



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MARCH ORDERS-ON-HAND,  
EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS FIGURES RELEASED  
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IN MARCH 1991, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES INCREASED BY 2% WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991 AND BY 1% WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (SATURDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MARCH 1991 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, ORDERS INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE TEXTILES AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, BUT SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, THE ORDERS POSITION IN MARCH 1991 INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, BUT DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND THE TEXTILES INDUSTRIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, ORDERS IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT THEIR TOTAL WORKFORCE IN MARCH 1991 SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, BUT DECREASED BY 10% WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990.

COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1991 INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY, BUT DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN MOST OTHER MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1991 DECREASED IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH SUBSTANTIAL DECREASES RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND THE TEXTILES INDUSTRIES. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY REPORTED LITTLE CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT.

IN MARCH 1991, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SURVEYED DECREASED BY 12% IN MONEY TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991. MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED REPORTED DECREASES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1991, FOLLOWING THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND ANNUAL BONUSES IN FEBRUARY 1991 BY SOME MANUFACTURING COMPANIES SURVEYED.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WAS RECORDED IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS INDUSTRY.

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1991 INCREASED BY 15% IN MONEY TERMS. INCREASES IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS WERE RECORDED IN ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, FOOD AND DRINKS, AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

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IN THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES SURVEYED, EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1991 SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, BUT DECREASED MODERATELY WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1991 DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, FOLLOWING THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND ANNUAL BONUSES IN FEBRUARY 1991 BY SOME COMPANIES SURVEYED. COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1991 INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FIGURES FOR THIS INDUSTRY COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IN THE SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN MARCH 1991 AS REPORTED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, BUT INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER MARCH 1990.

PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1991 FOR THE SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS TAKEN TOGETHER DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, FOLLOWING THE ISSUE OF DOUBLE PAY AND ANNUAL BONUSES IN FEBRUARY 1991 BY SOME HOTELS SURVEYED.

ON THE OTHER HAND, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN MARCH 1991 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER MARCH 1990 FOR THE SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS TAKEN TOGETHER.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 TO 3.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT AS THE SURVEY IS NOT BASED ON A SCIENTIFICALLY SELECTED SAMPLE, THE MAGNITUDES OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE MERELY A REFLECTION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE COMPANIES SURVEYED. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL, IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR MARCH 1991 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$4.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 805 6441.

TABLE 1 : ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	AS AT THE END OF MARCH 1991  (MONTHS)	CHANGE WHEN FEB 91  (%)	COMPARED WITH MAR 90  (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4.41	+2	+1
WEARING APPAREL	4.70	*	*
TEXTILES	2.41	+2	-2
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3.46	+21	+2
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.21	*	-3
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.33	+2	+1
OTHERS	4.09	*	-2

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

TABLE 2 : EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF MARCH 1991	
	CHANGE WHEN FEB 91  (%)	COMPARED WITH MAR 90  (%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	*	-10
FOOD AND DRINKS	-1	-2
WEARING APPAREL	+2	-6
TEXTILES	-1	-19
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	-2	-35
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	-1	*
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	-3	-11
OTHERS	+1	-2
CONSTRUCTION #	*	-8

/SERVICES BANKS .....

SERVICES	-1	+1
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BANKS	*	+4
HOTELS	-4	-7
PUBLIC UTILITIES	-3	-3
OTHERS	+1	+5

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

# PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

TABLE 3 : PER CAPITA EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN MARCH 1991	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
-----	-----	FEB 91	MAR 90
	(HK\$)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	6,493	-12	+15
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FOOD AND DRINKS	7,387	+3	+19
WEARING APPAREL	5,000	-7	+13
TEXTILES	5,678	-13	+12
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	6,504	-14	+28
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	7,069	-1	+7
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	6,506	-17	+17
OTHERS	8,339	-17	+10
CONSTRUCTION #	8,744	-21	+10
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SERVICES	11,338	-2	+18
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BANKS	9,756	-1	+11
HOTELS	7,276	-51	+13
PUBLIC UTILITIES	11,440	+8	+24
OTHERS	12,866	-2	+17

# PER CAPITA EARNINGS COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

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NOTE: DUE TO THE POSSIBLE INCLUSIONS OF IRREGULAR PAYMENTS (E.G. BACKPAY OR SPECIAL BONUS), "PER CAPITA EARNINGS" FOR A GIVEN MONTH MAY BE SUBJECT TO RATHER VOLATILE FLUCTUATIONS FROM TIME TO TIME. THEREFORE, IT IS PARTICULARLY ADVISABLE, IN STUDYING PER CAPITA EARNINGS STATISTICS, NOT TO TAKE A GIVEN MONTHS'S DATA IN ISOLATION, BUT TO MAKE REFERENCE TO DATA OVER A LONGER PERIOD.

NOTE TO TABLES 1 - 3 :

UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS", WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AMONGST THE COMPANIES SURVEYED, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE COMPANIES SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

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HONG KONG/FRANCE AIR AGREEMENT IN FORCE

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THE HONG KONG/FRANCE AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT (ASA) HAS ENTERED INTO FORCE ON MAY 10 THIS YEAR.

THE ASA WAS SIGNED ON AUGUST 20 LAST YEAR BY THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, ON BEHALF OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT UNDER THE AUTHORISATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM GOVERNMENT, AND THE CHIEF OF AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES, MR ROBERT ESPEROU, ON BEHALF OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

THE AGREEMENT IS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION IN MIND.

THE ASA PROVIDES FOR SCHEDULED PASSENGER AND ALL-CARGO SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND FRANCE, WHICH ARE PRESENTLY OPERATED BY CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS AND AIR FRANCE.

PRIOR TO THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE ASA, THESE SERVICES WERE COVERED BY THE UK/FRANCE ASA.

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RETIRING HK OFFICIAL TO JOIN GATT WELCOMES  
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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DESIGNATE), MR T.H. CHAU, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THE GOVERNMENT WELCOMES VERY MUCH THE APPOINTMENT OF MR KEITH BROADBRIDGE AS AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE GATT.

THIS APPOINTMENT WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE GATT, MR ARTHUR DUNKEL, IN GENEVA YESTERDAY (FRIDAY).

MR BROADBRIDGE IS AT PRESENT HONG KONG'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GATT AND THE HEAD OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN GENEVA.

HE WILL RETIRE FROM THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AND JOIN THE GATT SECRETARIAT IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

"THE APPOINTMENT OF MR BROADBRIDGE TO AN IMPORTANT SENIOR POST IN THE TOP STRUCTURE OF THE GATT SECRETARIAT NOT ONLY REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT ON MR BROADBRIDGE'S PERFORMANCE AND STANDING AS HONG KONG'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GATT BUT IS ALSO AN HONOUR FOR HONG KONG.

"THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT A HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANT HAS BEEN GIVEN A JOB AT SUCH A HIGH LEVEL IN AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION," MR CHAU SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT AT A LATER STAGE ON MR BROADBRIDGE'S SUCCESSOR AS HONG KONG'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GATT.

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OFFICIALS LEFT FOR ANTI-DUMPING TALKS IN WASHINGTON  
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A TEAM OF TRADE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS LEFT FOR WASHINGTON TODAY (SATURDAY) FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE ANTI-DUMPING ORDER AGAINST HONG KONG'S EXPORTS OF MAN-MADE FIBRE SWEATERS TO THE U.S.

"WE INTEND TO DISCUSS WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT VARIOUS FACETS OF THIS ANTI-DUMPING CASE. IN PARTICULAR, WE WISH TO SEEK CLARIFICATION ON AREAS OF CONCERN TO US," DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE AND LEADER OF THE HONG KONG TEAM, MR ROBERT FOOTMAN, SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE CONSULTATIONS WERE BEING HELD UNDER THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE ANTI-DUMPING CODE OF THE GATT.

"THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS ALWAYS TAKEN THIS CASE VERY SERIOUSLY. IT IS EXTREMELY COMPLICATED, AND WE NEED TO CLARIFY A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POINTS BEFORE DECIDING WHAT TO DO NEXT," MR FOOTMAN SAID.

THE CONSULTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON D.C. ON MAY 23 TO 24.

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## NEW MEASURE ON DUTY FREE CONCESSION

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FROM JUNE 1, THE DUTY FREE CONCESSION FOR TRAVELLERS WILL ONLY BE GRANTED TO VISITORS OR RETURNING LOCAL RESIDENTS WHO HAVE SPENT AT LEAST 24 HOURS OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE NEW MEASURE WAS AIMED AT PREVENTING TRAVELLERS WHO MAKE MULTIPLE TRIPS IN A SINGLE DAY FROM BRINGING IN CIGARETTES WITHIN THE DUTY FREE CONCESSION.

THE MAXIMUM DUTY FREE QUANTITIES FOR VISITORS AND LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

VISITORS -----	MAXIMUM QUANTITIES -----
LIQUOR	- ONE LITRE OF WINE OR SPIRITS
TOBACCO	- 200 CIGARETTES OR 50 CIGARS OR 250 GRAMS OF SMOKERS' TOBACCO
PERFUME	- 60 MILLILITRES
TOILET WATER	- 250 MILLILITRES
OTHER ITEMS	- REASONABLE QUANTITIES
LOCAL RESIDENTS -----	MAXIMUM QUANTITIES -----
LIQUOR	- ONE LITRE OF STILL WINE
TOBACCO	- 100 CIGARETTES OR 25 CIGARS OR 125 GRAMS OF SMOKERS' TOBACCO
PERFUME	- 60 MILLILITRES
TOILET WATER	- 250 MILLILITRES
OTHER ITEMS	- REASONABLE QUANTITIES

"DUTIABLE GOODS AT THE ABOVE QUANTITIES IMPORTED BY TRAVELLERS FOR THEIR OWN USE AND IN THEIR BAGGAGE SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM DUTY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"TRAVELLERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE DO NOT QUALIFY FOR DUTY FREE LIQUOR AND TOBACCO," HE ADDED.

BETWEEN MARCH 7 AND MAY 17, 344 PERSONS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF DUTIABLE GOODS FOR WHICH DUTY HAS NOT BEEN PAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID 238 OF THESE OFFENCES WERE IDENTIFIED AT CUSTOMS CONTROL POINTS AND INVOLVED TRAVELLERS AND DRIVERS RETURNING FROM CHINA CONCEALING CIGARETTES IN THEIR CLOTHING AND BAGGAGE, OR INSIDE THEIR VEHICLES.

THE OTHER CASES RESULT FROM CUSTOMS OPERATIONS AT VARIOUS SPOTS ON LAND, SUCH AS STORES, MOBILE HAWKERS AND RESTAURANTS, OR ON BOARD VESSELS.

"A TOTAL OF 1.26 MILLION CIGARETTES WITH A DUTY POTENTIAL OF SOME \$0.9 MILLION WERE SEIZED DURING THE SAME PERIOD," HE SAID.

TRAVELLERS WHO FAIL TO DECLARE CIGARETTES IN EXCESS OF DUTY FREE CONCESSION WILL BE PROSECUTED. THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS A FINE OF \$100,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO YEARS.

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CUSTOMS SERVICE A SOPHISTICATED FORCE

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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE HAS EVOLVED INTO A SOPHISTICATED, FORWARD-LOOKING ADMINISTRATION SINCE ITS MODEST BEGINNING 82 YEARS AGO, THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE, MR CLIVE OXLEY, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

MR OXLEY WAS SPEAKING AT THE PASSING-OUT PARADE OF 14 CUSTOMS INSPECTORS AND 103 CUSTOMS OFFICERS WHO HAD COMPLETED 26-WEEK OR 13-WEEK RESIDENTIAL COURSE OF TRAINING AND STUDY AT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TRAINING SCHOOL AT TAI LAM CHUNG.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT AT ITS BEGINNING HAD ONLY 26 OFFICERS ENFORCING ONE PIECE OF LEGISLATION AND, NOW, IT HAD AN ESTABLISHMENT OF 3,929 STAFF OF ALL RANKS HAVING ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER 33 SEPARATE PIECES OF LEGISLATION.

"APART FROM ITS TRADITIONAL ROLE OF REVENUE PROTECTION IN RESPECT OF DUTIABLE COMMODITIES, THE SERVICE IS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR NARCOTIC DRUGS INTERDICTION, FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION, FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF A WIDE RANGE OF TRADE AND HEALTH-RELATED MEASURES TO PROTECT THE SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY AND, LAST BUT NOT THE LEAST, FOR ANTI-SMUGGLING OPERATIONS TO PROTECT THE SOCIAL SECURITY AND ECONOMY OF HONG KONG," HE SAID.

MR OXLEY SAID THE INDUCTION TRAINING WHICH THE CUSTOMS INSPECTORS AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS HAD JUST COMPLETED HAD PROVIDED THEM WITH ONLY A BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF CUSTOMS TECHNIQUES.

"TO BECOME TRULY PROFESSIONAL CUSTOMS OFFICERS YOU MUST CONTINUE TO LEARN, TO EXPAND YOUR WORKING TECHNIQUES AND EXPERTISE, TO PERFORM YOUR DUTIES ALWAYS WITH DILIGENCE, HONESTY, INTEGRITY, PERSISTENCE AND IMAGINATION, AND TO UNDERTAKE THEM WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOUR," HE TOLD THE MEN AND WOMEN ON PARADE.

"THE CAREER WHICH YOU HAVE CHOSEN ALSO DEMANDS A HIGH DEGREE OF LOYALTY, SELF-DISCIPLINE AND SELF-RESPECT, FOR, WITHOUT THESE, THE SERVICE OF WHICH YOU ARE NOW MEMBERS WILL RAPIDLY LOSE ALL THAT IT HAS GAINED DURING THE PAST 82 YEARS," HE SAID.

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SPEED BOAT SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES DRAMATICALLY REDUCED

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SPEED BOAT SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN DRAMATICALLY REDUCED IN HONG KONG WATERS FOLLOWING THE ENACTMENT OF NEW LAWS WHICH ALLOW WIDE RANGING POWERS FOR POLICE AND OTHER AUTHORITIES TO HIT SMUGGLING SYNDICATES ON LAND AND SEA.

BOATYARDS MANUFACTURING SPEED BOATS INTENDED TO BE USED FOR SMUGGLING HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND NEW LAWS ENFORCED TO SUCH EFFECT THAT ILLICIT SPEED BOAT TRAFFIC HALTED.

THE USE OF A NYLON ROPE BARRIER AT THE ENTRANCE TO TOLO CHANNEL WHICH STOPPED A SPEED BOAT AND LED TO ITS IMPOUNDING WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN BRINGING A COMPLETE STOP TO SPEED BOATS THERE.

FURTHER NEW LEGISLATION AIMED AT PREVENTING LARGER VESSELS AND JUNKS FROM CARRYING CERTAIN CARGO WITHOUT PERMITS HAD BEEN ENACTED.

THE POLICE DEPUTY MARINE REGIONAL COMMANDER AND COMMANDER OF THE SPECIALLY-FORMED ANTI-SMUGGLING TASK FORCE, MR BASIL LIM, SAID: "I AM NOT GOING TO BE COMPLACENT BUT I AM VERY PLEASED WITH RESULTS SO FAR.

"WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN THE LAWS WE NEEDED AND NOW WE ARE ENFORCING THEM TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES."

MR LIM WAS DELIGHTED WITH THE SUCCESSFUL USE OF THE BARRIER AT TOLO HARBOUR, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "OUR SECRET WEAPON".

THE SPEED BOAT SNARED BY THE BARRIER WAS POWERED BY FIVE 300 HORSEPOWER ENGINES AND LOADED WITH 46 TELEVISION SETS. THE CREW OF THE BOAT TURNED ROUND WHEN THEY SAW THE ILLUMINATED BARRIER AHEAD OF THEIR ESCAPE AND WERE STOPPED AND ARRESTED.

THE MOBILE BARRIER CAN BE PUT UP QUICKLY AND AT SHORT NOTICE.

"AS SOON AS WE SAW THE BOAT LOADING, WE FOLLOWED AND STOPPED IT," MR LIM SAID. "DURING THE WEEKS FOLLOWING THERE HAS BEEN ALMOST NO ACTIVITY OF SPEED BOATS IN THAT AREA. THEY ARE BEING VERY CAUTIOUS NOW THAT THEY HAVE EXPERIENCED OUR 'SECRET WEAPON', WHICH WE CAN USE AT WILL."

LEGISLATION ON PERMITTED CARGOS ENABLES OFFICERS TO STOP AND SEARCH LARGER SLOWER MOVING VESSELS AND SEIZE CARGOS WHICH NOW MUST BE LICENSED BY CARRIERS. THESE CARGOS INCLUDE TELEVISION SETS, RECEIVERS AND PLAYERS, REFRIGERATORS, AIR CONDITIONERS, MOTOR VEHICLES AND VEHICLE PARTS.

MR LIM PAID TRIBUTE TO THE CO-OPERATION OF POLICE LAND DISTRICTS IN THE SUCCESS OF OPERATIONS.

"WE ARE ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO MONITOR THE ACTIVITIES OF YARDS AND SHOPS KNOWN TO BE INVOLVED IN SMUGGLING," HE SAID. "THE TASK FORCE IS WORKING EFFECTIVELY IN CO-ORDINATING OUR COMBINED EFFORTS."

SINCE OPERATIONS BEGAN ON APRIL 23 A TOTAL OF 26 SPEED BOATS BEING MANUFACTURED IN FOUR SHIPYARDS HAD BEEN NEUTRALISED, MR LIM SAID.

"PEOPLE BUILDING BOATS FOR SMUGGLING PURPOSES IN TAI PO AND OTHER AREAS ARE NO LONGER IN BUSINESS."

SUCCESS IN THE OPERATION HAD ALSO BEEN DUE TO THE JOINT EFFORTS OF THE POLICE, CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT AND THE MILITARY.

"MUCH OF OUR WORK DEPENDS ON OUR UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHERS' PROBLEMS," MR LIM SAID.

"AS SPEED BOATS ARE NOT ONLY BEING USED FOR SMUGGLING, THEY ARE ALSO BEING USED FOR CARRYING FIREARMS AND PEOPLE COMING INTO THE TERRITORY TO COMMIT CRIMES, WE ARE KEEN TO STOP ALL SPEED BOAT ACTIVITIES BY CLOSING ACCESS OF ENTRY OR EXIT.

"IN DRUGS AND OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES CONNECTED WITH SPEED BOATS WE NEED TO BE ON TOP OF THE PROBLEM."

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#### NEW-LOOK POLICE MOBILE EXHIBITION ON RECRUITMENT

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AS SUMMER APPROACHES, THE POLICE MOBILE RECRUITMENT EXHIBITION HAS TAKEN ON A NEW LOOK TO BOOST THE FORCE'S ONGOING EFFORT TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS.

A NEW SET OF DISPLAY MATERIALS WAS EXHIBITED AT CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING TODAY (SATURDAY) AND WAS WELL-RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

"THE MATERIALS DEPICT VARIOUS ASPECTS OF POLICE WORK," A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE EXHIBITION IS MADE UP OF TWO PARTS. THE FIRST PART CONTAINS GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND STARTING SALARIES OF A POLICE CONSTABLE, AND THE OTHER CARRIES A COLLECTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWING POLICE OFFICERS AT WORK," HE SAID.

DURING THE TWO-DAY EXHIBITION, A TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT COUNTER IS SET UP ON THE SPOT TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES AND TO ACCEPT INITIAL APPLICATIONS.

"ON AVERAGE FOUR EXHIBITIONS ARE HELD EACH MONTH AT POPULAR VENUES IN THE TERRITORY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THROUGH THESE EXHIBITIONS, WE HOPE YOUNG PEOPLE WILL HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WORK OF THE POLICE AND WILL BE MOTIVATED TO JOIN THE FORCE."

THE EXHIBITION AT TAIKOO SHING WILL CONTINUE TOMORROW (SUNDAY) FROM 10.30 AM TO 6.30 PM.

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STRICT ENFORCEMENT ACTION TO CURB ILLEGAL PARKING NEAR BEACHES

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POLICE TODAY (SATURDAY) REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC THAT STRICT ENFORCEMENT ACTION WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED TO CURB ILLEGAL PARKING AT BEACHES AND OTHER LEISURE SPOTS.

AS SUMMER IS APPROACHING, POLICE EXPECT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WILL GO TO THE BEACHES.

"BEACH-GOERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO MAKE FULL USE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT. HOWEVER, DUE TO LIMITED PARKING FACILITIES, THE PROBLEM OF ILLEGAL PARKING IS SERIOUS," A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THIS YEAR, STRICT ENFORCEMENT ACTION WILL BE IMPLEMENTED WHICH INCLUDES EITHER SUMMONS ACTION OR TOWING.

"WHEN SERIOUS OBSTRUCTION OR DANGER IS CAUSED TO OTHER ROAD-USERS, THE VEHICLE CONCERNED WILL BE TOWED AWAY WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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TASKFORCE EXPANDED TO SAFEGUARD WORKERS' BENEFITS

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS SET UP TWO MORE SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TEAMS (SET) TO STEP UP EFFORTS IN SAFEGUARDING THE STATUTORY BENEFITS OF WORKERS.

"TOGETHER WITH THE FIRST ONE SET UP IN 1988, THE TEAMS ARE MADE UP OF EXPERIENCED LABOUR INSPECTORS TO MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE BY EMPLOYERS," THE SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (LABOUR INSPECTION), MR CHAN KWOK-KUEN, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

"THEY VISIT BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY TO ENSURE THAT WORKERS RECEIVE THEIR ENTITLEMENTS TO MATERNITY PROTECTION, REST DAYS, SICKNESS ALLOWANCE, PAID HOLIDAYS AND ANNUAL LEAVE.

"THEY ALSO INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS FROM EMPLOYEES AND CHECK WAGE AND EMPLOYMENT RECORDS, WHICH EMPLOYERS ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE SET HAD UP TO LAST MONTH CONDUCTED 5,517 VISITS TO OVER 5,000 ESTABLISHMENTS INCLUDING RESTAURANTS, BOUTIQUES, SHOPS, FACTORIES, CONSTRUCTION SITES AND INCORPORATED OWNERS OF MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS SINCE 1988.

"WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF EMPLOYERS AND EFFORTS OF THE INSPECTORS, MOST OF THE 405 BREACHES OF THE EMPLOYMENT LAW DETECTED HAVE BEEN RECTIFIED," HE SAID, ADDING THAT 40 EMPLOYERS HAD BEEN PROSECUTED FOR FAILING TO TAKE REMEDIAL ACTION DESPITE WARNINGS.

/IN ADDITION .....

IN ADDITION, A FOURTH SET HAS BEEN SET UP TO MONITOR THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF IMPORTED WORKERS.

"APART FROM ENSURING THE GRANTING OF STATUTORY BENEFITS, THE TEAMS ALSO SEE TO IT THAT EMPLOYERS PROVIDE IMPORTED WORKERS WITH ACCOMMODATION TO THE STANDARD STIPULATED IN THEIR EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND CHECK IF THERE IS ANY UNLAWFUL DEDUCTION FROM WAGES," MR CHAN SAID.

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LIBERAL STUDIES TO BROADEN SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM  
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LIBERAL STUDIES IS ONE OF THE NEW ADVANCED SUPPLEMENTARY (AS)-LEVEL SUBJECTS DEVELOPED IN LINE WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SIXTH FORM EDUCATION TO BROADEN THE SIXTH FORM CURRICULUM.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, SAID THIS TODAY (SATURDAY) IN OPENING A SEMINAR FOR AS-LEVEL INSTEP COURSES IN LIBERAL STUDIES HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

MR LI SAID TO ASSIST TEACHERS TO TEACH THE NEW AS-LEVEL SUBJECTS MORE EFFECTIVELY, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HAD UNDERTAKEN TO FINANCE TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND HAD REQUESTED TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS TO ORGANISE THESE FOR TEACHERS.

HE ADDED THAT THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION OF THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY HAD AGREED TO OFFER THE FIRST OF A SERIES OF TRAINING COURSES.

ON LIBERAL STUDIES, MR LI SAID: "THE SUBJECT IS A CURRICULUM INNOVATION IN TERMS OF CONTENT, STRUCTURE AND TEACHING APPROACH.

"PEDAGOGICALLY, THE AIM OF THE SUBJECT IS TO HELP SIXTH FORM STUDENTS IN HONG KONG TO STRENGTHEN THEIR AWARENESS OF SIGNIFICANT CURRENT ISSUES IN MODERN SOCIETY AND OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THEY THEMSELVES CAN MAKE."

MR LI SAID LIBERAL STUDIES WOULD BE VALUABLE TO SIXTH FORMERS AS IT WAS DESIGNED TO HELP WIDEN THEIR HORIZONS AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THEY LIVED.

HE EXPLAINED THAT IN ADDITION TO THE PRESENT TRAINING COURSES, THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE WOULD ALSO ORGANISE REGULAR SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS AND PREPARE RESOURCES FOR THEIR REFERENCE.

GIVEN THE PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT WHICH TEACHERS HAD ALWAYS RENDERED TO CURRICULUM INNOVATIONS, MR LI SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT LIBERAL STUDIES WOULD EVENTUALLY BE IMPLEMENTED SUCCESSFULLY IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

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SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1991

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PROPOSED STREET REALIGNMENT IN SHAM SHUI PO

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO REALIGN A SECTION OF PAK WAN STREET BETWEEN BLOCK 9 AND BLOCK 17 OF PAK TIN ESTATE IN SHAM SHUI PO.

THE PROJECT IS TO IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AT THE NORTHERN SIDE OF THE MULTI-STOREYED CARPARK AND COMMERCIAL CENTRE AT PAK WAN STREET FOR THE PAK TIN ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT.

THE EXISTING BUS TERMINUS WILL ALSO BE RECONSTRUCTED TO ACCOMMODATE THE END STATIONS OF TWO BUS ROUTES AND TWO GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES.

THE PROPOSED ROADWORKS IS SCHEDULED TO START IN MID-1992 AND WILL LAST ABOUT 12 MONTHS.

PART OF THE WORKS AREA WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD. HOWEVER, THROUGH TRAFFIC WILL BE MAINTAINED ALONG PAK WAN STREET.

TEMPORARY ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR ACCOMMODATING THE EXISTING TERMINATING BUS AND GREEN MINIBUS ROUTES.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- \* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;
- \* KOWLOON WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- \* SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE, 37-39 TONKIN STREET, GROUND FLOOR, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN JULY 16 THIS YEAR.

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SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1991

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

\* \* \* \*

	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	17.5.91	480
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	18.5.91	NEUTRAL
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		NEUTRAL

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SPECIAL CAR NUMBERS SOLD BY AUCTION

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FORTY SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION NUMBERS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING FOR A TOTAL OF \$958,000 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION NUMBER EC1 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$290,000.

ANOTHER NUMBER DM5 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$80,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1,000 EACH FOR CG557, EP3337, DS3039, ER6623 AND ER6877.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AUCTION:

	\$		\$		\$		\$
CG557	1,000	AC213	25,000	BB3538	5,000	ER2328	WITHDRAW
ER315	3,000	BB44	WITHDRAW	XX63	65,000	BB421	11,000
EP3337	1,000	ER738	9,000	ER618	30,000	XX510	22,000
AA9911	42,000	BY9904	WITHDRAW	BJ3623	7,000	EC1	290,000
DS3039	1,000	1038	75,000	DD62	40,000	AC698	19,000
CE568	6,000	AK731	11,000	ER6877	1,000	ER8384	WITHDRAW
ER6623	1,000	EP1028	10,000	AJ786	34,000	AB863	34,000
AL3223	16,000	DM5	80,000	ER343	4,000	ER707	5,500
ES8168	5,500	ER827	7,000	BM350	9,000	ES628	34,000
BZ950	7,000	EL189	12,000	ES113	25,000	ER713	6,000

THERE ARE NO BIDDERS FOR BB44, BY9904, ER2328 AND ER8384. BY9904, ER2328 AND ER8384 WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE ORIGINAL APPLICANTS WHILE BB44 WILL BE PUT UP FOR SALE IN THE LATER AUCTION.

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WERE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE NUMBERS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 164TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR CHARITY REALISED SO FAR TO \$117,856,605.

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