DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEETING

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THE NEWLY APPOINTED ECONOMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, HELD ITS FIRST MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AFTER THE MEETING, MR MACLEOD SAID HE HAD A VERY USEFUL PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION WITH MEMBERS ON A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC ISSUES FACING THE TERRITORY.

"I SEE BRAINSTORMING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS MOST USEFUL IN IDENTIFYING KEY ISSUES AND HOW BEST TO DEAL WITH THEM, INCLUDING OF COURSE INFLATION AND WAYS TO STIMULATE HIGHER ECONOMIC GROWTH," HE SAID.

APART FROM MR MACLEOD, THE COMMITTEE COMPRISES SIX NON-GOVERNMENT MEMBERS AND THREE GOVERNMENT MEMBERS.

MEMBERS DRAWN FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR ARE PROFESSOR EDWARD CHEN KWAN-YIU, MR VINCENT CHENG HOI-CHUEN, DR RAYMOND CH'IEN KUO-FUNG, MR WILLIAM FUNG KWOK-LUN, MR JOHN GREENWOOD AND DR RICHARD WONG YUE-CHIM.

THE GOVERNMENT MEMBERS ON THE COMMITTEE ARE THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN FANG ON-SANG; THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND, MR JOSEPH YAM CHI-KWONG, AND THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST, MR TANG KWONG-YIU.

UNDER ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE, THE COMMITTEE WILL ADVISE THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY ON ANY MATTERS AFFECTING THE ECONOMY THAT HE MAY REFER TO IT.

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SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS FOR OCEAN-GOING VESSELS RELEASED

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IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF LAST YEAR, 5,519 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 31.2 MILLION NET REGISTERED TONS (NRT) ARRIVED HONG KONG, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 537 (OR 11%) IN NUMBER AND OF 1.8 MILLION NRT (OR 6%) IN CAPACITY OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

THIS IS CONTAINED IN THE 'HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT JULY - SEPTEMBER 1991' PUBLISHED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS (ESTIMATED FROM A SAMPLE OF MANIFEST CONSIGNMENTS) INCREASED BY 18% OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

/ANALYSING INCCMING .....

ANALYSING INCOMING SHIPS BY SHIP TYPE, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONTAINER VESSELS (+289), OIL TANKERS (+276) AND DRY BULK CARRIERS (+45); WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF CONVENTIONAL CARGO VESSELS (-49) AND SEMI-CONTAINER VESSELS (-37).

ANALYSING INCOMING SHIPS BY FLAG OF VESSELS, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+273) AND LIBERIA (+29); WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THOSE REGISTERED IN PANAMA (-33) AND TAIWAN (-30).

THE NUMBER OF INCOMING SHIPS WITH A CAPACITY OF LESS THAN 10,000 DEADWEIGHT TONS INCREASED BY 439 WHILST THE NUMBER OF THOSE WITH A LARGER CAPACITY INCREASED BY 98.

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991, THERE WERE 5,531 OUTGOING SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 31.1 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 584 (OR 12%) IN NUMBER AND OF 1.9 MILLION NRT (OR 7%) IN CAPACITY OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990. THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS (ESTIMATED FROM A SAMPLE OF MANIFEST CONSIGNMENTS) ROSE BY 22%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, CHANGES IN THE NUMBER OF OUTGOING SHIPS BY SHIP TYPE, FLAG, AND CAPACITY ARE LARGELY THE SAME AS THOSE OBSERVED IN INCOMING SHIPS, AS ABOUT 64% OF THE DEPARTING SHIPS STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN TWO DAYS.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, 87% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS IMPORTS AND 13% WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO. OF THE CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, 66% WAS EXPORTS (INCLUDING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS) AND 34% WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS IN TONNAGE TERMS WERE SINGAPORE (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 15%), JAPAN (13%), AUSTRALIA (13%), CHINA (11%), USA (9%), TAIWAN (8%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (6%); WHILE THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE USA (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 22%), CHINA (18%), TAIWAN (11%), JAPAN (5%), SINGAPORE (5%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (4%) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (3%).

TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED IN CHINA (30%) AND USA (14%), AND WAS MAINLY DISCHARGED ALSO IN CHINA (23%) AND USA (13%).

COMPARING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 WITH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+112%), USA (+52%), AUSTRALIA (+37%), TAIWAN (+25%) AND JAPAN (+18%). AS A WHOLE, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE IMPORTS ROSE BY 16%.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, MAJOR INCREASES IN CARGO TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (+44%), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+27%), PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS (+19%), AND COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (+12%); WHILE A MAJOR DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS OF CEMENT AND CEMENT CLINKER (-34%).

/COMPARING THE .....

COMPARING THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 WITH THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) INCREASED BY 22%.

MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO CHINA (+48%), USA (+26%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+22%), THE NETHERLANDS (+19%) AND TAIWAN (+15%).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (+113%), FOOTWEAR (+67%), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+36%), AND TOYS (+29%).

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 40% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS CONTAINERISED CARGO. OF THOSE LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS AND OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 80% WAS CONTAINERISED CARGO.

IN TERMS OF TONNAGE, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 32% OF SEABORNE IMPORTS. IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR A LARGE PROPORTION OF SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM THE NETHERLANDS (88%), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (87%) AND TAIWAN (87%).

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERISED SEABORNE IMPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 ROSE BY 25% OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR, IN TONNAGE TERMS, 99% OF SEABORNE IMPORTS OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, 94% OF PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, 88% OF TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD, ALL KINDS, AND 87% OF MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURES OF METAL AND NON-METALLIC MINERALS.

FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 72% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE. IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR ALL SEABORNE EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND AUSTRALIA, AND ALMOST ALL TO USA AND THE NETHERLANDS.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERISED SEABORNE EXPORTS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 ROSE BY 21% OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1990. SEABORNE EXPORTS OF SOME PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES WERE ALL OR NEARLY ALL CONTAINERISED. THESE INCLUDED TOYS; FOOTWEAR; GARMENTS OF MIXED MATERIALS; MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES; AND VEGETABLES AND FRUIT.

SHIPPING STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIP MASTERS OR AUTHORISED SHIPPING AGENTS AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

/A SAMPLE .....

A SAMPLE OF CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE MANIFESTS IS USED FOR COMPILING CARGO STATISTICS. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS ON SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1991 ARE CONTAINED IN THE 'HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT JULY - SEPTEMBER 1991', WHICH IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT CENTRE, CENTRAL AT $34.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADE SURVEYS AND SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 582 4887.

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NEW FARES FOR URBAN AND NT TAXIS

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TAXI FARES FOR URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS WILL BE REVISED FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WHILE ONLY SURCHARGES OF LANTAU TAXIS WILL BE REVISED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THIS FOLLOWED A RECENT APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL FOR URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS TO INCREASE FARES TO MEET RISING OPERATING COSTS.

UPON REVISION, THE FLAGFALL FOR THE FIRST TWO KILOMETRES WILL BE $9 AND $8 FOR URBAN AND NT TAXIS RESPECTIVELY.

SUBSEQUENT CHARGES WILL BE REVISED CORRESPONDINGLY TO $0.90 AND $0.80 FOR EVERY 200 METRES TRAVELLED.

APART FROM INCREASES IN METER CHARGES, OTHER SERVICE SURCHARGES WILL ALSO BE REVISED.

THE BAGGAGE SURCHARGE FOR URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS WILL BE INCREASED TO $4 WHILE THE RADIO-CALL SERVICE SURCHARGE FOR URBAN TAXIS TO $4.

THE BAGGAGE AND THE RADIO-CALL SERVICE SURCHARGES FOR LANTAU TAXIS WILL BOTH BE REVISED TO $3.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID PENDING THE CONVERSION OF TAXI METERS, TAXIS MAY CHARGE THE REVISED FARES STARTING TOMORROW BY DISPLAYING A CONVERSION TABLE SHOWING THE REVISED FARE SCALES.

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GOODS VEHICLE DRIVERS URGED TO OBSERVE SAFETY RULES

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT MR ERNEST LEE SHU-WING TODAY (THURSDAY) CALLED ON MOTORISTS, PARTICULARLY GOODS VEHICLE DRIVERS, TO OBSERVE GOOD DRIVER BEHAVIOUR AND TO REGULARLY MAINTAIN THEIR VEHICLES TO AVOID TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

MR LEE SAID THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT WAS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SERIOUS ACCIDENTS WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS INVOLVING MANY GOOD VEHICLES, RESULTING IN LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY DAMAGE.

"IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY AND WITH THE COMING CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS IN MIND, WE MOST EARNESTLY APPEAL TO ALL THOSE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE MOVEMENT OF FREIGHT ON TRUCKS TO ADOPT A NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE DEPARTMENT TO IMPROVE ROAD AND VEHICLES SAFETY," HE ADDED.

"BECAUSE OF THEIR SIZE AND WEIGHT, TRUCKS ARE CAPABLE OF INFLICTING MAJOR DAMAGE IN THE EVENT OF A COLLISION. DRIVERS SHOULD THEREFORE DRIVE DEFENSIVELY AND WITH UTMOST CAUTION AT ALL TIMES.

"NEVER EXCEED THE SPEED LIMIT OF 70 KM PER HOUR FOR GOODS VEHICLES NOR DRIVE AT A SPEED FROM WHICH YOU CANNOT STOP WITHIN THE CLEAR ROAD AHEAD," MR LEE EXPLAINED.

ON THE SAFE OPERATION OF GOODS VEHICLES, MR LEE SAID DRIVERS MUST KNOW THE LOAD CAPACITY OF THEIR VEHICLES, AND SHOULD ENSURE THE WEIGHT OF GOODS OR MATERIALS BEING LOADED DOES NOT EXCEED THEIR LIMITS.

HE CALLED ON DRIVERS TO REFUSE DRIVING GOODS VEHICLES AWAY IF THEY KNEW THAT THEY WERE OVERLOADED.

EVERY VEHICLE NEEDS REGULAR MAINTENANCE AND OWNERS OR DRIVERS SHOULD ENSURE THEIR TRUCKS ARE SERVICED ACCORDING TO THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS, OR MORE OFTEN IF THE TRUCKS ARE BEING USED IN PARTICULARLY ARDUOUS CONDITIONS.

IF A DEFECT APPEARED IN THE BRAKES, STEERING, LIGHTS OR TYRES, HE SAID THESE SHOULD BE FIXED IMMEDIATELY, AND THE VEHICLES SHOULD NOT CONTINUOUSLY BE DRIVEN.

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DSW VISITS WELFARE ESTABLISHMENTS

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THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE MR M.D. CARTLAND TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED SEVERAL SUBVENTED WELFARE ESTABLISHMENTS TO FAMILIARISE HIMSELF WITH THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS.

MR CARTLAND STARTED HIS ONE-DAY TOUR BY VISITING THE ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME IN TAI PO.

THE ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME IS A CHILD-CARE INSTITUTION RUN BY SHENG KUNG HUI. IT PROVIDES ACCOMMODATION FOR UNDERPRIVILIGED CHILDREN WHO ARE EITHER SIGNED OFF OR ABANDONED BY PARENTS; CHILDREN WHO ARE COMMITTED TO THE HOME BY COURT ORDERS, AND CHILDREN WHO COME FROM FAMILIES WITH ACUTE SOCIAL PROBLEMS.

THE HOME, WITH A POPULATION OF 330, COMPRISES TWO SECTIONS: THE BABIES' SECTION AND THE CHILDREN'S SECTION.

MR CARTLAND LEARNED THAT THE HOME HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WITH A PROPOSAL BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TO RESTRUCTURE ITS CHILDREN'S SECTION INTO SMALL-GROUP HOMES.

HE THEN MOVED ON TO KWONG FUK WORKSHOP IN THE NEARBY KWONG FUK ESTATE. THE WORKSHOP IS RUN BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED (HKAMH).

THE WORKSHOP PROVIDES JOBS FOR 120 HANDICAPPED ADULTS. ITS CAPACITY WILL BE EXPANDED TO 140 IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

MR CARTLAND WAS VERY IMPRESSED ON THE SETTING OF THE WORKSHOP, WHICH SIMULATES CONDITIONS IN A NORMAL FACTORY AND PROVIDES FINANCIAL REWARDS TO WORKERS WITH GOOD PERFORMANCE.

MR CARTLAND ENDED HIS TOUR AT THE PINEHILL VILLAGE WHICH IS ALSO OPERATED BY THE HKAMH.

THERE, HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE PLANT NURSERY WHICH IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO PREPARE MENTALLY-HANDICAPPED PEOPLE AS GARDENERS.

MR CARTLAND ALSO PRAISED THE ORGANISATION FOR ITS EFFORT TO SET UP THE LITTLE HOUSE -- A SMALL-GROUP HOME PROVIDING A CARING FAMILY ENVIRONMENT FOR ORPHANS OR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS ARE UNABLE TO CARE FOR THEM.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR PURCHASE OF GOVT LIGHTERS

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THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS RE-INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO PURPOSE-BUILT FERRY LIGHTERS.

TENDERS FOR THE STEEL DOUBLE-DECK LANDING PONTOONS - LIGHTER 9 AND 11 - WHICH MEASURES 36.6 BY 12.2 METRES AND 39.6 BY 12.2 METRES RESPECTIVELY WERE FIRST INVITED IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR BUT WERE WITHDRAWN PENDING A NEW CONDITION TO BE TAGGED ON TO THE TENDERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE SPECIAL CONDITION OF THE TENDER STIPULATED THAT THE SUCCESSFUL TENDERER HAD TO PROVIDE, FREE OF CHARGE, TO GOVERNMENT BOTH "LIGHTER 9" AND "LIGHTER 11" IN GOOD AND SAFE CONDITIONS FOR USE ON THE FOLLOWING OCCASIONS:

(A) IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, EXCEPT DURING THE PERIOD WHEN THE LIGHTERS ARE USED FOR THE PURPOSES AS STATED IN (B) BELOW:

* THE YEARLY TIN HAU FESTIVAL (AROUND APRIL EVERY YEAR) AT JOSS HOUSE BAY FOR ONE WEEK; AND

* THE YEARLY INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT RACE (AROUND JUNE EVERY YEAR) OFF TSIM SHA TSUI PROMENADE, OR ANY OTHER PLACES IN HONG KONG WATERS, FOR ONE WEEK.

(B) THE CENTRAL AND WANCHAI RECLAMATION PROJECT, AS TEMPORARY FERRY LANDING PONTOONS OFF CENTRAL WATERFRONT FOR ONE YEAR FROM AROUND END OF 1993.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT AS THE LIGHTERS HAD NOT BEEN PUT TO ACTIVE USE RECENTLY, IT WOULD BE COST-EFFECTIVE TO SELL THEM TO SAVE THE HIGH MAINTENANCE COSTS AND MANPOWER DEPLOYED TO LOOK AFTER THEM DURING TYPHOON.

"THE VESSELS ALSO OCCUPY VALUABLE WATER SPACE IN THE GOVERNMENT DOCKYARD," HE SAID.

LIGHTER 9 AND 11 WERE BOUGHT IN 1980 AND 1984 AT A COST OF $940,000 AND $1.39 MILLION RESPECTIVELY. THEY WERE RENTED TO THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY FOR USE UNTIL 1986 AND LAST YEAR RESPECTIVELY.

FORMS OF TENDER CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE PROCUREMENT DIVISION, GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT; THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL; AND THE MONG KOK DISTRICT OFFICE, MONG KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES, GROUND FLOOR, 30 LUEN WAN STREET.

INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD PLACE TENDERS IN THE TENDER BOX AT THE MAIN GATE OF THE GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, OIL STREET, NORTH POINT, BEFORE 9 AM ON FEBRUARY 28.

DETAILS OF THE TENDERS WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

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YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA RECRUITS MEMBERS

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THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA OF THE MUSIC OFFICE IS RECRUITING MEMBERS FOR 1992/93.

THE ORCHESTRA WAS SET UP IN 1978 WITH THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING ORCHESTRAL TRAINING TO YOUNG PEOPLE. IT HAS TAKEN PART IN CONCERTS, DISTRICT ART FESTIVALS AND OVERSEAS MUSIC EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES IN THE PAST YEARS.

THE FORTHCOMING MAJOR EVENTS IN WHICH THE ORCHESTRA WILL TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN INCLUDE THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE MUSIC FESTIVAL AND THE MUSIC OFFICE ANNUAL GALA. SOME MEMBERS MAY ALSO HAVE THE CHANCE TO GO OVERSEAS TO PARTICIPATE IN MUSIC EXCHANGE ACTIVITIES.

AN INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME WILL BE DRAWN UP TO EMBRACE MASTERCLASSES AND REHEARSALS CONDUCTED BY LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MUSICIANS.

IN THE TRAINING SCHEDULE, ALL REHEARSALS WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY EVENINGS AT THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE.

A MUSIC OFFICE SPOKESMAN SAID ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORCHESTRA WOULD BE RECRUITED EACH YEAR BY OPEN AUDITION AND CURRENT MEMBERS WERE NO EXCEPTION.

FULL ATTENDANCE BY ALL MEMBERS AT REHEARSALS AND TRAINING SESSIONS WOULD BE EXPECTED, HE ADDED.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE UNDER 25, HAVE ATTAINED AT LEAST GRADE V IN THE MUSIC OFFICE'S INTERNAL ASSESSMENT OR EQUIVALENT IN ONE CHINESE MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN AUDITION ON MARCH 14.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 399 2195. ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE MONG KOK MUSIC CENTRE AT 10TH FLOOR, MONG KOK GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 30 LUEN WAN STREET, MONG KOK, KOWLOON BY FEBRUARY 18.

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UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS IN SHAM SHUI PO TO BE CLOSED

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS ON A BUILDING IN SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES ARE LOCATED ON THE FLAT ROOFS OF THE FIRST FLOOR AND FLAT D ON THE FOURTH FLOOR OF 66-74 CASTLE PEAK ROAD.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDER UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON APRIL 23 HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE PREMISES.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORKS WILL START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDER IS ISSUED.

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"1991 POPULATION CENSUS: SUMMARY RESULTS" CHINESE VERSION PUBLISHED

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THE CHINESE VERSION OF THE CENSUS REPORT "HONG KONG 1991 POPULATION CENSUS: SUMMARY RESULTS" WAS PUBLISHED TODAY (THURSDAY). THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE REPORT HAS ALREADY BEEN PUBLISHED EARLIER.

THE REPORT PRESENTS 35 SUMMARY TABLES, THREE CHARTS AND COMMENTARIES SUMMARISING THE FINDINGS OF THE 1991 POPULATION CENSUS. COMPARISONS ARE MADE WITH THE RESULTS OF THE 1981 CENSUS AND 1986 BY-CENSUS WHERE THEY ARE POSSIBLE.

THE REPORT FEATURES THE WHOLE RANGE OF CENSUS TOPICS, INCLUDING THE BASIC DEMOGRAPHIC, EDUCATIONAL, ECONOMIC, HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE POPULATION AND THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

THE CHINESE VERSION OF THE "HONG KONG 1991 POPULATION CENSUS: SUMMARY RESULTS" IS NOW ON SALE AT $24 PER COPY. PURCHASES MAY BE MADE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND THE PUBLICATION SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE	$ MILLION
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	29.1.92	600
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	30.1.92	-279
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+279
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 110.4 *+0.1* 30.1.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

TERMS	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.01 PCT
1 MONTH	4.04 PCT
3 MONTHS	4.03 PCT
6 MONTHS	4.06 PCT
12 MONTHS	4.66 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
22 MONTHS	2311	6.25	101.30	5.55

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 10,002 MN

CLOSED 30 JANUARY 1992

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