



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1994

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GOVERNOR CONCLUDES AUSTRALIAN VISIT

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (FRIDAY) CONCLUDED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A "VERY SUCCESSFUL" FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

SPEAKING AT THE END OF THE SIX-DAY VISIT, DURING WHICH HE WAS THE GUEST OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, MR PATTEN SAID HE HAD NO DOUBT THAT IT HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN BROADENING AND DEEPENING THE KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING ABOUT HONG KONG AND ITS FUTURE AT ALL LEVELS OF AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THERE WERE TWO OBJECTIVES TO THE VISIT.

THE FIRST WAS TO ENCOURAGE MORE AUSTRALIAN FIRMS TO USE HONG KONG AS A JUMPING-OFF BASE FOR CHINA AND THE REGION. THE SECOND WAS TO REASSURE AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO ENSURE THE RULE OF LAW IN HONG KONG.

"I WAS DELIGHTED BY THE ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE TO AND UNDERSTANDING OF THESE MESSAGES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK," MR PATTEN SAID.

"THERE WAS TREMENDOUS INTEREST AND THIS WAS REFLECTED IN THE PACKED HOUSES AT EACH OF THE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND FROM THE WIDE RANGE OF PEOPLE WITH WHOM I DISCUSSED THE ISSUES AT MY OTHER MEETINGS," HE ADDED.

DURING THE VISIT, MR PATTEN MADE FOUR MAJOR SPEECHES - TO THE ASIA-AUSTRALIA INSTITUTE AND THE HONG KONG AUSTRALIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION IN SYDNEY, THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB IN CANBERRA, AND THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTRALIA IN MELBOURNE.

HE VISITED A NUMBER OF HIGH-TECH FIRMS WITH SIGNIFICANT HONG KONG INTERESTS AND GAVE A SERIES OF MEDIA INTERVIEWS.

HE ALSO HAD MEETINGS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER, MR PAUL KEATING, THE FOREIGN MINISTER, SENATOR GARETH EVANS, OPPOSITION LEADERS AND STATE GOVERNMENT LEADERS IN NEW SOUTH WALES AND VICTORIA.

IN CANBERRA THE GOVERNOR ALSO HAD A MEETING WITH THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE.

MR PATTEN SAID WHILE HE HAD NOT COME TO AUSTRALIA TO "WIN SUPPORT" FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S POLITICAL REFORM PROPOSALS, HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE UNDERSTANDING SHOWN BY THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND ALL POLITICAL PARTIES.

HE NOTED THAT EVERY AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER THAT HAD CARRIED EDITORIALS ON HONG KONG HAD BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT POSITION.

IN MELBOURNE THIS MORNING, MR PATTEN VISITED DATACRAFT LTD, A LEADING SUPPLIER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND EQUIPMENT WHICH USES HONG KONG AS THE BASE FOR ITS SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS IN THE REGION.

/AFTER TOURING .....

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AFTER TOURING THE PREMISES, MR PATTEN WARMLY WELCOMED THE STATEMENT BY THE FIRM'S MANAGING DIRECTOR, MR WAYNE FITZSIMMONS, THAT THE COMPANY WAS IN HONG KONG "FOR THE LONG-HAUL".

AFTER GIVING HIS LUNCH TIME SPEECH TO THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTRALIA, WHICH ATTRACTED AN AUDIENCE OF MORE THAN 400, THE GOVERNOR WENT TO THE COMMONWEALTH SERUM LABORATORIES WHICH WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE RED CROSS IN HONG KONG IN THE SOPHISTICATED PROCESSING OF BLOOD PRODUCTS.

MR PATTEN WAS IMPRESSED BY THE NEW TECHNOLOGY EMPLOYED BY THE COMPANY WHICH, HE SAID, WAS AN INDICATION OF THE QUALITY OF THE MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDED IN HONG KONG.

THE GOVERNOR WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS VISIT BY MRS PATTEN, THE DEPUTY INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR, MR KERRY MCGLYNN, HIS DEPUTY PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR KIM SALKELD, AND HIS PERSONAL ADVISER, MR EDWARD LLEWELLYN.

MR PATTEN AND HIS PARTY WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

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U.S. BUSINESS MISSION TO HK AND CHINA

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, MR RODERICK RICHARDS, AND THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF BOYDEN METRO NEW YORK, MR PETER R SCHMIDT, WILL LEAD A DELEGATION OF SENIOR BUSINESS EXECUTIVES TO HONG KONG, SHENZHEN AND SHANGHAI IN MARCH.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE HONG KONG COMMISSIONER TO THE UNITED STATES, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, AT A CHINESE NEW YEAR RECEPTION AT THE ASIA SOCIETY IN NEW YORK ON THURSDAY (NY TIME).

THE RECEPTION WAS HOSTED BY THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE TO WELCOME THE YEAR OF THE DOG.

ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK, INC, THE 11-DAY MISSION WILL HIGHLIGHT BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG AND IN CHINA.

THE ASSOCIATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION SET UP TO PROMOTE BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC TIES AND FOSTER MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND HONG KONG.

ENTITLED "DOING BUSINESS WITH CHINA THROUGH HONG KONG", THE MISSION, FROM MARCH 24 TO APRIL 3, IS SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE, AMERICAN EXPRESS, BOYDEN METRO NEW YORK, CATHAY PACIFIC AIRLINES, DELOITTE AND TOUCHE, THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND THE HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

"WITH THE DAWNING OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC CENTURY, WELL ILLUSTRATED RECENTLY IN SEATTLE," MR WIGGHAM TOLD SOME 400 BUSINESS AND CIVIC LEADERS ATTENDING THE ANNUAL RECEPTION, "HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES STAND AS TWO GATEWAYS IN THE FUTURE."

/"I AM .....

"I AM GLAD THAT THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION IN NEW YORK SHARES A SIMILAR INSIGHT AND HAS ORGANISED ITS FIRST-EVER MISSION TO HONG KONG AND CHINA THIS MARCH, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO HONG KONG AS A GATEWAY INTO CHINA.

"I WISH THE MISSION EVERY SUCCESS AND WISH THE ASSOCIATION WELL ALSO IN CONTINUING ITS GOOD WORK IN PROMOTING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF HONG KONG IN THE UNITED STATES," HE SAID.

MR SCHMIDT SAID THIS WAS A HANDS-ON TRIP, NOT JUST ANOTHER FACT-FINDING TOUR. HE IS A BOARD MEMBER OF BOYDEN WORLD CORP, AN EXECUTIVE SEARCH FIRM.

THE DELEGATION IS MADE UP OF SENIOR U.S. BUSINESS EXECUTIVES, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES FROM THE NEW YORK OFFICES OF HONG KONG CORPORATIONS.

IT WILL MEET AND DISCUSS ISSUES OF INTEREST WITH GOVERNMENT, COMMUNITY, POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS.

THE DELEGATION WILL ALSO VISIT PROMINENT CORPORATIONS, FACTORIES AND KEY FINANCIAL AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS.

MR SCHMIDT ADDED THAT PARTICIPANTS WOULD RECEIVE BRIEFINGS ON POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN THE REGION.

"MANY OF THE PARTICIPANTS ALREADY HAVE A GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF HONG KONG. THIS VISIT WILL GIVE THEM AN IN-DEPTH, UP-TO-DATE UNDERSTANDING OF HOW GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR INTERACT IN THESE CITIES TO FACILITATE BUSINESS."

MR WIGGHAM ALSO PRESENTED A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION TO MR RICHARDS AND MR SCHMIDT.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN NEW YORK, MR ALEX FONG, SAID CHINESE NEW YEAR WAS THE TIME TO TALK ABOUT FORTUNE. HE WISHED MEMBERS OF THE UPCOMING MISSION "GOOD FORTUNE".

MR FONG NOTED THAT THE MISSION WAS THE FIRST OF MANY EVENTS THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WAS PLANNING THIS YEAR IN THE UNITED STATES.

OTHERS INCLUDE THE FOURTH ANNUAL HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL THIS SUMMER AND A MULTI-CITY HONG KONG PROMOTION TO BE HELD IN AUTUMN.

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DB CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARY MAPS NOW AVAILABLE

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STATUTORY MAPS SHOWING THE DISTRICT BOARD CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES FOR THE 1994 ELECTIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

COPIES HAVE BEEN PLACED AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES; HEADQUARTERS OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AT SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 30TH FLOOR, WAN CHAI; THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE AT HARBOUR CENTRE, 10TH FLOOR, WAN CHAI; AND THE MARKETING DIVISION OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, CENTRAL.

/THE DECLARATION .....

THE DECLARATION OF DISTRICTS ORDER 1994 MADE BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARDS ORDINANCE AND THE DECLARATION OF CONSTITUENCIES (DISTRICTS) ORDER 1994 UNDER THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS ORDINANCE WERE GAZETTED TODAY.

THEY WILL BE TABLED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT WEDNESDAY.

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ISLAND FOR CONVENTION CENTRE EXTENSION

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS AUTHORISED THE GOVERNMENT TO RECLAIM 6.5 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED FOR THE FORMATION OF AN ISLAND TO BE LINKED BY TWO BRIDGES TO THE EXISTING SEAFRONT OF THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

THE ISLAND IS REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN EXTENSION TO THE HONG KONG CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE. THE EXTENSION IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED BY 1997.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE WORKS MAY WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS TO CLAIM COMPENSATION WITHIN ONE YEAR FROM NOW.

HE SHOULD STATE IN HIS SUBMISSION THE SUM OF MONEY THAT HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IN FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS CLAIM AND SUBMIT THE PARTICULARS TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM.

THE NOTICE AND THE RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

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CONTROL OF LIFT SAFETY STRENGTHENED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO STRENGTHEN AND RATIONALISE CONTROL ON THE SAFETY OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE BUILDING (CONSTRUCTION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1994 AND THE BUILDING (PLANNING) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1994 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY) SET OUT THE BUILDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS IN BUILDINGS.

THIS FOLLOWED THE ENACTMENT ON JUNE 9 LAST YEAR OF THE BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1993 AND THE LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1993 WHICH MADE THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES THE SOLE AUTHORITY FOR ALL STATUTORY CONTROLS ON MATTERS RELATED TO THE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS.

A CODE OF PRACTICE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TO EXPLAIN THE DETAILED STANDARDS OF BUILDING REQUIREMENTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE BUILDING REGULATIONS.

ANOTHER CODE OF PRACTICE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO SPECIFY THE DETAILED TECHNICAL STANDARDS ON THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF LIFTS AND ESCALATORS.

THE PUBLICATION IS NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE AMENDED REGULATIONS WILL TAKE EFFECT ON MARCH 18 THIS YEAR.

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COMPREHENSIVE CONTROL OF AMUSEMENT RIDES PROPOSED

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THE AMUSEMENT RIDES (SAFETY) BILL PROPOSING TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE CONTROL OVER THE DESIGN, INSTALLATION, EXAMINATION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AMUSEMENT RIDES WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MARCH 9.

SUCH POWER-DRIVEN DEVICES RANGE FROM LARGE AND SOPHISTICATED RIDES IN OCEAN PARK TO SMALL AND LOW-POWERED KIDDIE RIDES DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR CHILDREN.

AT PRESENT, THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES (DEMS) ENFORCED SAFETY REQUIREMENTS OVER THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF AMUSEMENT RIDES THROUGH CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THE PERMIT ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING (CTEL) UNDER THE PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT ORDINANCE (PPEO).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID THIS ARRANGEMENT WAS CONSIDERED OUTDATED AND INAPPROPRIATE AS THE PERMIT ISSUED BY CTET WAS INTENDED FOR THE REGULATION OF THE CONTENT OF ENTERTAINMENT.

IN ADDITION, THERE IS A SEPARATE PROPOSAL TO ABOLISH COMPLETELY THE PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT SYSTEM, HE SAID.

THUS THE BILL IS NEEDED TO PUT IN PLACE PROPER LEGAL CONTROL OVER THE SAFETY OF AMUSEMENT RIDES, HE ADDED.

UNDER THE BILL, AMUSEMENT RIDES OWNERS WILL NEED TO OBTAIN PRIOR APPROVAL FROM DEMS COVERING THE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF AMUSEMENT RIDES AND THE QUALIFICATION OF PERSONS IN CHARGE OF THE RIDES.

THERE WILL ALSO BE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND ALTERATION OF AMUSEMENT RIDES.

"DEMS OR A PUBLIC OFFICER AUTHORISED BY HIM IS EMPOWERED TO ENTER PLACES TO INSPECT THE INSTALLATION AND IN GENERAL TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF AMUSEMENT RIDES. DEMS, OR ANY POLICE OFFICER, CAN ALSO REQUIRE THE CLOSURE OF A RIDE FOR SAFETY REASONS.

"THE OWNERS OF SUCH RIDES ARE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN AMUSEMENT RIDES IN A SAFE CONDITION AND TO CARRY OUT REPAIRS OR ALTERATIONS SPECIFIED BY DEMS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

REGARDING APPEALS AGAINST DECISIONS OF DEMS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE BILL PROVIDED THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE WITH POWERS TO APPOINT AN APPEAL BOARD TO HEAR APPEALS.

DEMS WOULD ISSUE CODES OF PRACTICE TO PROVIDE PRACTICAL GUIDANCE TO OPERATORS OF AMUSEMENT RIDES.

THE PPEO WILL BE AMENDED CONSEQUENTIALLY TO EXEMPT OWNERS OF AMUSEMENT RIDES FROM THE REQUIREMENT TO OBTAIN A PERMIT UNDER THE PPEO, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UPON ENACTMENT OF THE BILL, THE AMUSEMENT RIDES (SAFETY) (FEES) REGULATION SPECIFYING THE FEES PAYABLE UNDER THE BILL WOULD BE MADE BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WHILE THE AMUSEMENT RIDES (SAFETY) (OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE) REGULATION WOULD BE MADE BY THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE.

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UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FIGURES  
FOR OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1993

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THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR OCTOBER - DECEMBER LAST YEAR WAS 2.0%, AND THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.5%, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 1993 - JANUARY 1994 WAS 2.0%, WHILE THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.6%.

THE LATEST FIGURES SUGGEST THAT THE LABOUR MARKET REMAINED TIGHT IN RECENT MONTHS.

DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1993, THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS, ADJUSTED FOR VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS, WAS ESTIMATED AT 57,200, WHILE THE NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS WAS ESTIMATED AT 43,600.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1993 COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 11,900 HOUSEHOLDS OR 40,800 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

RELEVANT DATA WAS OBTAINED BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1993 WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE BY THE END OF NEXT MONTH AT \$23.50 A COPY.

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#### ORDERS-ON-HAND OF MANUFACTURERS IN DECEMBER

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THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND FOR THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURERS DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 2% IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR OVER A YEAR EARLIER, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A MONTHLY SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS THAT MANUFACTURERS WILL REQUIRE TO COMPLETE THE ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1992, THE ORDERS POSITION IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY BY 12%. A DECREASE OF 1% WAS ALSO RECORDED IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, ORDERS IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY AND THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE. THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 1%.

COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH, ORDERS FOR ALL THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REMAINED VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

ORDERS POSITION INCREASED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY (9%), THE TEXTILES INDUSTRY (3%) AND THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY (2%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, ORDERS IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 3% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY.

THE MONTHLY SURVEY OF ORDERS-ON-HAND COVERS A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURERS CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT AS THE SURVEY SAMPLE COVERED ONLY THE LARGE COMPANIES, THE SURVEY RESULTS MIGHT NOT BE FULLY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE GENERAL SITUATION OF THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

NEVERTHELESS, THE RESULTS SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF SHORT-TERM DEVELOPMENTS IN THIS SECTOR, HE SAID.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1993, AT \$5.50 A COPY, IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SECTION, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND:

ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	AS AT THE END OF	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
	DECEMBER 1993	NOVEMBER 1993	DECEMBER 1992
	(MONTHS)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED	4.40	*	-2
WEARING APPAREL	4.75	+2	*
TEXTILES	2.18	+3	*
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	2.87	+9	+1
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.10	-3	-12
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.69	-2	-1
OTHERS	3.82	*	-3

\* CHANGES WITHIN +/- 0.5%

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TENDERS INVITED FOR TSEUNG KWAN O DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

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THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S NEW TERRITORIES EAST DEVELOPMENT OFFICE IS INVITING TENDERS FOR RECLAMATION, DRAINAGE AND SEAWALL WORKS IN TSEUNG KWAN O.

THE WORKS FORM PART OF THE ONGOING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF THE NEW TOWN.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA LTD, 4 FUNG WO LANE, WO CHE, SHA TIN.

THE WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN MAY AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 30 MONTHS.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON MARCH 18.

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ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES)  
(EXEMPTION) (AMENDMENT) ORDER

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THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) (EXEMPTION) ORDER IS AMENDED TODAY (FRIDAY) TO INCLUDE ON THE EXEMPTION LIST SOME PLANTS FROM LICENSING REQUIREMENT FOR POSSESSION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE AMENDMENT ORDER PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY EXEMPTS THE POSSESSION OF AIR PLANTS, VENUS FLY-TRAP, AFRICAN TEAK AND MEXICAN MAHOGANY FROM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

"HOWEVER, LICENCE IS STILL REQUIRED FOR THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF THESE PLANTS."

FOR ENQUIRIES, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN CALL THE CONSERVATION SECTION OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ON TEL 733 2282.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADING WORKS

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PHASE I UPGRADING WORKS OF THE SAI KUNG SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT.

THE PROJECT INVOLVES MODIFICATION OF THE EXISTING AERATION TANKS, AND OTHER MINOR WORKS.

THE WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN IN MAY FOR COMPLETION IN 13 MONTHS.

A NOTICE OF THE TENDER INVITATION WAS GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER, NEW WORKS DIVISION, DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 44TH FLOOR, REVENUE TOWER, 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.

THE TENDER CLOSING DATE IS NOON ON MARCH 11.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR SPORTSGROUND IMPROVEMENT

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR IMPROVEMENT TO THE 2.34-HECTARE TANG SHIU KIN SPORTSGROUND IN TUEN MUN.

WORKS INCLUDE CONSTRUCTING A COVERED SPECTATOR STAND WITH A CAPACITY OF 1,250 PERSONS, RELAYING THE RUNNING TRACK AND ATHLETIC GROUND, IMPROVING THE LIGHTING AND PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEMS, CONSTRUCTING SWITCH ROOMS AND STORES AS WELL AS OTHER MINOR IMPROVEMENT WORKS.

THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO START IN MAY FOR COMPLETION IN MARCH NEXT YEAR.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFERS WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON MARCH 11.

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AIR CREWMEN WIN QUEEN'S AWARDS

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FIVE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT FLYING SERVICE HAVE BEEN HONOURED WITH THE AWARDS OF THE QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR THEIR BRAVERY IN A RESCUE OPERATION INVOLVING A CARGO VESSEL OFF HONG KONG LAST JUNE.

THEY ARE ACTING SENIOR PILOT MICHAEL ELLIS, SENIOR AIR CREWMAN GERMAN TSOI, AIR CREWMAN OFFICER JIMMY CHOI, AND AIR CREWMEN RAYMOND CHANG AND MASON NG, ALL BASED AT HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

THE AWARDS OF THE QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR VALUABLE SERVICE IN THE AIR WERE ANNOUNCED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SEA DISASTER OCCURRED SHORTLY BEFORE NOON ON JUNE 27 LAST YEAR.

A MESSAGE ABOUT A SINGAPOREAN VESSEL "LIAN GANG" SINKING IN ROARING SEAS NEAR THE EYE OF TYPHOON KORYN, 70 NAUTICAL MILES OFF HONG KONG WAS RELAYED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S RESCUE CO-ORDINATION CENTRE.

THE DISTRESS CALL NOTED THAT THERE WERE 26 PEOPLE ON BOARD WHO NEEDED URGENT HELP.

UNDER BAD WEATHER CONDITIONS, HELICOPTERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT FLYING SERVICE AND ROYAL AIR FORCE IMMEDIATELY FLEW TO THE SCENE.

BRAVING STRONG WINDS AND CHOPPY SEAS, THE AIR CREWMEN MANAGED TO WINCH FIVE SURVIVORS TO SAFETY. THE REMAINDER WERE RESCUED BY NEARBY SHIPS AND THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.

IN THE OPERATION, 22 OF THOSE ON BOARD WERE RESCUED. TWO BODIES WERE RECOVERED AND TWO POSTED MISSING.

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103 CAUGHT IN OPERATION AGAINST ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

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A 24-HOUR OPERATION AGAINST ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION JOINTLY MOUNTED BY THE POLICE, THE LABOUR AND IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENTS ACROSS THE TERRITORY HAS RESULTED IN THE ARRESTS OF 103 PERSONS.

THE OPERATION WAS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ONGOING EFFORT TO FLUSH OUT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

THE 88 PERSONS ARRESTED BY THE POLICE HAD BEEN REFERRED TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT. THOSE FOUND TO BE ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WILL BE REPATRIATED.

THE OTHER 15 PERSONS WERE ARRESTED BY IMMIGRATION INVESTIGATORS.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REITERATED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ANY AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

"OUR LATEST OPERATION SHOULD DRIVE HOME THE POINT THAT THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE TO THIS POLICY. ANYONE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO BELIEVE OTHERWISE IS ONLY CHEATING HIMSELF," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID APART FROM CONTINUOUS CHECKS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY, THERE WAS NO LET-UP IN ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION EFFORTS AT THE BORDER.

"A HIGH STATE OF VIGILANCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE MAINTAINED BY THE POLICE AND THE SECURITY FORCES BOTH AT THE LAND AND SEA BORDERS," HE SAID.

DURING THE JOINT OPERATION, WHICH BEGAN AT 5 AM YESTERDAY (THURSDAY) AND ENDED AT 5 AM THIS MORNING, THE POLICE HAD STEPPED UP THEIR IDENTIFICATION SPOT CHECKS IN PUBLIC PLACES AND CARRIED OUT CHECKS AT SUSPICIOUS LOCATIONS.

AS A RESULT, A TOTAL OF 17,930 PERSONS, 2,428 VEHICLES AND 402 VESSELS WERE STOPPED FOR IDENTIFICATION CHECKS.

ON THE LABOUR FRONT, INSPECTORS OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT VISITED 2,171 ESTABLISHMENTS TO WEED OUT ANY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS WHO MAY BE WORKING, AND TO CHECK THAT EMPLOYERS FULFIL THEIR LEGAL OBLIGATION OF KEEPING PROPER RECORDS OF THEIR EMPLOYEES.

A TOTAL OF 2,802 EMPLOYEES HAD THEIR PROOF OF IDENTITY CHECKED DURING THE OPERATION.

TEN ESTABLISHMENTS WERE FOUND NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE A RECORD OF EMPLOYEES FOR INSPECTION.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THEY COULD BE FINED UP TO \$250,000 AND JAILED FOR UP TO THREE YEARS IF THEY WERE FOUND TO BE EMPLOYING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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#### TWO OFFICES SUSPEND RE-ENTRY PERMIT SERVICES

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT ITS WEST KOWLOON OFFICE AND FANLING OFFICE WOULD SUSPEND RE-ENTRY PERMIT SERVICES FROM MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21).

OTHER TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE TWO OFFICES REMAIN UNCHANGED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY VISIT THE FOLLOWING IMMIGRATION BRANCH OFFICES FOR RE-ENTRY PERMIT SERVICES:

- \* HONG KONG ISLAND RE-ENTRY PERMIT AND PASSPORT ISSUING OFFICE
- \* EAST KOWLOON OFFICE

- \* SHA TIN OFFICE
- \* TAI PO OFFICE
- \* TSUEN WAN OFFICE
- \* TUEN MUN OFFICE
- \* YUEN LONG OFFICE

FOR ENQUIRIES, MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY CALL 824 6111.

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FIGHT CRIME CONCERT IN KOWLOON CITY

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RESIDENTS OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND A FIGHT CRIME CONCERT AT THE MUSIC FOUNTAIN, WHAMPOA GARDEN TOMORROW (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON.

POP SINGERS WILL PERFORM SONGS WITH CRIME PREVENTION THEMES. ADMISSION IS FREE.

ELEVEN LOCAL RESIDENTS WILL BE COMMENDED FOR HELPING THE POLICE CRACK DOWN ON CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.

THE EVENT IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME CONCERT WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM AT THE MUSIC FOUNTAIN, HONG KONG PLAZA, WHAMPOA GARDEN TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM YAP; THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT POLICE COMMANDER, MR K G WALLIS; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR TAM WING-KUN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE EVENT.

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LONG SERVICE CERTIFICATES TO 208 WELFARE STAFF

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A TOTAL OF 208 STAFF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) RECEIVED FROM THEIR DIRECTOR, MR IAN STRACHAN, LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATES.

THE RECIPIENTS HAVE BEEN IN THE SERVICE FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS.

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE CERTIFICATES, MR STRACHAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD ORGANISED GROUP PRESENTATION SINCE 1989 IN APPRECIATION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF ITS STAFF.

"IT IS VALUABLE TO WORK IN A DEPARTMENT OF THIS SIZE, WITH DEDICATED STAFF, ESPECIALLY THE PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS AND OFFICERS FROM THE SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD, DOING THEIR JOBS SO EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY," MR STRACHAN NOTED.

HE STRESSED THAT THE DEPARTMENT AIMED TO PROVIDE A QUALITY AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO CLIENTS.

LATER THIS YEAR SWD WOULD COME UP WITH ITS PERFORMANCE PLEDGES TO SET OUT THE STANDARDS OF SERVICE, HE ADDED.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
\* \* \* \* \*

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,020
REVERSAL OF LAF	+980
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	3,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-740
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,260
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 125.7 *+0.1* 18.2.94

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.85	18 MONTHS	2508	4.625	100.44	4.37
1 MONTH	3.00	21 MONTHS	2511	4.15	99.42	4.54
3 MONTHS	3.23	24 MONTHS	2602	4.40	99.53	4.70
6 MONTHS	3.52	32 MONTHS	3610	4.20	98.15	5.00
12 MONTHS	3.94	35 MONTHS	3701	4.60	98.94	5.05

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 33,773 MN

CLOSED 18 FEBRUARY 1994

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