



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVT CONFIDENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR INTEREST IN PADS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONFIDENT THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT PRIVATE SECTOR INTEREST IN FINANCING MANY OF THE PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (PADS), THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S FIRM AIM TO CONTINUE TO BALANCE ITS BUDGET AND TO MAINTAIN STRONG RESERVES IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE ITS CREDIT-WORTHINESS.

"IT IS IN ALL OUR INTERESTS TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF OUR PORT AND AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY SO THAT THE FUTURE SAR MAY CONTINUE TO FLOURISH," SHE SAID.

SHE NOTED THAT EXHAUSTIVE STUDIES HAD DEMONSTRATED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S SATISFACTION THAT THESE PROJECTS WERE VITAL TO THE FUTURE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF HONG KONG AND THAT THEY MADE SOUND COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL SENSE.

"WE WILL NEED TO DO MUCH MORE WORK PARTICULARLY ON COSTINGS, REVENUE PROJECTIONS AND FINANCING PACKAGES BEFORE WE ARE READY TO GO TO THE MARKETS TO RAISE THE NECESSARY FINANCE.

"THIS WORK IS LIKELY TO TAKE ANOTHER 18 MONTHS," SHE ADDED.

UPDATING THE AUDIENCE ON THE PROGRESS IN THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECT WHICH HAS ATTRACTED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST FROM THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, MRS CHAN SAID A CONSULTANCY FOR THE MASTER PLAN DESIGN SHOULD BE AWARDED BY THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

"THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR PREPARATION OF THE WORKS SITE SHOULD START EARLY 1991 AND WE SHOULD HOPE TO CALL TENDERS FOR THE MAIN CONTRACT FOR THE RECLAMATION WORKS BY THE MIDDLE OF 1991 WITH WORK STARTING EARLY 1992.

"LEGISLATION IS BEING DRAFTED TO ESTABLISH A PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY TO OVERSEE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT.

"WE ARE ALSO ENLISTING THE HELP OF HEAD-HUNTING FIRMS TO RECRUIT A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THIS PROJECT," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE NEW AIRPORT, AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$35 BILLION IN 1989 PRICES, WOULD BE THE MOST EXPENSIVE SINGLE INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECT EVER UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT, WHILE THE RELATED ROAD AND RAIL ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE WOULD COST A FURTHER \$27 BILLION.

"GIVEN THE MAGNITUDE OF THIS PROJECT, COUPLED WITH A VERY TIGHT TIMETABLE, THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO APPOINT A REPUTABLE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION TO ASSIST IN MANAGING AND CO-ORDINATING THIS COMPLEX PROJECT," SHE SAID.

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CLEARLY THE PADS PROJECTS WOULD GENERATE A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY IN THE 1990'S, SHE POINTED OUT.

"IN THE YEAR OF PEAK BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION EXPENDITURE (1993), THE PADS-RELATED WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE UP ABOUT 18 PER CENT OF THE PROJECT CAPACITY OF THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

"TAKEN TOGETHER WITH CONCURRENT DEMANDS FROM A NUMBER OF OTHER MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES BOTH IN THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTORS, EVEN HEAVIER PRESSURE ON THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CAN BE EXPECTED.

"IT IS LIKELY THAT THIS DEMAND FOR CONSTRUCTION LABOUR WOULD PUT UPWARD PRESSURES ON CONSTRUCTION WAGES, AND THUS PUSH UP UNIT CONSTRUCTION COSTS," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN NOTED THAT IN DUE COURSE THE INFLATIONARY IMPACT ON THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR WAS EXPECTED TO FEED THROUGH TO OTHER SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY, PRINCIPALLY THROUGH THE LABOUR MARKET.

"THIS IS BECAUSE THE HIGHER WAGES OFFERED BY THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WOULD ATTRACT WORKERS POSSESSING SIMILAR SKILLS FROM OTHER INDUSTRIES, AND THE INDUSTRIES THEREBY AFFECTED WOULD HAVE TO RAISE WAGES AND IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS AND BENEFITS IN ORDER TO RETAIN THEIR WORKERS," SHE SAID.

REGARDING THE INFLATIONARY IMPACT OF THE PADS PROJECTS ON THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND ON OTHER ECONOMIC SECTORS, MRS CHAN SAID IT WAS DIFFICULT AT THIS STAGE TO QUANTIFY THIS.

"MUCH DEPENDS ON THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY AND OTHER PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR DEMANDS ON THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AT THAT TIME, AS WELL AS ON WHETHER THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CAN ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS.

"AS FAR AS THE PUBLIC SECTOR IS CONCERNED, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE VARIOUS PADS AND NON-PADS RELATED PROJECTS SHOULD BE PRIORITISED AND IMPLEMENTED SYSTEMATICALLY WITH A VIEW TO REDUCING THE STRAIN ON THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND THE LIKELY INFLATIONARY PRESSURES.

"STEPS SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN TO ENCOURAGE PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

"HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO KEEP CONSTRUCTION COSTS DOWN IT MAY WELL BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER EXCEPTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ENSURE AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF CONSTRUCTION LABOUR, FOR EXAMPLE THROUGH SELECTIVE IMPORTATION ON A PROJECT-ORIENTED BASIS," SHE SAID.

EARLIER, MRS CHAN POINTED OUT THAT IF THE GOVERNMENT FAILED TO PROVIDE ADEQUATELY FOR HONG KONG'S AIR TRAFFIC, SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC DISBENEFITS, ESTIMATED BY CONSULTANTS TO AMOUNT TO \$101 BILLION BETWEEN 1996 AND 2010, WOULD BE INCURRED.

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THE FIRST RUNWAY AT CHEK LAP KOK, EXPECTED TO BE OPERATIONAL BY EARLY 1997, WOULD ENABLE HONG KONG TO HANDLE 28.6 MILLION PASSENGERS A YEAR COMPARED WITH 24 MILLION AT KAI TAK WHEN ALL IMPROVEMENT WORKS HAD BEEN COMPLETED.

THE NEW AIRPORT WOULD ULTIMATELY BE ABLE TO HANDLE 80 MILLION PASSENGERS PER ANNUM WITH TWO RUNWAYS, AND OPERATING ROUND THE CLOCK.

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WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN PUBLISHED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED ITS FIRST WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN FOR HONG KONG.

THE \$5 BILLION PLAN OUTLINES THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY TO IMPROVE EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF WASTES THROUGH STRUCTURED DEVELOPMENT OF NEW WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES.

THE PLAN, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 12, IS CONSISTENT WITH THE MEASURES OUTLINED IN CHAPTER 2 OF THE WHITE PAPER ON POLLUTION AND THE DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN PUBLISHED FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION BETWEEN AUGUST 4 AND SEPTEMBER 18 LAST YEAR.

THE PLAN EMPHASISES THAT ACCEPTABLE ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS MUST BE APPLIED TO BOTH COLLECTION SYSTEMS AND WASTE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES.

THE GOVERNMENT ESTIMATES THAT BY THE YEAR 2001 SOME 30,000 TONNES OF WASTES WILL BE GENERATED DAILY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH SAID IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN IS ALREADY WELL ADVANCED, AND HONG KONG'S FIRST REFUSE TRANSFER STATION IS DUE TO BE COMMISSIONED IN APRIL THIS YEAR.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PLANNING FOR THREE LANDFILLS IS ALSO WELL UNDERWAY AND CAPITAL FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAMME HAVE ALREADY BEEN EARMARKED.

AN IMPORTANT FEATURE OF THE PLAN IS THAT WITH THE OPENING OF REFUSE TRANSFER STATIONS, URBAN LANDFILLS AND INCINERATORS WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY CLOSED, THUS SPARING URBAN RESIDENTS FROM CONSIDERABLE POLLUTION NUISANCES ASSOCIATED WITH THEM.

COPIES OF THE WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES MARKETING SUB-DIVISION, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, BATTERY PATH, CENTRAL, AND FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, AND ITS BRANCH OFFICE AT 11TH FLOOR, EMPIRE CENTRE, 68 MODY ROAD, KOWLOON.

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GOVT CONCENTRATES EFFORTS IN PROMOTING HIGH TECHNOLOGY

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THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCENTRATING ITS EFFORTS IN PROMOTING HIGH TECHNOLOGY IN LINE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"IN THIS RESPECT, THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TO THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL, WILL CONTINUE TO ASSIST MANUFACTURERS IN INCREASING PRODUCTIVITY AND IMPROVING PRODUCT QUALITY," MR CHAN SAID AT A SEMINAR ON HONG KONG COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY 1990 ORGANISED BY THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL HAD SET UP THREE LABORATORIES IN ITS KWUN TONG CENTRE IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR, NAMELY THE SURFACE MOUNT TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY, THE PHOTO-CHEMICAL MACHINING LABORATORY AND THE RADIO FREQUENCY AND DIGITAL COMMUNICATION LABORATORY.

"THESE FACILITIES WILL FURTHER HELP MANUFACTURERS TO ACHIEVE BREAKTHROUGHS IN PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY AND PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT," HE SAID.

IN ADDITION, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SET UP A TECHNOLOGY CENTRE.

"APART FROM PROVIDING SUITABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR INDUSTRIALISTS WHO ARE TAKING PART IN RESEARCH ON AND PRODUCTION OF HIGH-TECH PRODUCTS, THE CENTRE WILL PROVIDE THEM WITH HIGH STANDARD PROFESSIONAL SERVICES THROUGH THE PROPOSED DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT CENTRE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FACILITIES," HE SAID.

MR CHAN SAID THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE WOULD BE COMPLETED AROUND MID-1993 AND THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW LOOKING CAREFULLY INTO THE LOCATION OF THE CENTRE AND THE NECESSARY FACILITIES.

AS REGARDS THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATES, MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD DECIDED TO BUILD A THIRD INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN TSEUNG KWAN O AND THE FIRST LOT OF LAND WAS EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN 1993 TO MEET THE HUGE DEMAND FOR INDUSTRIAL LAND.

MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE ITS POLICY OF GIVING POSITIVE ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, CONDUCT REGULAR REVIEWS INTO ITS POLICY AND LOOK INTO MORE EFFICIENT AND SUITABLE STRATEGIES.

TURNING TO FUTURE DIFFICULTIES AND CHALLENGES FACING HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE, MR CHAN NOTED THAT AFTER TWO YEARS OF RAPID GROWTH, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT THE GROWTH RATE IN REAL TERMS OF THIS YEAR'S ECONOMY WOULD SLOW DOWN TO THREE PER CENT.

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"I BELIEVE THAT PROVIDED ALL FACTORS FAVOURABLE TO TRADE DEVELOPMENT REMAIN UNCHANGED, AND GIVEN THE ADAPTABILITY OF HONG KONG'S TRADE AND ECONOMIC SYSTEMS, THE SLOW DOWN IN ECONOMIC GROWTH WOULD NOT HAVE ANY ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE.

"IT ONLY MEANS THAT HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT IS ENTERING A PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION, WHICH IS A NORMAL PHENOMENON IN THE PROCESS OF PERIODIC ADJUSTMENT," HE SAID.

ON THE RETRENCHED ECONOMIC POLICY RECENTLY IMPLEMENTED BY CHINA, MR CHAN NOTED THAT LOCAL MANUFACTURERS ONLY MOVED PART OF THEIR PRODUCTION PROCESS TO THE MAINLAND AND THE RAW MATERIALS WERE SUPPLIED BY HONG KONG.

FINISHED PRODUCTS AND SEMI-FINISHED PRODUCTS WERE ALSO SHIPPED BACK TO HONG KONG FOR SALE ABROAD.

"WE BELIEVE THEREFORE THAT THE RETRENCHED POLICY OF THE MAINLAND WOULD NOT GREATLY AFFECT THE ARRANGEMENTS OF PROCESSING WITH SUPPLIED MATERIALS.

"ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SHARP DEPRECIATION OF RENMINBI RECENTLY SHOULD BE FAVOURABLE TO LOCAL BUSINESSMEN WHO HAVE SET UP THEIR FACTORIES IN THE MAINLAND," HE SAID.

AT THE SAME TIME, HE ADDED, AS HONG KONG HAD BEEN OPENING UP NEW MARKETS OVER THE YEARS, EVEN IF CHINA'S DEMAND FOR HONG KONG PRODUCTS SLACKENED BECAUSE OF THE RETRENCHED POLICY, HONG KONG COULD STILL HOPE TO CREATE MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SALE OF HONG KONG PRODUCTS THROUGH THE OPENING UP OF NEW MARKETS.

"IN THIS RESPECT, THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL HAS PLANS TO CARRY OUT A TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAMME IN A NUMBER OF SOUTH AMERICAN AND EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES THIS YEAR," HE SAID.

AS REGARDS ANTI-DUMPING ACCUSATIONS, MR CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO CLOSELY CO-OPERATE WITH PEOPLE IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS TO ARGUE THE CASE THROUGH LEGAL PROCEDURES AND CANVASSING.

"MOREOVER, IT WILL ALSO FIGHT FOR RATIONAL AND FAIR TREATMENT FOR HONG KONG ON THE BASIS OF THE PROVISIONS OF GATT," HE SAID.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER PUBLISHED

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BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS REGISTERED CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN NOVEMBER, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH.

REFLECTING THE RISE IN HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS INCREASED DURING THE MONTH. ALL TYPES OF LOANS, EXCEPT THOSE TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG, RECORDED INCREASES IN NOVEMBER.

DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 2.2 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 2.1 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND A MARGINAL DECLINE OF 0.1 PER CENT IN OCTOBER. EVEN EXCLUDING THE SUBSCRIPTION MONIES FOR A NEW SHARE ISSUE, WHICH AMOUNTED TO \$2.75 BILLION, THERE WAS STILL AN INCREASE OF AROUND 1.5 PER CENT IN HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS DURING NOVEMBER.

DEMAND DEPOSITS ROSE STRONGLY BY 6.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, PARTLY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE ABOVEMENTIONED NEW SHARE ISSUE.

SAVINGS AND TIME DEPOSITS, ON THE OTHER HAND, ROSE BY 1.7 PER CENT AND 1.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 1989, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 10.2 PER CENT, AND WHEN SWAP DEPOSITS ARE INCLUDED, BY 14.5 PER CENT, VERY MUCH IN LINE WITH THE GROWTH RATE OF THE ECONOMY IN MONEY TERMS IN 1989.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS ROSE BY 3.4 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 0.8 PER CENT AND 3.3 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 1.4 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER WHILE NON-U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 5.8 PER CENT.

OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 21.9 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS DECLINED BY 0.8 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 4.1 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND A ZERO GROWTH IN OCTOBER. ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THESE DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS ROSE BY 1.8 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND BY 14.5 PER CENT COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER.

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ON THE OTHER HAND, FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS, ADJUSTED TO EXCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, INCREASED BY 3.9 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND BY 19.3 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR.

DEPOSITS OF ALL CURRENCIES WITH BANKS ROSE BY 3.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER WHILE THOSE WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 1.3 PER CENT. OVER THE 12 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 1989, THE FORMER ROSE BY 18.1 PER CENT WHILE THE LATTER GREW BY 5.9 PER CENT.

MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 3.9 PER CENT, 2.4 PER CENT AND 2.0 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN NOVEMBER. IN OCTOBER, THEY DECLINED BY 3.4 PER CENT, 0.2 PER CENT AND 0.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

DURING THE 12 MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 1989, HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 ROSE BY 8.8 PER CENT, 11.6 PER CENT AND 10.2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

ADJUSTED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF SWAP DEPOSITS, HK\$M2 INCREASED BY 2.0 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND BY 15.7 PER CENT COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER. HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 1.6 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER AND BY 14.0 PER CENT OVER THE YEAR.

TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 ROSE BY 3.2 PER CENT, 2.9 PER CENT AND 2.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN NOVEMBER. THEIR CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN OCTOBER WERE -2.9 PER CENT, 1.6 PER CENT AND 1.8 PER CENT.

OVER THE YEAR, TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 GREW BY 6.9 PER CENT, 17.7 PER CENT AND 16.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 2.2 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 11.3 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND A DECLINE OF 4.6 PER CENT IN OCTOBER. OF THE TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS, THOSE DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS GREW BY 2.0 PER CENT WHILE THOSE DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES INCREASED BY 2.3 PER CENT.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG FELL BY 1.1 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, FOLLOWING DECLINES OF 4.1 PER CENT AND 0.8 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 14.0 PER CENT.

/OTHER LOANS

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OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG GREW BY 2.3 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 1.2 PER CENT AND 0.6 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 29.5 PER CENT.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG INCREASED BY 2.5 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 30.2 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND A DECLINE OF 9.4 PER CENT IN OCTOBER. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 24.5 PER CENT.

LOANS TO FINANCE MERCHANDISING TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG INCREASED BY 3.6 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER, AFTER INCREASES OF 11.4 PER CENT AND 0.4 PER CENT IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER RESPECTIVELY. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 35.2 PER CENT.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 165. THE NUMBER OF LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED BY ONE TO 36 WHILE THAT OF REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY THREE TO 206.

MONETARY STATISTICS - NOVEMBER 1989

	Nov 1989	Earlier months (% change to November 1989)		
		Oct 1989	Aug 1989	Nov 1988
(HK\$mn)				
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	85,661	82,441 (3.9 %)	79,478 (7.8 %)	78,698 (8.8 %)
Foreign currency	8,894	9,178 (-3.1 %)	8,695 (2.3 %)	9,742 (-8.7 %)
Total	94,554	91,619 (3.2 %)	88,172 (7.2 %)	88,439 (6.9 %)
M2 - HK\$	395,529	386,216 (2.4 %)	277,983 (42.3 %)	354,334 (11.6 %)
Foreign currency	570,510	552,309 (3.3 %)	534,011 (6.8 %)	466,567 (22.3 %)
Total	966,039	938,525 (2.9 %)	911,994 (5.9 %)	820,900 (17.7 %)
M3 - HK\$	426,742	418,370 (2.0 %)	410,901 (3.9 %)	387,345 (10.2 %)
Foreign currency	610,671	591,129 (3.3 %)	567,824 (7.5 %)	501,688 (21.7 %)
Total	1,037,413	1,009,499 (2.8 %)	978,724 (6.0 %)	889,033 (16.7 %)
Notes and coins in circulation of which held by public	36,542 31,974	36,565 (-0.1 %) 31,843 (0.4 %)	36,192 (1.0 %) 31,563 (1.3 %)	32,298 (13.1 %) 28,363 (12.7 %)
<u>Total Deposits</u>				
Total Demand deposits	62,580	59,776 (4.7 %)	56,610 (10.5 %)	60,076 (4.2 %)
Total Savings deposits	183,354	179,977 (1.9 %)	173,163 (5.9 %)	174,278 (5.2 %)
Total Time deposits with banks	671,205	649,924 (3.3 %)	633,727 (5.9 %)	542,529 (23.7 %)
Total Time deposits with dtcs	69,964	69,039 (1.3 %)	64,694 (8.1 %)	66,044 (5.9 %)
HK\$ deposits	382,174	373,929 (2.2 %)	366,626 (4.2 %)	346,700 (10.2 %)
US\$ deposits	312,362	308,162 (1.4 %)	302,263 (3.3 %)	264,336 (18.2 %)
Other foreign currency deposits	292,567	276,626 (5.8 %)	259,305 (12.8 %)	231,889 (26.2 %)
All deposits	987,103	958,716 (3.0 %)	928,194 (6.3 %)	842,926 (17.1 %)
Foreign currency swap deposits	61,488	61,954 (-0.8 %)	59,561 (3.2 %)	40,755 (50.9 %)
<u>Total Loans and advances</u>				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	63,215	63,899 (-1.1 %)	67,201 (-5.9 %)	55,436 (14.0 %)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	10,425	10,066 (3.6 %)	8,998 (15.9 %)	7,709 (35.2 %)
Other loans for use in H.K.	577,988	564,974 (2.3 %)	554,892 (4.2 %)	446,183 (29.5 %)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	467,631	456,347 (2.5 %)	386,980 (20.8 %)	375,550 (24.5 %)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	80,205	78,506 (2.2 %)	87,277 (-8.1 %)	65,923 (21.7 %)
Loans in HK\$	518,205	507,919 (2.0 %)	500,363 (3.6 %)	396,930 (30.6 %)
Loans in foreign currencies	681,257	665,873 (2.3 %)	604,986 (12.6 %)	553,871 (23.0 %)
Total loans and advances	1,199,462	1,173,792 (2.2 %)	1,105,349 (8.5 %)	950,801 (26.2 %)

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DOWNWARD TREND IN NEW INSOLVENCIES CONTINUES

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THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT 1989 WAS THE FOURTH YEAR IN SUCCESSION WHICH SHOWED A DOWNWARD TREND IN THE NUMBER OF NEW INSOLVENCIES REACHING THE COURTS.

THERE WERE 158 NEW COMPULSORY COMPANY LIQUIDATIONS AND 177 NEW PERSONAL BANKRUPTCIES COMPARED WITH CORRESPONDING FIGURES OF 163 AND 216 IN 1988, A DECREASE OF 11.61 PER CENT.

THIS DOWNWARD TREND IN INSOLVENCIES REFLECTED THE CONTINUED GOOD PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG'S ECONOMY GENERALLY AND FOLLOWED A 27.12 PER CENT DECREASE IN THE TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW INSOLVENCIES IN 1988 COMPARED WITH 1987, MR GLEESON SAID.

TOTAL DIVIDENDS DECLARED BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER DURING 1989 AMOUNTED TO \$139.9 MILLION IN 308 INSOLVENCIES, AS AGAINST \$87.6 MILLION IN 428 INSOLVENCIES IN 1988.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INSOLVENCIES BEING HANDLED BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE AT THE END OF THE YEAR WAS 2,425, BEING 1,232 COMPULSORY COMPANY LIQUIDATIONS AND 1,193 PERSONAL BANKRUPTCIES, AS AGAINST A TOTAL OF 2,988 AT THE END OF 1988.

FUNDS ADMINISTERED BY THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER AT THE END OF THE YEAR TOTALLED \$1,297 MILLION AS AGAINST \$1,259 MILLION AT THE END OF 1988, AN INCREASE OF 3.02 PER CENT. THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER ALSO ADMINISTERED A SUM OF US\$7.9 MILLION TOGETHER WITH A JOINT LIQUIDATOR.

MR GLEESON SAID DISCUSSIONS WERE CONTINUING WITH THE HONG KONG SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS ON PROPOSALS FOR PASSING TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR MORE OF THE WORK OF THE OFFICIAL RECEIVER'S OFFICE, PARTICULARLY COMPANY LIQUIDATIONS.

A FIRM OF MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS WOULD ALSO BE REPORTING TO HIM ON THIS AND OTHER OPTIONS SOON, HE SAID.

THE INTERESTS OF CREDITORS AND ALSO SAVINGS TO GOVERNMENT WOULD BE PRIME FACTORS IN WHATEVER DECISIONS WERE TAKEN.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1990

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LAW REFORM COMMISSION TO CONSIDER FAMILY LAW ISSUES

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THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION HAS BEEN ASKED TO STUDY THREE AREAS OF FAMILY LAW IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY WHETHER THERE IS ANY NEED FOR CHANGES IN THE LIGHT OF THE SOCIAL CLIMATE OF TODAY.

THE THREE TOPICS REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION FOR CONSIDERATION ARE: (1) ILLEGITIMACY; (2) GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY; AND (3) MATTERS RELATING TO MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS AND GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THE COMMISSION HAS TURNED ITS ATTENTION TO ASPECTS OF FAMILY LAW.

THESE ARE ALL AREAS OF THE LAW WHERE THE LEGAL POSITION IN HONG KONG MAY BE SAID TO HAVE LAGGED BEHIND DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER JURISDICTIONS.

THE STUDY IN RELATION TO ILLEGITIMACY WILL LOOK AT THE LAW RELATING TO LEGITIMATION AND ILLEGITIMATE PERSONS AND WILL HAVE PARTICULAR REGARD TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

ON GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY, THE COMMISSION WILL FOCUS ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE GUARDIANSHIP AND MINORS ORDINANCE RELATING TO GUARDIANSHIP AND CUSTODY.

THE STUDY ON MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS WILL LOOK AT THE GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE AS WELL AS THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURTS IN MATRIMONIAL PROCEEDINGS, THE PRESENT RESTRICTION ON PETITIONS FOR DIVORCE WITHIN THREE YEARS OF MARRIAGE, AND THE RELEVANCE OF THE CONDUCT OF THE PARTIES TO ORDERS FOR FINANCIAL PROVISION ON DIVORCE AND RELATED MATTERS.

PRELIMINARY RESEARCH ON THE THREE TOPICS BY THE COMMISSION SECRETARIAT IS ALREADY UNDER WAY AND PRELIMINARY REPORTS ARE EXPECTED WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1990

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DECEMBER SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES, PAYROLL BEING CONDUCTED
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING THE DECEMBER 1989 ROUND OF THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY.

THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 40,000 ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH ARE DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS INCLUDING THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING; MANUFACTURING; ELECTRICITY AND GAS), THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS) AND THE SERVICES SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION; FINANCING; INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES; COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES).

QUESTIONNAIRES WERE MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL SAMPLE ESTABLISHMENTS AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1989. REMINDERS ARE NOW BEING SENT TO ESTABLISHMENTS NOT RESPONDING TO THE INITIAL QUESTIONNAIRES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 69 OF 1982, GAZETTED ON MARCH 5, 1982), ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

INFORMATION IS BEING SOUGHT ON THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES ON DECEMBER 29, 1989 FOR EACH SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENT.

SOME 10,000 ESTABLISHMENTS HAVE BEEN RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM THIS SAMPLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAYROLL IN EACH OF THE THREE MONTHS DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD OF OCTOBER-DECEMBER 1989.

SHOULD RESPONDENTS FIND DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLETING THE FORMS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR ASSISTANCE ON TEL. 8235076.

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PUBLICATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS AVAILABLE
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THE 1990 EDITION OF "HONG KONG TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS" PUBLISHED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE.

THIS BILINGUAL ANNUAL PUBLICATION PROVIDES BASIC INFORMATION SUCH AS ADDRESSES, TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND THE NAMES OF KEY OFFICIALS OF MORE THAN 260 TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATIONS IN HONG KONG.

COMPILED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WITH ASSISTANCE FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, THE PUBLICATION SERVES AS A DIRECTORY FOR LOCAL TRADERS AND INDUSTRIALISTS IN GOING ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS AND AS A USEFUL REFERENCE FOR THE PUBLIC.

/THE ORGANISATIONS

THE ORGANISATIONS ARE LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER FOR EASY SEARCH AND THERE IS A CROSS REFERENCE CLASSIFYING ORGANISATIONS BY THE NATURE OF THEIR BUSINESS.

FOR EXAMPLE, UNDER THE SECTION "APPAREL AND ASSESSORIES", A TOTAL OF 12 RELATED ORGANISATIONS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED.

FIRST INTRODUCED IN THE LATE 1970'S, THE PUBLICATION HAS PROVED TO BE POPULAR AMONG MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

THOSE INTERESTED IN GETTING A FREE COPY MAY WRITE TO MR JOHNNY LEUNG OF THE DATA AND SERVICES DIVISION, INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT, 10TH FLOOR, OCEAN CENTRE, TSIM SHA TSUI.

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GOLD SHOPS FINED FOR FAILING TO DISPLAY MARKING ORDER NOTICES
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THE COURT TODAY (FRIDAY) IMPOSED A TOTAL FINE OF \$23,000 ON SEVEN GOLD AND JEWELLERY SHOPS WHICH HAD FAILED TO DISPLAY IN THEIR SHOP PREMISES THE MARKING ORDER NOTICES REQUIRED IN THE SALE OF GOLD AND PLATINUM ITEMS.

THE DEFENDANTS ALL PLEADED GUILTY AT THE NORTH KOWLOON MAGISTRACY TO CHARGES OF FAILING TO DISPLAY IN THEIR SHOPS THE MARKING ORDER NOTICE AS SPECIFIED IN THE THIRD SCHEDULES OF THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (MARKING) (GOLD AND GOLD ALLOY) ORDER 1984 AND THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (MARKING) (PLATINUM) ORDER 1988.

THE GOLD MARKING ORDER NOTICE OR THE PLATINUM MARKING ORDER NOTICE SHOULD INDICATE THAT EVERY ARTICLE MADE OF GOLD, GOLD ALLOY OR PLATINUM, THAT IS SUPPLIED OR OFFERED FOR SUPPLY IN THE COURSE OF TRADE, SHOULD BEAR A MARK INDICATING THE FINENESS OF THE GOLD OR PLATINUM CONTENT.

THESE NOTICES SHOULD BE DISPLAYED AT A PROMINENT SITE IN THE PLACES WHERE GOLD OR PLATINUM ITEMS ARE SUPPLIED OR OFFERED FOR SUPPLY IN THE COURSE OF TRADE OR BUSINESS.

THE DEFENDANTS WERE LAI HING JEWELLERY COMPANY LIMITED, TAI SENG HO SILVER AND GOLD JEWELLERY COMPANY LIMITED, RU SAI SHING GOLDSMITH AND JEWELLERY COMPANY LIMITED, PC FORTUNE COMPANY LIMITED TRADING AS JADE JEWELLERY AND GOLD COMPANY LIMITED, WU SUI-FUNG OF TIN SANG JEWELLER AND GOLDSMITH, CHAN SIU OF SHIU CHEONG GOLDSMITH AND LAI HAU-YEE OF FU WAI JEWELLERY AND GOLDSMITH.

THE COURT HEARD THAT OFFICERS OF THE TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT VISITED THESE SHOPS DURING A TERRITORY-WIDE INSPECTION ON AUGUST 30 LAST YEAR.

/IT WAS

IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT FOUR OF THESE SHOPS HAD NOT DISPLAYED THE REQUIRED GOLD MARKING ORDER NOTICES, TWO HAD NO PLATINUM MARKING ORDER NOTICES AND ONE WAS WITHOUT BOTH NOTICES.

THE PRINCIPAL TRADE CONTROLS OFFICER OF THE TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, MR H.Y. LI, SAID THAT APART FROM THESE SEVEN CASES, SEVEN OTHER SIMILAR CASES WHICH WERE DISCOVERED DURING THE OPERATION IN AUGUST LAST YEAR HAD EARLIER BEEN BROUGHT TO COURT.

MR LI RECALLED THAT THESE SEVEN OPERATORS OF GOLD AND JEWELLERY SHOPS HAD BEEN FINED A TOTAL OF \$13,500 FOR CONTRAVENING THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (MARKING) (GOLD AND GOLD ALLOY) ORDER 1984 AND THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (MARKING) (PLATINUM) ORDER 1988.

"THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENING THE ORDERS IS A FINE OF \$100,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR TWO YEARS ON SUMMARY CONVICTION AND A FINE OF \$500,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR FIVE YEARS ON CONVICTION ON INDICTMENT," HE SAID.

HE REMINDED TRADERS OF GOLD AND PLATINUM ARTICLES THAT OFFICERS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT WOULD CARRY OUT INSPECTIONS TO THEIR SHOPS FROM TIME TO TIME.

"THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT THE TRADERS WILL EVENTUALLY COMPLY WITH THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS IN THE LEGISLATION," HE SAID.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR TSEUNG KWAN O DEVELOPMENT

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR RECLAMATION, SITE FORMATION AND ROAD WORKS IN TSEUNG KWAN O AS PART OF THE CONTINUING PROGRAMME OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN.

UNDER THE CONTRACT, ABOUT 35 HECTARES OF LAND TO THE SOUTHWEST OF KING LAM ESTATE AND SOUTHEAST OF HAVEN OF HOPE SANATORIUM WILL BE RECLAIMED.

SITE FORMATION WORKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT FOR FUTURE USES OF PUBLIC HOUSING, PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL, GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTIONAL, COMMUNITY, ROAD WORKS AND OPEN SPACE.

IN ADDITION, FOUR KILOMETRES OF ROADS, THREE PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS AND A SECTION OF MTR TUNNEL OF ABOUT 100 METRES LONG WILL BE CONSTRUCTED.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT 33 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS IS NOON ON FEBRUARY 16.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1990

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NEW ROADS PLANNED FOR TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CONSTRUCT NEW ROADS, ROAD WIDENING RESERVE, FOOTPATHS, CYCLE TRACKS, VEHICULAR BRIDGES, FOOT AND CYCLE BRIDGES, PEDESTRIAN SUBWAYS AND WATERSIDE AMENITY AREA AS PART OF THE TIN SHUI WAI DEVELOPMENT.

THE CONSTRUCTION WILL ALL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE TIN SHUI WAI LANDHOLDING.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, CAN BE SEEN ON THE NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITE.

A COPY OF THE PLANS OF THE PROPOSED UNDERTAKINGS CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- YUEN LONG DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YUEN LONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND TAI KIU MARKET, NINTH TO 11TH FLOORS, 2 KIU LOK SQUARE, YUEN LONG;
- YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICE, YUEN LONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, 269 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

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, BY NEXT TUESDAY (JANUARY 9).

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ANTI-RABIES INOCULATION DRIVE IN FISHING PORTS

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL LAUNCH A SPECIAL DOG INOCULATION DRIVE IN FISHING PORTS OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS SO THAT FISHERMEN CAN HAVE THEIR DOGS IMMUNISED AGAINST RABIES.

THE DRIVE, A REGULAR EXERCISE HELD SINCE 1980, IS SPECIALLY TIMED TO SUIT THE CONVENIENCE OF FISHERMEN, MOST OF WHOM WILL BE COMING BACK FROM SEA THESE FEW WEEKS TO CELEBRATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR.

STARTING FROM MONDAY (JANUARY 8), THE DEPARTMENT'S MOBILE DOG INOCULATION TEAMS WILL GO TO THE TERRITORY'S SEVEN FISHING PORTS ONE BY ONE AND MAKE BOAT-TO-BOAT VISITS BETWEEN 10 AM AND 4 PM DAILY. THE WHOLE OPERATION WILL LAST FOR NINE WORKING DAYS UNTIL JANUARY 19.

/THEY WILL

THEY WILL VISIT THE FISHING PORTS IN ABERDEEN ON JANUARY 8 AND 9; CHEUNG CHAU ON JANUARY 10 AND 11; SHA TAU KOK ON JANUARY 15; SAI KUNG AND SHAU KEI WAN ON JANUARY 15 AND 16; SAM MUN TSAI ON JANUARY 16 AND 17; AND CASTLE PEAK BAY ON JANUARY 18 AND 19.

THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR VETERINARY OFFICER, DR NORMAN CHENG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE DRIVE WAS PART OF GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF RABIES TO HONG KONG.

"THE TERRITORY REGAINED THE RABIES-FREE-AREA STATUS ON JULY 10 LAST YEAR, HAVING SUCCESSFULLY PREVENTED THE OUTBREAK OF ANY INDIGENOUS RABIES CASE SINCE JULY 10, 1987," HE NOTED.

NEVERTHELESS, DR CHENG STRESSED THAT RABIES WAS A DEADLY DISEASE TRANSMISSABLE FROM ANIMALS TO HUMANS. DOGS ON FISHING VESSELS WERE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE BECAUSE OF THEIR POSSIBLE CONTACT WITH OTHER ANIMALS OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

"IT IS, THEREFORE, IMPORTANT THAT FISHERMEN'S DOGS ARE INOCULATED AGAINST THE DISEASE AT LEAST EVERY THREE YEARS TO KEEP UP THEIR IMMUNITY," DR CHENG ADDED.

HE URGED FISHERMEN WHO OWN DOGS TO MAKE FULL USE OF THE SPECIAL INOCULATION SERVICE.

UNDER THE DOGS AND CATS ORDINANCE, ALL DOGS OVER FIVE MONTHS OLD ARE REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED AND INOCULATED AGAINST RABIES. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RENDER THE OWNER LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

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PROPOSED LAYING OF SUBMARINE CABLE

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THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO GRANT PERMISSION TO CABLE AND WIRELESS (HK) LTD FOR THE LAYING OF A SUBMARINE CABLE WITHIN HONG KONG WATERS TO EXTEND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND TAIWAN.

THE COMPANY INTENDS TO LAY A SUBMARINE CABLE WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 27.5 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED FROM LOBSTER BAY, CAPE D'AGUILAR TOWARDS TAIWAN.

THE WORK IS SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE AFTER AUTHORISATION HAS BEEN GIVEN AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 14 DAYS TO COMPLETE.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

/ANY PERSON

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE MARCH 4 THIS YEAR.

THE NOTICE OF SUCH OBJECTION SHALL DESCRIBE THE INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT OF THE OBJECTOR AND THE MANNER IN WHICH HE ALLEGES HE WILL BE AFFECTED.

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ROAD SAFETY DAY FOR EASTERN RESIDENTS
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THE EASTERN DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY DAY WILL BE HELD IN VICTORIA PARK ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 7) TO PROMOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF COMPLYING WITH TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

THE ACTIVITY WILL CONCLUDE THE 1989-90 ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN WHICH HAS BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD AND THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE ATTRACTION OF THE DAY WILL BE A SKID CAR DEMONSTRATION AND PERFORMANCES BY A SIX-MEMBER MOTORCYCLING TEAM FROM THE HONG KONG SCHOOL OF MOTORING.

CHILDREN WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE THE FUN OF SAFE DRIVING IN SPECIALLY-DESIGNED "CAREFUL COBBERS" MINI VEHICLES TRAVELLING AT A SPEED OF 20 KILOMETRES PER HOUR.

OTHER GAMES WILL INCLUDE A "ROAD SAFETY TOWN", A MINIATURE RAILWAY AND A COLOURING COMPETITION.

THE "ROAD SAFETY DAY" WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM AT THE VICTORIA PARK FOOTBALL PITCHES NOS. 4 TO 6, AND WILL RUN UNTIL 5 PM.

ADMISSION IS FREE. TICKETS FOR STALL GAMES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE VENUE. THEY CAN ALSO BE OBTAINED BEFOREHAND AT THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS THREE SUB-OFFICES.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING OF THE ROAD SAFETY DAY WILL BE THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR GARY YEUNG; DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR SHUM CHOI-SANG; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER (EASTERN), MRS WONG LEUNG KAM-SHAN; AND CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT BOARD'S TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE, MR YUE HUI-KWONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT ROAD SAFETY DAY TO BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 7) AT THE VICTORIA PARK FOOTBALL PITCHES NOS. 4 TO 6.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1990

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YUEN LONG TO STAGE FIGHT CRIME VARIETY SHOW

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A VARIETY SHOW TO PROMOTE FIGHT CRIME AND ANTI-NARCOTICS MESSAGES WILL BE STAGED AT YUEN LONG STADIUM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

STARTING AT 2.30 PM, THE EVENT WILL BE PRODUCED AND BROADCAST LIVE BY COMMERCIAL RADIO.

BEFORE IT BEGINS, THERE WILL BE A CEREMONY IN WHICH CERTIFICATES OF COMMENDATION WILL BE PRESENTED TO WINNERS OF THE GOOD CITIZEN AWARD.

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY WILL BE YUEN LONG POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR LIM SHEK-YEUNG; YUEN LONG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ROBIN IP; AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR TAI KUEN.

BESIDES THE VARIETY SHOW, OTHER ACTIVITIES HELD BY THE YUEN LONG DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS HAVE INCLUDED VISITS TO A DRUG TREATMENT CENTRE AND THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL, A FIGHT CRIME CROSSWORD PUZZLE COMPETITION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FIGHT CRIME PUBLICITY MATERIALS TO LOCAL RESIDENTS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPORTER/PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE EVENT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM AT YUEN LONG STADIUM, TAI YUK ROAD, YUEN LONG.

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VARIETY SHOW FOR THE ELDERLY IN WONG TAI SIN

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MORE THAN 200 ELDERLY RESIDENTS IN NGAU CHI WAN AND DIAMOND HILL AREAS IN WONG TAI SIN WILL BE TREATED TO A VARIETY SHOW SPECIALLY ORGANISED FOR THEM TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE SHOW, WHICH IS FREE, WILL BE HELD AT THE CHI LIN SCHOOL IN DIAMOND HILL BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4 PM. THERE WILL BE SINGING AND PERFORMANCES BY POPULAR SINGERS.

/ORGANISED BY

ORGANISED BY THE NGAU TSUEN AREA COMMITTEE WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD AND DISTRICT OFFICE, THE SHOW AIMS AT PROMOTING LOVE AND CONCERN FOR ELDERLY MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE VARIETY SHOW FOR THE ELDERLY TO BE HELD TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AT THE CHI LIN SCHOOL, 33 DIAMOND ROAD, DIAMOND HILL, WONG TAI SIN. THE SHOW WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4 PM.

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NEW ID CARDS FOR MEN BORN IN 1932-35

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MEN BORN IN 1932, 1933, 1934, OR 1935 WOULD BE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS FROM JANUARY 15 TO FEBRUARY 24.

"MEN OF THE ABOVE AGE GROUP CAN CALL AT ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES DURING THIS PERIOD," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

THESE OFFICES ARE OPEN FROM 8 AM TO 9.30 PM DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

"THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE VERY CROWDED IN THE EVENINGS. TO AVOID HAVING TO QUEUE UP FOR A LONG TIME AT THE ISSUE OFFICES OR TO COME BACK ON ANOTHER DAY, APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO GO TO THESE OFFICES IN THE MORNINGS AND THE AFTERNOONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPLICANTS MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICE OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

- HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI
TEL. NO. 5747070
- EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR, 77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD
TEL. NO. 7553679
- WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR,
393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI
TEL. NO. 7232424
- TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET
TEL. NO. 4981259

SHA TIN : SHOP 8A, SECOND FLOOR, CHANWAY SHOPPING CENTRE,
11-17, SHA TIN CENTRE STREET
TEL. NO. 6059108

YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, 31 HOP YICK ROAD
TEL. NO. 4771543

TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
CHI LOK FA YUEN
TEL. NO. 4580862

SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR,
82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI
TEL. NO. 6727191

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE DOCUMENT TO BE BROUGHT ALONG, THEY MAY MAKE USE OF THE 24-HOUR RECORDED MESSAGE SERVICE BY DIALLING 8909393.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED MEN BORN IN 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939 OR 1940 WHO HAVE NOT APPLIED FOR THEIR NEW IDENTITY CARDS TO COME FORWARD WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY AS THERE IS ONLY ONE MORE WEEK LEFT BEFORE THE CURRENT PHASE CLOSES ON JANUARY 13.

HE POINTED OUT THAT FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$3,000.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN CAUSEWAY BAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT CLEVELAND STREET IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 10 AM AND 6 PM ON SUNDAY (JANUARY 7) FOR HOLDING THE CAUSEWAY BAY CENTRAL CARNIVAL.

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DURING THE CLOSURE.

VEHICLES ON GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD HEADING FOR PATERSON STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA CANNON STREET, LOCKHART ROAD, EAST POINT ROAD, GREAT GEORGE STREET, GLOUCESTER ROAD, AND KINGSTON STREET.

AIRPORT COACH ROUTE NO. A3 ON JOURNEYS TO CAUSEWAY BAY WILL OMIT CLEVELAND STREET, KINGSTON STREET, PATERSON STREET AND THE BUS STOP OUTSIDE PARK LANE HOTEL.

IT WILL INSTEAD OBSERVE THE BUS STOP ON GLOUCESTER ROAD SERVICE ROAD NEAR CLEVELAND STREET AND THEN PROCEED ALONG GLOUCESTER ROAD TO RESUME ITS NORMAL ROUTING ON PERCIVAL STREET.

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