) CONSIDERED THE PRELIMINARY REPORT OF ITS WORKING GROUP ON TAXI POLICY REVIEW AND A FARE INCREASE APPLICATION FROM THE LANTAU TAXI ASSOCIATION.

THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO BRIEFED ON THE PROPOSED SKY RAIL PROJECT FOR KOWLOON AND CONSULTED ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AIR-CONDITIONED BUS SERVICES.

ON TAXI POLICY REVIEW, MEMBERS NOTED THE PRELIMINARY FINDINGS OF THE WORKING GROUP AND ENDORSED THAT THE PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE BEEN SHORT-LISTED FOR FURTHER PUBLIC CONSULTATION SHOULD BE PUBLISHED IN SEPTEMBER TO INVITE COMMENTS.

IN ITS PRELIMINARY REPORT, THE WORKING GROUP HAS IDENTIFIED, AS POSSIBLE OPTIONS FOR FURTHER DELIBERATIONS, A RANGE OF PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE THE TAXI LICENSING SYSTEM, THE FARE POLICY AND THE QUALITY OF TAXI SERVICE.

THE PUBLIC AND THE TAXI TRADE WERE FIRST CONSULTED BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH THIS YEAR WHEN THE WORKING GROUP STARTED THE REVIEW.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND THE TAXI TRADE WILL HAVE AT LEAST THREE MONTHS TO GIVE THEIR OPINIONS ON THE PROPOSALS TO BE ANNOUNCED IN SEPTEMBER FOR PUBLIC VIEWS.

THE TAC IS EXPECTED TO TAKE A VIEW ON THE PROPOSALS EARLY NEXT YEAR.

ON LANTAU TAXI FARES, MEMBERS RECOMMENDED AN INCREASE BY A PERCENTAGE LOWER THAN THAT REQUESTED BY THE TRADE.

FARES FOR LANTAU TAXIS WERE LAST REVISED IN JUNE 1990. SINCE THEN, OPERATING COSTS HAD RISEN BY 19 PER CENT WHILE GENERAL INFLATION, AS MEASURED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A), HAD GONE UP BY ABOUT 22 PER CENT.

APART FROM THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE TAXI TRADE, MEMBERS TOOK INTO ACCOUNT PUBLIC ACCEPTABILITY AND THE FARE DIFFERENTIAL WITH OTHER PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES.

THE TAC'S RECOMMENDATION ON THE FARE INCREASE APPLICATION WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL LATER.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE LATEST SUBMISSION BY THE KOWLOON SKY RAIL COMPANY LTD (KSRC) TO BUILD AND OPERATE AN ELEVATED LIGHT RAIL SYSTEM CONNECTING TSIM SHA TSUI WITH HUNG HOM.

THE PROPOSAL IS BEING CONSIDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT. ISSUES BEING LOOKED AT INCLUDE THE IMPACT THAT THE SYSTEM MAY HAVE ON ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT.

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THE URBAN COUNCIL AND RELEVANT DISTRICT BOARDS WILL BE CONSULTED.

A DECISION ON WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH KSRC IS EXPECTED BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

MEMBERS NOTED THE OUTCOME OF A GOVERNMENT STUDY ABOUT THE OPERATION OF AIR-CONDITIONED BUS SERVICES.

THEY WERE ALSO BRIEFED ON THE PUBLIC VIEWS ON FARES AND DEVELOPMENT OF AIR-CONDITIONED BUS SERVICES.

HAVING EXAMINED THE HIGHER OPERATING COSTS OF AIR-CONDITIONED BUSES, THEIR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE, AND THE NEED TO AVOID CROSS-SUBSIDISATION FROM USERS OF CONVENTIONAL SERVICES, MEMBERS ENDORSED THE PRINCIPLES NOW USED TO DETERMINE THE FARES FOR AIR-CONDITIONED BUS SERVICES, INCLUDING VEHICLE TYPE, PASSENGER AFFORDABILITY AND FARE CHARGED ON COMPETING PUBLIC TRANSPORT MODES.

ON SERVICE DEVELOPMENT, THE TAC AGREED THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES:

- * APART FROM DISTRICT BOARD CONSULTATIONS, COMPREHENSIVE MARKET RESEARCH SHOULD BE CONDUCTED TO ENSURE THAT FURTHER EXPANSION OF AIR-CONDITIONED SERVICES IS RESPONSIVE TO CHANGES IN PASSENGER DEMAND;
- * SEPARATE BUS ROUTES USING SOLELY AIR-CONDITIONED BUSES ARE PREFERRED TO ROUTES USING A MIX OF AIR-CONDITIONED AND CONVENTIONAL BUSES;
- * WHERE AIR-CONDITIONED AND CONVENTIONAL BUSES OPERATE ON THE SAME ROUTE, SCHEDULES SHOWING THE FREQUENCIES OF THE TWO TYPES OF VEHICLES SHOULD BE DISPLAYED AT BUS STOPS TO FACILITATE PASSENGER CHOICE AND ADEQUATE SERVICES SHOULD BE PROVIDED FOR PASSENGERS WHO PREFER THE CHEAPER SERVICES OFFERED BY CONVENTIONAL BUSES; AND
- * IN PREPARING THEIR FLEET DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, THE BUS COMPANIES MUST ALLOW FOR THE NEED TO BUY NEW CONVENTIONAL BUSES IF A CONTINUING DEMAND FOR SUCH VEHICLES IS EVIDENT.

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PROPOSALS TO ENHANCE SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION

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GOVERNMENT-COMMISSIONED CONSULTANTS HAVE PUT FORWARD A VARIETY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AIMED AT ENHANCING THE INFRASTRUCTURAL SUPPORT FOR AND MANPOWER TRAINING OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION AND THE CULTIVATION OF AN AUTOMATION CULTURE IN SOCIETY.

THESE RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION TASK FORCE; THE PROVISION OF LAND, PREMISES AND FUNDING SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION PROJECTS; AND THE PROVISION OF TRAINING FOR STUDENTS, TECHNICIANS AND CRAFTSMEN.

THEY ALSO RECOMMEND THE MONITORING OF THE DEVELOPMENT IN AUTOMATION TECHNOLOGIES; THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AWARD FOR AUTOMATION PROJECTS AND THE PRODUCTION OF TELEVISION PROGRAMMES ON INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT SAID THE TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE OF THE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (ITDC) WAS CONSIDERING THE CONSULTANTS' RECOMMENDATIONS IN DETAIL AND WOULD SUBMIT ITS OWN RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE ITDC LATER THIS YEAR.

"THE ITDC WILL THEN ADVISE GOVERNMENT ON WHAT FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN," HE SAID.

THE CONSULTANCY STUDY ON INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION WAS COMMISSIONED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND UNDERTAKEN BY THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL WITH THE HELP OF THREE SUB-CONSULTANTS, NAMELY ARTHUR D. LITTLE INC, AUTOMATION LEASING AND CONSULTANCY PTE LTD AND KURT SALMON ASSOCIATES INC.

ITS OBJECTIVES WERE TO ASSESS THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM BENEFITS OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION IN HONG KONG, AND TO IDENTIFY THE BARRIERS TO INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION WITH A VIEW TO ADVISING ON MEASURES TO OVERCOME THEM.

THE CONSULTANTS POINTED OUT THAT INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION COULD HELP HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS REALISE THEIR POTENTIAL OF BECOMING WORLD CLASS OPERATORS AND TO ENHANCE THEIR COMPETITIVENESS.

THE BENEFITS OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION WOULD INCLUDE THE REDUCTION IN PRODUCTION AND LABOUR COSTS; INCREASE IN PRODUCTIVITY; BETTER MATERIAL UTILISATION; SHORTENED DELIVERY TIME; AND IMPROVEMENT IN PRODUCT QUALITY AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

THE CONSULTANTS HAVE, HOWEVER, IDENTIFIED THAT LOCAL MANUFACTURERS ARE FACING VARIOUS BARRIERS TO INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION.

SUCH BARRIERS INCLUDE THE LACK OF APPRECIATION OF THE VALUE-ADDED NATURE OF MANUFACTURING; THE LACK OF A SHARED VISION OF AUTOMATION AMONG MANAGEMENT STAFF; THE LACK OF APPRECIATION OF THE VALUE OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES IN AUTOMATION; INSUFFICIENT EXPERIENCED PROFESSIONALS IN AUTOMATION AND INADEQUATE VENDOR SUPPORT IN AUTOMATION PRODUCTS AND TECHNOLOGIES.

/THESE BARRIERS

THESE BARRIERS HAVE TO BE REMOVED IF LOCAL MANUFACTURERS ARE TO REAP THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION.

COPIES OF THE REPORT ARE NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

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TRUST FUND TO SPONSOR RESOURCE CENTRE FOR GIFTED CHILDREN

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A \$8 MILLION DONATION TODAY (TUESDAY) FOR THE SETTING UP OF AN EDUCATION TRUST FUND WHICH WOULD BE USED MAINLY TO ESTABLISH A RESOURCE CENTRE FOR THE EDUCATION OF ACADEMICALLY GIFTED CHILDREN.

IN HIS CAPACITY AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE FUNG HON-CHU TRUST FUND, THE OUTGOING DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, ACCEPTED A CHEQUE FROM MR FUNG HON-CHU.

MR FUNG IS A FORMER MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE URBAN COUNCIL. HE IS THE CHAIRMAN EMERITUS OF THE LI AND FUNG GROUP OF COMPANIES, ONE OF THE OLDEST CHINESE FIRMS IN HONG KONG.

THE OTHER TRUSTEES WILL BE MRS JULIA SHEN FUNG; PRINCIPAL OF THE COTTON SPINNERS ASSOCIATION PREVOCATIONAL SCHOOL, MR WAN HING-YUEN; AND AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MRS GRACE YUNG.

MR LI THANKED MR FUNG FOR HIS GENEROUS DONATION WHICH WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 4 REGARDING EDUCATION FOR GIFTED CHILDREN.

IN THE REPORT, IT WAS ENVISAGED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD ESTABLISH A RESOURCE CENTRE AS A BASE FOR A TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL OFFICERS TO DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE CURRICULUM MATERIALS AND TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL HELP TO TEACHERS OF GIFTED CHILDREN IN THEIR SCHOOLS.

AT THE CENTRE, TEACHERS WOULD BE ABLE TO SELECT OR PRODUCE THEIR OWN TEACHING MATERIALS, MEET OTHER TEACHERS OF GIFTED CHILDREN AND SHARE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.

PARENTS OF GIFTED CHILDREN COULD ALSO BE GIVEN ADVICE ON HOW BEST TO SUPPORT THEM AT HOME.

THE CENTRE WOULD ALSO PROVIDE A VENUE FOR SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS FOR THE CHILDREN WHERE THEY COULD MEET THEIR PEERS AS WELL AS SPECIALISTS FROM VARIOUS FIELDS.

IN ADDITION, DURING LONG SCHOOL HOLIDAYS, THE CENTRE WOULD BE ARRANGING ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES FOR THE CHILDREN TO FURTHER DEVELOP THEIR POTENTIAL.

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THEY COULD ALSO PURSUE EXTENDED STUDIES WHICH COULD NOT BE FITTED INTO THEIR OWN SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMMES.

MR LI SAID THE PROPOSED CENTRE WOULD BE NAMED THE FUNG HON CHU GIFTED CHILDREN EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE AND WOULD BE HOUSED IN THE PRESENT PREMISES OF TSUEN WAN SECONDARY TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN REPROVISIONED IN SHEUNG SHUI AND THE PRESENT PREMISES WOULD BE VACATED BY THE SUMMER OF 1994.

CONVERSION WORKS COULD START AT THAT TIME AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CENTRE WOULD OPEN IN LATE 1994 OR EARLY 1995, BEFORE HONG KONG HOSTS THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GIFTEDNESS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 1995.

THE CENTRE WOULD HOUSE LECTURE ROOMS, A REFERENCE LIBRARY, A THEATRE, A SCIENCE LABORATORY, WORKSHOPS AND OTHER ANCILLARY FACILITIES.

THE TOTAL COST OF CONVERSION, FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT IS ESTIMATED TO BE \$6 MILLION. THE ANNUAL RECURRENT COST OF OPERATING THE RESOURCE CENTRE, ESTIMATED TO BE \$1.4 MILLION IN THE INITIAL YEARS, WILL BE MET BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

MR FUNG SAID THE BALANCE OF THE \$8 MILLION TRUST FUND COULD BE USED TO SUPPORT OTHER WORTHWHILE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES, UPON APPLICATION TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (DESIGNATE), MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ALSO EXPRESSED HIS GRATITUDE TO MR FUNG.

HE COMMENTED THAT THIS WAS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE CIVIC-MINDEDNESS AND GENEROSITY OF COMMUNITY LEADERS, WHO WERE SO KEEN TO ENSURE EVER IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL PROVISION FOR CHILDREN IN HONG KONG.

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NEW DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION TAKES UP OFFICE

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MR DOMINIC WONG SHING-WAH WILL TAKE UP THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY). MR WONG SUCCEEDS MR LI YUET-TING WHO WILL RETIRE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

MR WONG, AGED 50, JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE IN 1962 AND WAS APPOINTED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE IN 1973. HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE A IN 1991. HE IS A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

/MR WONG

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MR WONG HAD BEEN A TEACHER, AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND A TRADE OFFICER. DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS CAREER IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE, HE SERVED IN THE FORMER COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH, SECURITY BRANCH, THE FORMER SOCIAL SERVICES BRANCH AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE.

HE WAS DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE FROM 1984 TO 1988 AND DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER FROM 1988 TO 1989. THEN HE TOOK UP HIS PREVIOUS APPOINTMENT AS POSTMASTER GENERAL AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY.

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SUMMONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM COMPUTERISED

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A NEW COMPUTERISED CASE AND SUMMONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CASEMAN) INSTALLED BY THE JUDICIARY TO IMPROVE THE MANAGEMENT OF CASES IN THE MAGISTRACIES HAS COME INTO OPERATION ON JULY 1.

THE BASIS OF THE SYSTEM IS A CENTRAL COMPUTER BASED ON THE MAIN COMPUTER OF THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

A SUB-SYSTEM, WHICH IS AT THE CORE OF CASEMAN AND KNOWN AS THE CENTRAL SUMMONS PROCESSING UNIT, IS LOCATED IN THE EASTERN LAW COURTS.

THE CENTRAL COMPUTER IS ACCESSED BY TERMINALS AT THE CENTRAL SUMMONS PROCESSING UNIT, ALL MAGISTRACIES AND MOST PROSECUTING DEPARTMENTS.

FOR EVERY OFFENCE, A STANDARD OFFENCE DESCRIPTION IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE IS KEPT ON THE COMPUTER DATABASE.

THE PROSECUTING DEPARTMENTS WILL KEY IN THE DETAILS, SUCH AS THE NAME, ADDRESS AND IDENTITY CARD NUMBER OF THE DEFENDANT, TIME AND PLACE OF THE OFFENCE, AND THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBER IN THE EVENT OF A TRAFFIC CASE WHEN APPLYING FOR THE ISSUE OF SUMMONS.

THE COMPUTER WILL THEN ALLOCATE A RETURN DAY FOR THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF THE DEFENDANT AT THE APPROPRIATE COURT, AND THE SUMMONS WILL BE PRINTED AND SERVED FROM THE CENTRAL SUMMONS PROCESSING UNIT.

AFTER THE HEARINGS, DETAILS OF THE OUTCOME WILL ALSO BE ENTERED INTO THE COMPUTER.

WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF CASEMAN, STAFF OF THE JUDICIARY CAN ELIMINATE THE LABORIOUS MANUAL PROCESSING OF SUMMONSES AT INDIVIDUAL MAGISTRACIES AND TRACK DOWN OUTSTANDING FINES MORE QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY.

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MOREOVER, THE CENTRALISATION ENABLES A DEFENDANT WHO HAS BEEN ORDERED TO PAY A FINE TO MAKE PAYMENT AT ANY MAGISTRACY, IN ADDITION TO THE MAGISTRACY AT WHICH HIS CASE HAS BEEN HEARD.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

A PRESS VISIT TO SEE THE CASE AND SUMMONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WILL BE ARRANGED AT 2.30 PM THIS THURSDAY (JULY 30).

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WISHING TO JOIN THE VISIT SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE GROUND FLOOR LOBBY OF THE EASTERN LAW COURTS, 29 TAI ON STREET, SAI WAN HO AT 2.15 PM.

INFORMATION OFFICERS OF THE JUDICIARY WILL BE ON HAND TO HELP.

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512 REDUNDANT TEACHERS GET JOBS

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ALL 512 REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS WHO HAVE REGISTERED WITH THE PLACEMENT SERVICE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY PLACED IN SCHOOLS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) THANKED SPONSORING BODIES AND SCHOOL AUTHORITIES FOR THEIR FULL SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION IN ACCEPTING THE REDUNDANT TEACHERS REFERRED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO FILL THEIR VACANCIES.

IN THE MEANTIME, WRITTEN ADVICE IS BEING SENT TO ALL AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS INFORMING THEM THAT THEY CAN NOW ENTER INTO EMPLOYMENT WITH TRAINED TEACHERS FROM TODAY.

THE PLACEMENT SERVICE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1975 TO HELP REDUNDANT TEACHERS IN AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS SEEK ALTERNATIVE JOBS AS A RESULT OF A DROP IN THE POPULATION OF PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AND A POPULATION SHIFT FROM URBAN AREAS TO THE NEW TOWNS.

ABOUT 6,800 TEACHERS HAVE BEEN HELPED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO SECURE ALTERNATIVE POSTS BETWEEN 1975 AND THIS YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED THE REPORT ON THE 1990 SURVEY OF BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS.

THE ANNUAL REPORT CONTAINS A WIDE RANGE OF STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURAL AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE INDUSTRIES, BASED ON THE DATA COLLECTED FROM ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGED IN THESE ACTIVITIES.

THE REPORT, AT \$30 A COPY, IS 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 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE SECTORS REFER TO THE INDUSTRIES OF:

- * BUILDING AND CIVIL ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION;
- * REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT, LEASING, BROKERAGE AND MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT SERVICES; AND
- * ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PROJECT ENGINEERING SERVICES.

EXAMPLES OF THE ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE REPORT ARE:

- * NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES;
- * GROSS OUTPUT, SERVICE INCOME AND OTHER INCOME;
- * VALUE ADDED (A MEASURE OF CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT) AND GROSS SURPLUS;
- * PURCHASE OF GOODS AND MATERIALS;
- * OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES; AND
- * GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS.

APART FROM STATISTICS FOR 1990, THE REPORT ALSO CONTAINS SOME SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1988 AND 1989 TO SHOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE INDUSTRIES IN RECENT YEARS.

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

ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON TEL 839 3204.

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NEW POST OFFICE IN WU CHUNG HOUSE

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THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MRS DORIS S.Y. HO, ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT A NEW WAN CHAI POST OFFICE WILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS AT 9.30 AM NEXT MONDAY (AUGUST 3).

IT IS LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF WU CHUNG HOUSE, 197-213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

THE OFFICE WILL REPLACE THE EXISTING WAN CHAI POST OFFICE AT 221 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST WHICH WILL CLOSE DOWN AFTER 1 PM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 1).

THE TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE NEW OFFICE IS 892 5031. THE OPENING HOURS ARE FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY AND FROM 9.30 AM TO 1 PM ON SATURDAYS.

IN ADDITION TO THE PROVISION OF THE NORMAL RANGE OF COUNTER SERVICES, THE NEW OFFICE WILL ALSO ACCEPT SPEEDPOST POSTINGS.

BEING MORE SPACIOUS, THE OFFICE WILL PROVIDE SOME 400 ADDITIONAL P.O. BOXES AND FIVE MORE COUNTERS FOR STAMP SALES, METER AND BULK LETTER POSTINGS AND ACCEPTANCE OF SPEEDPOST.

MRS HO SAID A SPECIAL HANDBACK SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PHILATELISTS AT THE NEW POST OFFICE ON MONDAY (AUGUST 3).

UNREGISTERED FULLY POSTAGE-PREPAID "FIRST DAY COVERS" PREPARED PRIVATELY, WHICH BEAR A LOCAL ADDRESS, WILL BE ACCEPTED OVER THE COUNTER AND IMPRESSED WITH THE NORMAL DATESTAMP AND HANDED BACK TO THE PERSON.

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STUDENTS FROM CHINA, MACAU, HK TO JOIN DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA

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STUDENTS FROM GUANGDONG, FUZHOU AND MACAU WILL JOIN HONG KONG'S COUNTERPARTS IN A DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA IN THE SHA TIN CITY HALL AUDITORIUM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

PERFORMANCES WILL BE HELD AT 3 PM AND 7.30 PM.

"HONG KONG THIS YEAR IS PLAYING HOST IN THE ANNUAL STUDENT DANCE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN THE FOUR REGIONS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE EVENT IS ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

/THE DANCE

THE DANCE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME PROMOTES CULTURAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HONG KONG, MACAU AND CHINA. IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1981 WHEN ONLY HONG KONG AND MACAU WERE INVOLVED.

TODAY, THE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME INCLUDES GUANGDONG AND FUZHOU. THE LATTER ONLY JOINS THIS YEAR.

IT IS NOW AN ANNUAL EVENT TO BE HELD IN ONE OF THE FOUR AREAS.

TOMORROW'S DANCE EXTRAVAGANZA IS SPONSORED BY THE HEUNG YEE KUK COMMITTEE.

THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR ROBERT LO CHUN-HANG, AND ACTING SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR PAUL LEUNG SAI-WAH, WILL OFFICIATE.

THE MAINLAND DANCERS ARE FROM THE SHANTOU KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS' COLLEGE AND ZHANJIANG CITY TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE, FUZHOU CITY PRIMARY STUDENTS OF CANGSHAN DISTRICT WHILE THE MACAU DANCERS ARE PERFORMERS AT THE MACAU INTER-SCHOOL DANCE COMPETITION HELD THIS YEAR.

THE HONG KONG TEAM IS FORMED FROM THOSE WHO HAD JOINED THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S SCHOOL DANCE TRAINING SCHEME AND COMPRISES WINNERS AT THE SCHOOL DANCE FESTIVAL.

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153 RETURN TO VIETNAM
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A GROUP OF 153 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 61 MEN, 35 WOMEN, 26 BOYS AND 31 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 114TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BROUGHT TO 6,338 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 20,317 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED
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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF THAI FARMERS FINANCE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED
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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TODAY (TUESDAY), HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON LO WING-CHAI ON APRIL 23, 1990 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO A SENTENCE OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

LO WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF A MARRIED COUPLE MR LEE TSAI-CHING AND MADAM LEE SHUNG-TAI.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS
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TENDER DATE	28 JULY 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q231
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 1,680 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 500 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	2.52 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	2.52 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	62.5 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	2.58 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDER TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 3 AUGUST 1992 -

TENDER DATE	4 AUG 92	4 AUG 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q232	H270
ISSUE DATE	5 AUG 92	5 AUG 92
MATURITY DATE	4 NOV 92	3 FEB 93
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 500+100 MN	HKD 300+60 MN

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TUESDAY, JULY 28, 1992

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,374
REVERSAL OF LAF	-386
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	988
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+700
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,688
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 109.8 *-0.2* 28.7.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.92 PCT	16 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.37	3.61
1 MONTH	2.71 PCT	19 MONTHS	2402	5.50	102.35	3.96
3 MONTHS	2.50 PCT	22 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.35	4.17
6 MONTHS	2.73 PCT					
12 MONTHS	3.36 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 9,757MN

CLOSED 28 JULY 1992

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