



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 5-8428777

TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1989

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THE FUTURE OF COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING IN HONG KONG

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TODAY (TUESDAY) APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE RENEWAL OF COMMERCIAL RADIO HONG KONG'S (CRHK) BROADCASTING LICENCE WHEN ITS CURRENT LICENCE EXPIRES ON AUGUST 25, 1989.

THE NEW LICENCE WILL BE VALID FOR 12 YEARS AND BE SUBJECT TO A SET OF NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

EXCO ALSO APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE THE AWARD OF A SECOND COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING LICENCE BY TENDER IN EARLY 1990. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SECOND COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTER WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

EXCO'S DECISION IS BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (BA) WHICH NOTED THAT THERE WAS SCOPE FOR GROWTH IN THE RADIO INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG AND CONSIDERED THAT GREATER COMPETITION TO THE INDUSTRY SHOULD BE INTRODUCED.

IT WAS FURTHER NOTED THAT THE FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO ENTRY INTO RADIO BROADCASTING AS OPPOSED TO TELEVISION WERE FEW AND THAT HONG KONG'S GROWING ECONOMY SHOULD BE ABLE TO SUPPORT TWO COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS PROVIDED THEY OFFERED DIVERSE PROGRAMME SERVICES WHICH APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC.

BASED ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FREQUENCIES, TWO PACKAGES EACH CONTAINING THE SAME NUMBER AND DISTRIBUTION OF FREQUENCIES, I.E. 1 AM + 2 FM TERRITORY-WIDE CHANNELS WILL BE OFFERED TO THE TWO COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTERS. THE EQUAL SHARE IS TO ENSURE COMPETITION ON AN EQUAL FOOTING.

UNDER ITS CURRENT LICENCE, CRHK OPERATES ON THREE AM TERRITORY-WIDE CHANNELS, PROVIDING ONE ENGLISH AND TWO CHINESE SERVICES, THE LATTER SERVICES BEING DUPLICATED ON FM NON-TERRITORY WIDE CHANNELS.

THE DECISION TO RENEW CRHK'S LICENCE WITHOUT RECOURSE TO TENDER WAS MADE IN ORDER TO AVOID POSSIBLE SERVICE DISRUPTION TO THE LISTENING PUBLIC BECAUSE OF THE TENDER PROCEDURES AND PREPARATIONS.

THE DECISION WAS ALSO MADE IN RECOGNITION OF CRHK'S PERFORMANCE AND SUBSTANTIAL FOLLOWING BUILT UP OVER ITS LAST 30 YEARS OF BROADCASTING.

ACCORDING TO THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR PETER TSAO, THE NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR RENEWING CRHK'S LICENCE ARE TO ENSURE THAT AIRWAVES ARE PROPERLY USED IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, ENHANCE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE REGULATORY SYSTEM, AND IMPROVE FURTHER THE QUALITY OF COMMERCIAL SOUND BROADCASTING IN HONG KONG.

THE NEW LICENCING CONDITIONS WILL LAY DOWN CERTAIN "PRINCIPLES OF BROADCASTING" TO WHICH THE LICENSEE SHOULD ADHERE.

/CRHK WILL ○○○○○○

CRHK WILL BE REQUIRED TO MAKE PROPER USE OF THE RADIO FREQUENCY SPECTRUM IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

IT HAS A DUTY TO ENTERTAIN, INFORM AND EDUCATE AND TO ENSURE THAT ITS PROGRAMMING IS BALANCED IN CONTENT AND IS COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE TO PUBLIC NEEDS. IT IS ALSO REQUIRED TO APPLY UP-TO-DATE BROADCASTING TECHNOLOGY.

THE LICENCE WILL BE SUBJECT TO A MID-TERM REVIEW WHICH MAY INVOLVE PUBLIC HEARINGS BY THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY.

THE BUSINESS CARRIED ON BY THE RADIO LICENSEE WILL BE CONFINED TO RADIO BROADCASTING, ITS ANCILLARY TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES, AND BUSINESSES DIRECTLY CONNECTED OR ASSOCIATED WITH IT.

IN ADDITION THE ACTIVITIES OF THE LICENSEE'S SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES WILL BE CONFINED TO DIRECTLY RELATED BUSINESSES, AND ANY SUBSIDIARIES WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY.

THIS WILL PREVENT THE RADIO LICENSEE FROM HAVING A NETWORK OF SUBSIDIARIES NOT DIRECTLY CONNECTED WITH RADIO BROADCASTING AND THUS AVOID ANY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST WHICH MAY ARISE BETWEEN THE LICENSEE'S NEED TO LOOK AFTER THESE SUBSIDIARIES AND ITS RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PUBLIC AS A RADIO BROADCASTER.

THE RADIO LICENSEE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO BE HELD BY A HOLDING COMPANY.

IT IS BELIEVED THIS WILL PRECLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF BODIES WHICH ARE NOT LICENCE HOLDERS BEING IN A POSITION TO CONTROL THE LICENSEE OR TO INFLUENCE OR MANIPULATE IT.

THIS RESTRICTION WILL ALSO ENSURE THAT THE REGULATORY MECHANISMS APPLICABLE TO THE LICENSEES MAY NOT BE CIRCUMVENTED BY THE USE OF A HOLDING COMPANY TO HOLD THE LICENSEE COMPANY.

THE NEW CONDITIONS INCLUDE MORE ELABORATE AND BETTER DEFINED GROUNDS FOR THE REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF THE RADIO LICENCE AND ALSO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPOSITION OF FINANCIAL PENALTIES.

THE RADIO LICENSEE IS PROVIDED WITH A RIGHT TO APPEAL TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL AGAINST DECISIONS OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY.

OTHER NEW CONDITIONS INCLUDE:

- * ROYALTY IN THE NEW LICENSING PERIOD WILL BE CALCULATED ON A SLIDING SCALE OF PERCENTAGES OF THE GROSS ANNUAL RECEIPTS FROM ADVERTISING, SUBJECT TO A CEILING RATE. THE EXACT FIGURES ARE BEING WORKED OUT.
- * MINIMUM PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO NEWS, CURRENT AFFAIRS AND EDUCATIONAL/ENRICHMENT PROGRAMMES WILL BE INTRODUCED.

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- * THE NEW LICENCE WILL PROVIDE THAT THERE SHALL BE NO TOBACCO ADVERTISEMENT OR SPONSORSHIP BETWEEN 4.00 PM AND 10.30 PM. COMMENCING ON DECEMBER 1, 1990 TOBACCO ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP BY TOBACCO COMPANIES ON THE RADIO WILL BE TOTALLY PROHIBITED.
- * IN LINE WITH THE RESTRICTIONS ON THE TELEVISION LICENSEES, THERE SHALL BE NO LIQUOR ADVERTISING OR SPONSORSHIP FOR PROGRAMMES BROADCAST BETWEEN 4.00 PM AND 8.30 PM.
- * TO HELP TO ENSURE THAT THE LICENSEE IS RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR ITS ACTIONS, THE LICENSEE WILL BE REQUIRED TO CONSIDER ANY COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC AND TO KEEP A COMPLAINTS RECORD WHICH MUST BE SUBMITTED REGULARLY TO THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY.

THE SUBJECTS OF CROSS MEDIA OWNERSHIP, FOREIGN OWNERSHIP OF A RADIO LICENSEE AND POSSIBLE LIMITS ON ADVERTISING TIME WILL BE CONSIDERED FURTHER.

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LOCAL WATER SUPPLY SERVICE AMONG THE BEST

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HONG KONG HAS ONE OF THE MOST ADVANCED AND RELIABLE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN THE WORLD IN SPITE OF ITS MANY CONSTRAINTS, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AFTER A VISIT TO THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT.

SIR DAVID SAID THAT DESPITE THE ULTRA MODERN WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES AND THE EXTENSIVE WATER SUPPLIES NETWORK REQUIRED TO CONVEY THE LIFE-AND INDUSTRY-SUSTAINING COMMODITY TO SOME 5.6 MILLION RESIDENTS, THE CURRENT WATER TARIFF WAS EXCEPTIONALLY LOW.

"IN FACT, UNDER THE GRADUATED SCALE OF CHARGES, 16 PER CENT OF ALL DOMESTIC CONSUMERS WOULD PAY NOTHING FOR THE WATER THEY CONSUMED, WHILE 55 PER CENT WOULD PAY LESS THAN \$65 FOR EVERY FOUR MONTHS OF CONSUMPTION," SIR DAVID POINTED OUT.

THE DEPARTMENT NOW HAS MORE THAN 1.6 MILLION REGISTERED CONSUMERS AND ON AVERAGE REGISTERS 9,300 NEW ACCOUNTS EACH MONTH.

AS PART OF ITS CONTINUING EFFORT TO UPGRADE CUSTOMER SERVICE, AN AUTO-PAY SERVICE FOR PAYMENT OF WATER CHARGES WAS INTRODUCED LAST DECEMBER.

APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE SERVICE, WHICH NOW EXTENDS TO OVER 66,000 REGISTERED CONSUMERS, CAN BE OBTAINED FROM MAJOR BANKS, GOVERNMENT PAYMENT AND COLLECTION CENTRES AND THE DEPARTMENT'S CONSUMER ENQUIRY CENTRES.

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GOVT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE BUILDING MANAGEMENT

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION IS MAKING EFFORTS ON DIFFERENT FRONTS TO IMPROVE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS IN THE TERRITORY, THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR DONALD LIAO, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THESE INCLUDE IMPROVING EXISTING LEGISLATION AND DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT (DMC'S), AS WELL AS TAPPING THE EXPERTISE AND ADVICE OF THE COMMUNITY.

MR LIAO WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE "EXHIBITION ON PROFESSIONAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT" AT THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN PLAZA.

HE SAID GOOD BUILDING MANAGEMENT REQUIRED THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OR SUPERVISION BY PROPERTY OWNERS.

FOR ITS PART, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE LEGISLATION AND AN ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK TO ENABLE ALL PROPERTY OWNERS TO MANAGE THEIR BUILDINGS THROUGH PROPER CHANNELS, AND TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE, GUIDANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT.

"THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS (OWNERS INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE IS AIMED AT ASSISTING FLAT OWNERS IN FORMING CORPORATIONS, AND AT REGULATING BUILDING MANAGEMENT AND RELATED MATTERS," MR LIAO SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS MAKING SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE WITH A VIEW TO SIMPLIFYING THE PROCEDURES FOR FORMING AN OWNERS CORPORATION, AND TO CLEARLY DEFINING THE LEGAL STATUS OF AN OWNERS CORPORATION, AND THE RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF FLAT OWNERS IN BUILDING MANAGEMENT, HE CONTINUED.

"I HOPE THAT THE AMENDMENT BILL WOULD BE PASSED INTO LAW WITHIN THE CURRENT LEGISLATIVE SESSION," HE SAID.

TURNING TO DEEDS OF MUTUAL COVENANT, MR LIAO SAID THE GOVERNMENT, APART FROM DRAWING UP IN DECEMBER 1987 A SET OF GUIDELINES FOR DRAFTING OF NEW DMC'S BY LAWYERS, HAD WORKED OUT PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING UNFAIR PROVISIONS IN EXISTING DMC'S.

"THESE PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN SENT TO VARIOUS ORGANISATIONS AND DISTRICT BOARDS FOR EXTENSIVE CONSULTATION. I HOPE THAT MORE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WOULD COME FORWARD WITH THEIR VIEWS SO THAT OUR OBJECTIVE WOULD BE ACHIEVED," HE SAID.

MR LIAO FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT THE FORMATION OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAMS (BMCT'S) IN 10 DISTRICTS WAS ANOTHER MEASURE BY THE CNTA TO ASSIST THE PUBLIC IN IMPROVING MANAGEMENT OF THEIR BUILDINGS, AND TO CO-ORDINATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT WORK BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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SINCE THE FIRST BMCT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 280 BUILDINGS HAD BEEN GIVEN A SUBSTANTIAL DEGREE OF ASSISTANCE.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE BMCT'S ALSO ACTIVELY PROMOTED KNOWLEDGE OF BUILDING MANAGEMENT.

WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE BMCT'S, FIVE MAJOR EXHIBITIONS AND MORE THAN 30 SEMINARS ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT HAD BEEN HELD IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS.

NOTING THAT BUILDING MANAGEMENT WAS A COMPLEX SUBJECT, MR LIAO SAID THE GOVERNMENT LAST YEAR ESTABLISHED AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE BUILDING MANAGEMENT, WHICH WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR REVIEWING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING BUILDING MANAGEMENT POLICIES, AND ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT ON BUILDING MANAGEMENT MATTERS.

"TODAY'S EXHIBITION TIES IN WELL WITH THE WORK OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ENHANCING THE AWARENESS OF MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS AMONG THE PUBLIC," HE CONCLUDED.

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STUDY COMPLETED ON STATUTORY INTEREST ON OVERDUE DEBTS

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A SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION SET UP TO STUDY THE EXISTING LAW ON STATUTORY INTEREST ON OVERDUE DEBTS, HAS CONCLUDED THAT IT IS UNJUST THAT CREDITORS SHOULD HAVE TO BEAR THE FINANCIAL BURDEN CAUSED BY LATE PAYING DEBTORS.

IT HAS PROPOSED THAT, UNLESS THERE HAS BEEN A PRIOR AGREEMENT TO THE CONTRARY, THE CREDITOR WHO IS NOT PAID ON TIME SHOULD BE ENTITLED, BY LAW, TO INTEREST ON THE MONEY HE IS OWED UNTIL HE IS PAID.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE WISHES TO CONSULT THE COMMUNITY ON WHETHER DEBTORS SHOULD BE CHARGED SIMPLE OR COMPOUND INTEREST.

A CONSULTATION LETTER OUTLINING THE PROS AND CONS BETWEEN SIMPLE AND COMPOUND INTEREST, AND INCLUDING CALCULATION EXAMPLES, HAS BEEN SENT TO ABOUT 300 TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, DISTRICT BOARDS AND ABOUT 850 BUSINESSES. THE SUB-COMMITTEE WOULD WELCOME COMMENTS BY MAY 31, 1989.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO OBTAIN A COPY OF THE CONSULTATION LETTER AND/OR TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT ARE INVITED TO TELEPHONE OR WRITE TO:

THE SECRETARY
SUB-COMMITTEE ON INTEREST ON DEBT AND DAMAGES
LAW REFORM COMMISSION
1/F HIGH BLOCK
QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES
66 QUEENSWAY
HONG KONG
(TEL : 5-8672018)

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17 QUESTIONS AND 11 BILLS IN LEGCO TOMORROW

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 17 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 11 BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

TEN BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS.

THEY ARE THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1989; THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES REGULATIONS AND REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE SECRETARY FOR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989; THE OPEN LEARNING INSTITUTE OF HONG KONG BILL 1989 AND THE TRAFFIC ACCIDENT VICTIMS (ASSISTANCE FUND) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1989.

THE SECOND READING DEBATE ON THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION BILL 1989 WILL BE RESUMED, AFTER WHICH IT WILL GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND A THIRD READING.

IN ADDITION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL SPEAK ON THE REPORT OF CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1988-89 AND THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT 1988. THE HON MARTIN LEE WILL ALSO SPEAK ON THE CONSUMER COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 1987-88.

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN FEBRUARY 1989, AT \$74,900 MILLION, GREW BY 29 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1988, ACCORDING TO THE DETAILED FIGURES ON THE VALUE OF TRADE IN FEBRUARY 1989 RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT TO \$14,042 MILLION IN FEBRUARY 1989, WHILE RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 41 PER CENT TO \$22,385 MILLION, THUS BRINGING TOTAL EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY 1989 TO \$36,427 MILLION, WHICH REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 23 PER CENT OVER FEBRUARY 1988.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, IMPORTS INCREASED BY 35 PER CENT TO \$38,472 MILLION.

/CAUTION SHOULD

CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN INTERPRETING THE TRADE FIGURES FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN ISOLATION, AS THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS. THUS FIGURES ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY COMBINED.

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1989, AT \$161,549 MILLION, INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT TO \$31,304 MILLION, WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 42 PER CENT TO \$48,639 MILLION.

THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 24 PER CENT TO \$79,943 MILLION. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT TO \$81,607 MILLION.

COMPARING FEBRUARY 1989 WITH FEBRUARY 1988, SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA (+43 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (+32 PER CENT). THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE, AUSTRALIA AND THE NETHERLANDS ALSO INCREASED, BY 11 PER CENT, 6 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO FRANCE, THE U.S.A. AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY DECREASED, BY 10 PER CENT, 6 PER CENT AND 6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS IN FEBRUARY 1989 OVER FEBRUARY 1988, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM SINGAPORE (+68 PER CENT), THE U.S.A. (+52 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+40 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+36 PER CENT), SWITZERLAND (+36 PER CENT) AND ITALY (+35 PER CENT).

IMPORTS FROM CHINA, THE UNITED KINGDOM, TAIWAN AND JAPAN ALSO INCREASED, BY 32 PER CENT, 31 PER CENT, 30 PER CENT AND 29 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

RE-EXPORTS TO ITALY, AUSTRALIA, CHINA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND JAPAN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, BY 68 PER CENT, 66 PER CENT, 58 PER CENT, 55 PER CENT AND 52 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

OTHER MAJOR MARKETS WITH INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCLUDED THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, SINGAPORE, THE U.S.A., TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, BY 49 PER CENT, 39 PER CENT, 33 PER CENT, 27 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1989 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MOST MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS.

THE MARKETS WITH MORE SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED CHINA (+35 PER CENT), JAPAN (+30 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (+23 PER CENT). INCREASES IN VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE ALSO RECORDED IN AUSTRALIA (+11 PER CENT), CANADA (+8 PER CENT) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (+8 PER CENT).

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HOWEVER, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE AND THE U.S.A. DECREASED BY 10 PER CENT, 10 PER CENT AND 7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE TERMS.

IMPORTS IN JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1989 FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE (+43 PER CENT), ITALY (+39 PER CENT), THE U.S.A. (+35 PER CENT), CHINA (+35 PER CENT), TAIWAN (+34 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+31 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+30 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (+29 PER CENT).

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, RE-EXPORTS TO ITALY, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, AUSTRALIA, CHINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS, BY 76 PER CENT, 61 PER CENT, 60 PER CENT, 57 PER CENT, AND 55 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

INCREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED FOR THE OTHER MAJOR MARKETS : THE U.S.A. (+32 PER CENT), JAPAN (+48 PER CENT), TAIWAN (+32 PER CENT) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+17 PER CENT).

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1989 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1988, DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT TO \$218,851 MILLION, WHILE RE-EXPORTS AT \$289,766 MILLION WAS UP BY 49 PER CENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE BY 39 PER CENT. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 32 PER CENT TO \$518,784 MILLION. TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, AS A WHOLE, INCREASED BY 30 PER CENT.

ALL TRADE STATISTICS PRESENTED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON. A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN FEBRUARY 1989 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY MAY 1989.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1989 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE RECORDED IN MOST MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

THE MORE NOTABLE ONES WERE OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$445 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$315 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$193 MILLION OR 75 PER CENT); AND GENERAL INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT, AND MACHINE PARTS (BY \$140 MILLION OR 61 PER CENT).

/DOMESTIC EXPORTS

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING DECREASED BY \$205 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS. A DECREASE WAS ALSO RECORDED IN MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$238 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT).

TABLE 2 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1989 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988, MORE NOTABLE INCREASES IN IMPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$2,478 MILLION OR 41 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$2,159 MILLION OR 64 PER CENT); AND CLOTHING (BY \$1,329 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT).

IMPORTS OF TEXTILES INCREASED BY \$2,024 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN RAW HIDES, SKINS AND FURSKINS (BY \$218 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT); AND FIXED VEGETABLE OILS AND FATS (BY \$54 MILLION OR 36 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1989 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1988, MORE NOTABLE INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$1,814 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1,538 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT); AND CLOTHING (BY \$1,220 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS OF TEXTILES INCREASED BY \$1,260 MILLION OR 30 PER CENT.

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY \$107 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT); AND EXPLOSIVES AND PYROTECHNIC PRODUCTS (BY \$66 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT).

TABLE 6 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE PUBLISHED IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS. THE FEBRUARY 1989 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS SUMMARY" WILL BE ON SALE AROUND APRIL 15 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$9.50 PER COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE", WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY 1989 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN END-APRIL AT \$17.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO.: 5-8428802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 5-8234915).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	FEB 89 OVER FEB 88 (%)	JAN-FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 89 OVER JAN-FEB 88 (%)
U.S.A.	4,277	- 6	9,461	- 7
CHINA	2,440	+ 43	5,645	+ 35
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,178	- 6	2,533	- 10
U.K.	988	+ 1	2,196	+ 8
JAPAN	751	+ 32	1,716	+ 30
CANADA	435	+ 2	1,011	+ 8
SINGAPORE	331	+ 11	810	+ 23
NETHERLANDS	344	+ 5	752	+ 7
AUSTRALIA	299	+ 6	654	+ 11
FRANCE	267	- 10	574	- 10

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	FEB 89 OVER FEB 88 (%)	JAN-FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 89 OVER JAN-FEB 88 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,490	- 3	9,976	- 2

/MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED

MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	1,584	- 9	3,676	- 6
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,293	+ 9	2,731	+ 5
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,193	+ 16	2,632	+ 14
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	973	+ 1	2,285	+ 5
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	973	- 11	2,164	- 3

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	FEB 89 OVER FEB 88 (%)	JAN-FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 89 OVER JAN-FEB 88 (%)
CHINA	10,348	+ 32	25,296	+ 35
JAPAN	7,647	+ 29	14,652	+ 29
TAIWAN	3,165	+ 30	7,197	+ 34
U.S.A.	3,695	+ 52	6,858	+ 35
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	2,019	+ 40	4,055	+ 31
SINGAPORE	1,566	+ 68	3,485	+ 43
U.K.	1,097	+ 31	2,173	+ 16
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,077	+ 36	2,156	+ 30
SWITZERLAND	865	+ 36	1,489	+ 18
ITALY	662	+ 35	1,348	+ 39

TABLE 4: IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	FEB 89 OVER FEB 88 (%)	JAN-FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 89 OVER JAN-FEB 88 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4,218	+ 28	9,274	+ 28
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	4,336	+ 46	8,592	+ 41
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	2,579	+ 70	5,540	+ 64
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	2,303	+ 34	5,497	+ 32
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	2,431	+ 39	4,678	+ 31
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	1,913	+ 29	4,459	+ 35

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	FEB 89 OVER FEB 88 (%)	JAN-FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 89 OVER JAN-FEB 88 (%)
CHINA	7,244	+ 58	16,213	+ 57
U.S.A.	3,962	+ 33	8,607	+ 32
JAPAN	1,470	+ 52	3,053	+ 48
TAIWAN	1,126	+ 27	2,459	+ 32

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REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,029	+ 9	2,036	+ 17
F.R. OF GERMANY	785	+ 49	1,794	+ 61
SINGAPORE	719	+ 39	1,625	+ 39
U.K.	513	+ 55	1,080	+ 55
AUSTRALIA	442	+ 66	893	+ 60
ITALY	341	+ 68	774	+ 76

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	FEB 89 OVER FEB 88 (%)	JAN-FEB 1989 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 89 OVER JAN-FEB 88 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	2,495	+ 26	5,493	+ 30
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	2,481	+ 49	5,187	+ 54
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	2,432	+ 43	5,103	+ 31
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	1,860	+ 31	4,286	+ 40
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	1,615	+ 60	3,650	+ 73
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	881	+ 46	1,883	+ 40

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MARCH A RATHER DRY MONTH

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MARCH WAS A RATHER DRY MONTH IN TERMS OF RELATIVE HUMIDITY. THE MONTHLY AVERAGE OF 75 PER CENT IS THE FIFTH LOWEST ON RECORD FOR MARCH, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SAID IN ITS MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

HOWEVER, THE MONTHLY TOTAL RAINFALL OF 47.8 MILLIMETRES WAS ONLY 13 PER CENT LESS THAN THE NORMAL AMOUNT OF 54.8 MILLIMETRES FOR MARCH.

FOR THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1989, THE TOTAL RAINFALL WAS ONLY 74.4 MILLIMETRES, WHICH IS 40 PER CENT BELOW THE NORMAL AMOUNT OF 123.6 MILLIMETRES.

THE WEATHER WAS GENERALLY CLOUDY BUT MILD FOR THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF MARCH.

AFTER THE PASSAGE OF A COLD FRONT EARLY ON MARCH 4, NORTHERLY WINDS BROUGHT COOLER WEATHER WITH SOME LIGHT RAIN. THE MINIMUM OF 11.4 DEGREES CELSIUS ON MARCH 5 WAS THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE RECORDED FOR THE MONTH.

WINDS ALSO BECAME STRONG OFFSHORE ON MARCH 4, AND GUSTS OF 68 KILOMETRES PER HOUR WERE RECORDED. A YACHT CAPSIZED IN SAI KUNG AREA UNDER THESE WINDY CONDITIONS.

CLOUDY AND COOL CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE WINTER MONSOON PERSISTED UNTIL MARCH 7. THE WEATHER THEN TURNED FINE THE FOLLOWING DAY AND THIS PREVAILED FOR A PERIOD OF EIGHT DAYS. MILDER CONDITIONS ALSO RETURNED AS WINDS GRADUALLY BECAME SOUTHEASTERLY.

WITH THE SOUTHEASTERLIES BRINGING IN WARM AND MOIST MARITIME AIR, FOG FORMED IN THE EARLY HOURS OF MARCH 14. VISIBILITY IN THE URBAN AREAS WAS REDUCED TO 500 METRES. ALTHOUGH THE FOG LIFTED DURING THE DAY, SOME COASTAL MIST RETURNED DURING THE NIGHT.

IT WAS ONE OF THE TWO WARMEST DAYS FOR THE MONTH, WITH THE DAYTIME TEMPERATURE CLIMBING TO A MAXIMUM OF 25.7 DEGREES. THIS WAS ALSO THE HIGHEST TEMPERATURE SO FAR THIS YEAR.

MEANWHILE, A WEAK SURGE OF THE WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED FROM THE EAST ON MARCH 15. EASTERLY WINDS THEN PREVAILED FOR THE NEXT NINE DAYS. FURTHER REPLENISHMENT OF THE WINTER MONSOON OCCURRED ON MARCH 17 AND 21 AND BROUGHT PROGRESSIVELY COOLER CONDITIONS TO THE SOUTH CHINA COASTAL AREAS.

WINDS WERE STRONG OFFSHORE ON BOTH OCCASIONS, WITH GUSTS REACHING OVER 70 KILOMETRES PER HOUR OFFSHORE. DESPITE SOME BRIGHTER INTERVALS, THE WEATHER DURING THE PERIOD OF MARCH 15 - 24 WAS MAINLY CLOUDY WITH OCCASIONAL LIGHT RAIN.

/THE WEATHER

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THE WEATHER DETERIORATED FURTHER DURING THE NIGHT OF MARCH 24.

RAIN AND THUNDERY SHOWERS AFFECTED THE TERRITORY ON MARCH 25 AND 37.4 MILLIMETRES OF RAINFALL WERE RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY. ANOTHER SURGE OF WINTER MONSOON REACHED THE COAST THE SAME DAY, BRINGING COOLER WEATHER TO THE COASTAL AREAS.

CONDITIONS ON MARCH 26 REMAINED CLOUDY AND COOL WITH SHOWERS GRADUALLY DYING OUT.

THE WEATHER IMPROVED MARKEDLY WITH BRILLIANTLY FINE SKY ON MARCH 27. THE DRAMATIC CLEARANCE WAS THE RESULT OF DRY CONTINENTAL AIR ESTABLISHING OVER THE SOUTH CHINA COASTAL AREAS.

THE DRY CONDITIONS PERSISTED FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS WITH THE RELATIVE HUMIDITY DROPPING TO 31 PER CENT ON MARCH 28.

TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH, WARM AND MOIST MARITIME AIR AFFECTED THE COASTAL AREAS. ALTHOUGH THE WEATHER STAYED MAINLY FINE, CLOUD AMOUNT NOTICEABLY INCREASED.

BY MARCH 31, WINDS WERE FROM THE EAST TO SOUTHEAST AND TEMPERATURES AGAIN REACHED THE HIGHEST FOR THE MONTH OF 25.7 DEGREES DURING THE DAY.

DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH, NO TROPICAL CYCLONE OCCURRED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC OR THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. NO AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER. THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON MARCH 25.

THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON MARCH 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 28, 29 AND 30. THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT DURING THE PERIOD OF MARCH 6 - 9.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING	DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	MARCH 4 2.45 PM	MARCH 5 7.50 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	MARCH 17 10 AM	MARCH 18 5 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	MARCH 21 6 AM	MARCH 23 7 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	MARCH 25 11 PM	MARCH 26 6 AM

/THE MONTH'S

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	145.6 HOURS	;	44.2 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	13.38 MJ/SQ. METRE	;	1.96 MJ/SQ. METRE ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	47.8 MM	;	7.0 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD	66 PER CENT	;	10 PER CENT LESS THAN NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	75 PER CENT	;	7 PER CENT LOWER THAN NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	21.2 DEGREES CELSIUS	;	0.1 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	18.6 DEGREES CELSIUS	;	0.1 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	16.4 DEGREES CELSIUS	;	0.1 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	13.7 DEGREES CELSIUS	;	1.3 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	93.1 MM	;	2.8 MM BELOW NORMAL

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TAXI DRIVERS URGED TO EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT URGES TAXI DRIVERS IN SHEUNG SHUI TO EXERCISE SELF-DISCIPLINE AND TO USE THE TAXI STAND OUTSIDE THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION TO AVOID ANY CONFLICT AMONG THEMSELVES AND TO UPHOLD THE GOOD NAME OF THE TRADE.

A SPOKESMAN SAID THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WAS ALWAYS PREPARED TO LISTEN TO SUGGESTIONS IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGING NEEDS.

HE STRESSED THAT IDEAS OR PROPOSALS SHOULD BE PUT FORWARD THROUGH PROPER AND ESTABLISHED CHANNELS.

THEY CAN BE RAISED AT THE REGULAR CONFERENCE THAT THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HOLDS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE TAXI TRADE, OR BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE OMELCO OFFICE OR DISTRICT BOARDS.

/DRIVERS OR

DRIVERS OR OPERATORS COULD ALSO APPROACH OFFICERS OF THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF CONCERN.

AT PRESENT THE TAXI STAND OUTSIDE THE SHEUNG SHUI KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY STATION IS LOCATED ABOUT 60 METRES FROM THE ENTRANCE OF THE STATION TO SERVE PEDESTRIANS USING THE TWO FOOTBRIDGES NEARBY AS WELL AS TRAIN PASSENGERS.

AT THE ENTRANCE OF THE KCR STATION IS A LAYBY FOR TAXIS TO SET DOWN PASSENGERS.

UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD AND WITH THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONFERENCE ON NEW TERRITORIES TAXI OPERATIONS, WHERE THE TRADE IS FULLY REPRESENTED, THE ROAD SECTION OUTSIDE THE TAXI STAND AND THE LAYBY WAS DESIGNATED AS TAXI RESTRICTED ZONE EARLY LAST YEAR IN ORDER TO DETER TOUTING BY SOME TAXI DRIVERS.

AT THE SAME TIME, DISCUSSIONS ON FURTHER IMPROVING THE SITUATION AT THE TAXI STAND HAVE BEEN CONTINUING IN THE CONFERENCE ON NT TAXI OPERATIONS.

MEANWHILE TAXI DRIVERS, AFTER SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS AT THE LAYBY, ARE URGED TO MOVE ON TO JOIN THE QUEUE AT THE TAXI STAND. THE PICKING UP OF PASSENGERS BY SOME TAXIS AT THIS LAYBY HAS CAUSED COMPLAINTS OF QUEUE JUMPING FROM OTHER DRIVERS WHO USE THE PROPER TAXI STAND.

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DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE CO-OPTED MEMBERS
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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON THURSDAY (APRIL 13) TO NOMINATE CO-OPTED MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE.

PROGRESS REPORTS OF THE SHA TIN ARTS ASSOCIATION, SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE WILL BE TABLED AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FOR THE YEAR 1989-90.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD'S CULTURE AND SPORTS COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM ON SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION ON THURSDAY (APRIL 13). THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 9.30 AM.

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KWAI TSING DB ENDORSES BUDGET, ELECTS COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD HAS APPORTIONED MORE THAN \$4.5 MILLION TODAY (TUESDAY) TO ITS SIX COMMITTEES TO FUND COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE 1989-90 FINANCIAL YEAR.

THE NEWLY SET UP ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE IS GIVEN \$1 MILLION TO IMPLEMENT MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND ORGANISE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES.

THE CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE HAS RECEIVED THE LARGEST SHARE OF \$1.4 MILLION FOR ORGANISING THE DISTRICT ARTS AND SPORTS FESTIVALS AND MAKING GRANTS TO LOCAL ORGANISATIONS FOR THE PROMOTION OF RELATED ACTIVITIES.

THE OTHER FOUR COMMITTEES ON ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLICITY, COMMUNITY AFFAIRS, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, AND TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT ARE ALLOCATED ABOUT \$800,000, \$700,000, \$400,000 AND \$250,000 RESPECTIVELY.

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS IN KWAI TSING ARE BEING INVITED TO APPLY FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS FOR ORGANISING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES AND CONDUCTING SURVEYS AND STUDIES.

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS TO HOLD ACTIVITIES BETWEEN AUGUST AND NOVEMBER THIS YEAR SHOULD REACH THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, ITS SUB-OFFICES OR THE DISTRICT BOARD SECRETARIAT BEFORE JUNE 1.

THOSE APPLICATIONS FOR HOLDING ACTIVITIES FROM DECEMBER THIS YEAR TO MARCH NEXT YEAR MAY BE SUBMITTED BY OCTOBER 1.

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDS FROM THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MAY BE USED FOR ORGANISING ACTIVITIES OR PURCHASING FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE ABOVE OFFICES. THE DISTRICT BOARD HAS THE FINAL RIGHT IN APPROVING AN APPLICATION.

AT TODAY'S MEETING, MEMBERS ALSO ELECTED THE CHAIRMEN FOR THE SIX DISTRICT BOARD COMMITTEES FOR 1989-90.

THEY ARE MR SIN CHUNG-KAI FOR THE CULTURE, RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE; MR KWONG FU-SAM FOR THE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE; MR LEE KIN-SANG FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE; MR LI SIU-KEI FOR THE INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE; AND MR CHUNG MAN-FAI FOR THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE.

KWAI TSING DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR LEE WING-TAT, WILL REMAIN THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1989

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SEMINAR FOR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL IN ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY
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TECHNICAL PERSONNEL IN THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY ARE BEING INVITED TO ATTEND A SEMINAR ON THE APPLICATION OF SURFACE MOUNT TECHNOLOGY (SMT) ORGANISED BY THE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE HALF-DAY SEMINAR, TO BE HELD ON THE AFTERNOON OF APRIL 28, IS FREE OF CHARGE AND IS DESIGNED FOR PRACTISING JUNIOR ENGINEERS, TECHNICIANS AND SUPERVISORS IN SMT OPERATIONS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE COUNCIL SAID THE SEMINAR WOULD HELP TO EQUIP TECHNICAL PERSONNEL WITH THE NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN THIS NEW TECHNOLOGY WHICH WAS BEING FAST ADOPTED BY THE LOCAL ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY.

TWO PROFESSIONALS FROM THE FIELD WILL DELIVER LECTURES ON THE TOPICS OF CORRECT HANDLING AND APPLICATION OF ACTIVE AND PASSIVE SURFACE MOUNT COMPONENTS.

PARTICIPANTS OF THE SEMINAR SHOULD BE SPONSORED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS. CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION IS FRIDAY (APRIL 14). FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TRAINING BOARD ON 5-8932341 EXT. 263.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHAM SHUI PO
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN SHAM SHUI PO SINCE JULY LAST YEAR TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION WORK OF A STORMWATER DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NEAR LI CHENG UK ESTATE WILL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL THE END OF THIS (APRIL) MONTH.

THE SECTION OF EASTBOUND PO ON ROAD BETWEEN FAT TSEUNG STREET AND TONKIN STREET WILL CONTINUE TO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

VEHICLES ON EASTBOUND PO ON ROAD HEADING FOR TONKIN STREET, INCLUDING GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 42 ON ITS JOURNEYS TO CHAK ON ESTATE, WILL BE DIVERTED VIA PO ON ROAD, FAT TSEUNG STREET, KWONG LEB ROAD AND TONKIN STREET.

ALSO, THE LEFT-TURN FROM SOUTHBOUND FAT TSEUNG STREET TO EASTBOUND PO ON ROAD AND THE RIGHT-TURN FROM NORTHBOUND WING LUNG STREET TO EASTBOUND PO ON ROAD WILL CONTINUE TO BE BANNED.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1989

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RENOWNED MUSICIAN TO GIVE MASTERCLASS

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THE MUSIC OFFICE WILL PRESENT A MASTERCLASS BY A RENOWNED VIOLINIST, MS MADELEINE MITCHELL, AT THE SHA TIN MUSIC CENTRE ON SUNDAY (APRIL 16), FROM 10.30 AM TO 12.30 PM.

OVER THE YEARS, MS MITCHELL HAS WON MANY BRITISH NATIONAL COMPETITIONS. SHE IS ONE OF THE FEW BRITISH VIOLINISTS TO BE PERFORMING INTERNATIONALLY AS A SOLOIST, AND HAS GIVEN RECITALS AND CONCERTS THROUGHOUT EUROPE.

AS A SOLOIST AND CHAMBER MUSICIAN, MS MITCHELL HAS PLAYED AT MANY INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS. THESE INCLUDED MUSIC FESTIVALS IN BELFAST AND TORONTO, AS WELL AS ENGAGEMENTS AT THE LINCOLN CENTRE IN NEW YORK.

RECENTLY MS MITCHELL HAS PLAYED MOZART CONCERTOS WITH THE WUTTEMBERG CHAMBER ORCHESTRA.

HER GREAT SUCCESS WITH THE BRUCH AND MENDELESSOHN CONCERTOS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND GERMANY, AND THAT WITH TCHAIKOVSKY IN SPAIN, HAS RESULTED IN AN INVITATION TO PERFORM THE PREMIERE OF A NEW VIOLIN CONCERTO BY SIR PETER MAXELL DAVIES.

AT THE MASTERCLASS ON SUNDAY, MS MITCHELL WILL LECTURE ON THE TECHNIQUES OF VIOLIN PLAYING .

ADMISSION TO THE MASTERCLASS IS FREE AND RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ON 5-8235321.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF BOWRING STREET IN YAU MA TEI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT THE SECTION OF BOWRING STREET IN YAU MA TEI BETWEEN TEMPLE STREET AND SHANGHAI STREET WILL CONTINUE TO BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC UNTIL THE END OF MAY FOR ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORKS.

THIS SECTION OF THE ROAD HAS BEEN CLOSED SINCE LAST DECEMBER.

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