



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, JULY 1, 1991

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MONDAY, JULY 1, 1991

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TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL IS A KEY PART OF ROAD NETWORK: GOVERNOR

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THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, THE LONGEST ROAD TUNNEL IN HONG KONG, IS SET TO BECOME A KEY PART OF HONG KONG'S EXPANDING ROAD NETWORK, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, SIR DAVID SAID THE TUNNEL, COMPLETED AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, WAS THE LAST LINK IN A CHAIN OF IMPRESSIVE PROJECTS, STRETCHING FROM HONG KONG ISLAND TO THE NORTHERN NEW TERRITORIES.

THE CHAIN INCLUDED THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING, THE KWUN TONG BY-PASS, THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL, A NEW BRIDGE ACROSS THE SHING MUN RIVER, AND THE TOLO HIGHWAY, HE ADDED.

"TOGETHER, THEY FORM A MAJOR NEW ROUTE ACROSS THE TERRITORY," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE TUNNEL WAS A REMARKABLE PIECE OF ENGINEERING WHICH INVOLVED A GOOD DEAL OF FAITH IN THE PROCESS: FAITH IN MODERN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY, FAITH IN BEING ABLE TO MEET A TIGHT CONSTRUCTION TIMETABLE, AND FAITH IN THE TUNNEL'S LONG-TERM FINANCIAL VIABILITY.

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HK HAS ENTERED AN EXCITING TIME IN BROADCASTING : CS

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THE INTRODUCTION OF NICAM HAS COME AT AN EXCITING TIME IN HONG KONG'S BROADCASTING INDUSTRY, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE INAUGURATION CEREMONY OF TVB'S NEW MULTICHANNEL SOUND TV BROADCAST SERVICE, SIR DAVID SAID LATER THIS MONTH, A SECOND COMMERCIAL RADIO STATION WOULD JOIN THE FAMILY OF TV AND RADIO STATIONS TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY.

THIS WAS IN ADDITION TO LOCALLY ORIGINATED SATELLITE TV SERVICE WHICH WAS LAUNCHED IN APRIL THIS YEAR. THIS SERVICE, ACCORDING TO SIR DAVID, WOULD BE RECEIVABLE NOT ONLY IN HONG KONG BUT ALSO IN MANY PARTS OF ASIA.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THE NEW NICAM SERVICE WOULD PROVIDE THE VIEWER WITH EXCELLENT, HIGH FIDELITY STEREO SOUND AND THE CHOICE OF UP TO THREE LANGUAGES ON A MULTI-LINGUAL PROGRAMME.

"NICAM HERALDS A NEW ERA OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY BROADCASTING IN HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID THIS SYSTEM OF STEREO SOUND TELEVISION BROADCASTING HAD BEEN IN USE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR JUST OVER A YEAR.

/HE CONGRATULATED

HE CONGRATULATED TVB FOR ADAPTING THE NICAM TECHNOLOGY FOR USE IN HONG KONG, ADDING THAT THE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT HAD BEEN DONE OVER SOME SIX YEARS.

"OUR BROAD POLICY OBJECTIVE REMAINS THAT HONG KONG SHOULD TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITIES TO INTRODUCE NEW TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE THE STANDARD OF OUR BROADCASTING SERVICES AND TO PROVIDE VIEWERS AND LISTENERS WITH THE WIDEST POSSIBLE CHOICE OF HIGH QUALITY PROGRAMMES.

TODAY'S CEREMONY, SIR DAVID SAID, MARKED ANOTHER MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF TELEVISION SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

HE COMMENDED TVB FOR ITS EFFORTS IN THE PAST 24 YEARS TO STAY IN THE FOREFRONT IN THE PRODUCTION OF QUALITY PROGRAMMES WHICH MET THE INFORMATION, EDUCATIONAL AND ENTERTAINMENT NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

HE SAID TVB HAD DONE EQUALLY WELL IN THE DEVELOPMENT OR INTRODUCTION OF NEW BROADCASTING TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF RECEPTION OF THEIR PROGRAMMES.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RETAIL SALES SURVEY FOR APRIL RELEASED

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ACCORDING TO PROVISIONAL SURVEY RESULTS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY), THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN APRIL 1991, ESTIMATED AT \$9,979.5 MILLION, INCREASED BY 13.6% WHEN COMPARED WITH APRIL 1990, WHILE THEIR VOLUME INCREASED BY 6.6%.

CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES REFER TO CHANGES IN THE VALUES OF RETAIL SALES AFTER DISCOUNTING ESTIMATED CHANGES IN PRICES. THE INDICATORS OF PRICE CHANGES USED FOR THE PURPOSE ARE THE RESPECTIVE COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX WHICH CORRESPOND TO THE BROAD CATEGORY OF GOODS IN QUESTION.

FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE 1989/90 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY, THE RETAIL SALES INDEX SERIES HAS BEEN REBASED STARTING FROM APRIL 1991. THE NEW BASE PERIOD IS OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 (MONTHLY AVERAGE IN THE PERIOD TAKEN AS 100). THE REBASING IS TO SYNCHRONISE WITH THE REBASING OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, WHICH HAS JUST TAKEN PLACE.

THE TRADE DESCRIPTION OF THE INDEXES HAS ALSO BEEN REVISED TO BETTER REFLECT THAT THE INDEX FIGURES ARE CLASSIFIED BY RETAIL OUTLETS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPAL LINE OF PRODUCTS SOLD (PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS THE MAJOR TRADE GROUPS AND SELECTED TRADES).

THE PRESENTATION HAS ALSO BEEN EXPANDED TO COVER INDEXES FOR OTHER RETAIL OUTLETS NOT SEPARATELY PUBLISHED PREVIOUSLY.

MOREOVER, THE CLASSIFICATION OF RETAIL OUTLETS HAS BEEN REVISED ACCORDING TO THE NEW HONG KONG STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (HSIC), BUT THE REVISED CLASSIFICATION HAS ONLY HAD A NEGLIGIBLE EFFECT ON THE COVERAGE OF THE RETAIL OUTLETS.

ANALYSED BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET, SALES OF RETAIL OUTLETS FOR FUELS INCREASED BY 28.5% IN VALUE AND 11.1% IN VOLUME IN APRIL 1991 COMPARED WITH APRIL 1990.

SALES OF RETAIL OUTLETS FOR CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS ROSE BY 24.6% IN VALUE AND 18.3% IN VOLUME. WITHIN THIS GROUP, SALES OF DEALERS IN MOTOR VEHICLES AND PARTS INCREASED BY 13.9% IN VALUE AND 5.0% IN VOLUME, WHILE SALES OF RETAIL OUTLETS FOR OTHER CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS ROSE BY 32.7% IN VALUE AND 28.1% IN VOLUME.

SALES OF RETAIL OUTLETS FOR FOODSTUFFS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (OTHER THAN SUPERMARKETS) INCREASED BY 22.7% IN VALUE AND 10.2% IN VOLUME.

SALES OF RETAIL OUTLETS FOR JEWELLERY, WATCHES AND CLOCKS, AND VALUABLE GIFT WENT UP BY 14.3% IN VALUE AND 11.3% IN VOLUME.

SUPERMARKET SALES INCREASED BY 13.8% IN VALUE AND BY 3.3% IN VOLUME.

AS REGARDS RETAIL OUTLETS FOR CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS, SALES WENT UP BY 12.0% IN VALUE AND 5.5% IN VOLUME.

SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES INCREASED BY 6.5% IN VALUE AND 1.1% IN VOLUME.

SALES OF THE RETAIL OUTLETS FOR OTHER CONSUMER GOODS NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED, HOWEVER, DROPPED BY 2.7% IN VALUE AND 6.7% IN VOLUME.

COMPARING THE PERIOD JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, TOTAL RETAIL SALES ROSE BY 10.2% IN VALUE AND 3.1% IN VOLUME.

COMPARING WITH MARCH 1991, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES FOR APRIL 1991 DECREASED BY 0.4% IN VALUE AND 1.5% IN VOLUME.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR MARCH 1991 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR APRIL 1991.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN MARCH AND APRIL 1991 FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS AND BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET, WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF APRIL 1991 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR MARCH 1991 AND WITH THOSE FOR APRIL 1990, AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE APRIL 1991 RESULTS, A TABLE PRESENTING THE TOTAL RETAIL SALES AND THE NEW RETAIL SALES INDEX SERIES FROM 1986 TO APRIL 1991, AND A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE REBASING AND OTHER CHANGES, IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 802 1258).

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/TABLE 1 :

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for April 1991 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$ 9,979.5 million
 for March 1991 (Revised Figure) = HK\$10,016.3 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES FOR MARCH 1991 AND APRIL 1991

(Monthly average of Oct. 89 - Sept. 90 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	March	April	April 1991 compared with March 1991		April 1991 compared with April 1990		Jan.-Apr. 1991 compared with Jan.-Apr. 1990	
		1991	1991	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
(A) FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS									
	Value	106.7	106.3	-0.4	-0.4	+12.8	+13.6	+10.1	+10.2
	Volume	100.3	98.9	-1.5	-1.5	+6.1	+6.6	+2.7	+3.1
(B) BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco (other than supermarkets)	Value	107.3	106.1	-1.2	-1.1	+19.6	+22.7	+17.7	+13.1
	Volume	97.9	95.2	-2.7	-2.8	+8.8	+10.2	+4.5	+4.0
Supermarkets	Value	113.4	105.6	-7.8	-6.8	+12.8	+13.8	+13.3	+13.8
	Volume	102.3	94.7	-7.6	-7.4	+3.1	+3.3	+2.4	+2.9
Fuels	Value	123.8	117.6	-6.2	-5.0	+26.1	+28.5	+14.2	+30.8
	Volume	102.2	98.8	-3.4	-3.4	+9.8	+11.1	+5.1	+11.3
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	100.5	111.6	+11.2	+11.1	+12.0	+12.0	+11.4	+10.8
	Volume	98.1	103.0	+5.0	+5.1	+5.4	+5.5	+2.9	+3.3
Consumer durable goods*	Value	107.8	111.0	+3.2	+3.0	+21.9	+24.6	+7.3	+7.5
	Volume	101.9	104.9	+3.0	+2.9	+16.2	+18.3	+2.6	+3.1
- Motor vehicles and parts	Value	105.0	103.4	-1.6	-1.6	+12.6	+13.9	-4.0	-4.2
	Volume	96.8	94.2	-2.6	-2.6	+4.5	+5.0	-7.3	-9.3
- Consumer durable goods other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	109.9	116.6	+6.7	+6.1	+28.7	+32.7	+15.5	+15.8
	Volume	105.6	112.6	+7.0	+6.6	+24.7	+28.1	+9.9	+11.1
Department stores	Value	91.0	93.2	+2.2	+2.4	+5.7	+6.5	+3.7	+3.6
	Volume	87.9	87.2	-0.7	-0.8	+1.0	+1.1	-2.2	-2.6
Jewellery, watches and clocks, and valuable gift	Value	109.3	104.1	-5.1	-4.7	+13.0	+14.3	+5.9	+12.4
	Volume	105.2	101.2	-4.0	-3.8	+10.3	+11.3	+4.4	+9.3
Other consumer goods not elsewhere classified	Value	112.6	108.7	-3.9	-3.5	-3.1	-2.7	-2.7	-4.6
	Volume	108.4	104.0	-4.3	-4.0	-7.5	-6.7	-4.6	-8.0

NOTE : * This covers both "Motor vehicles and parts" and "Consumer durable goods other than motor vehicles and parts".

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1991 VOTER REGISTRATION CLOSES

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AT THE CLOSE OF THE FINAL DAY OF THE VOTER REGISTRATION PERIOD FOR THE 1991 ELECTIONS TODAY (MONDAY), THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL OFFICE RELEASED THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION FIGURES:-

PERIOD -----	GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCY -----	FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY -----
UP TO MAY 6 *	19,800	5,333
BETWEEN MAY 7 ** AND JULY 1	82,273	8,949

* APPLICATIONS ALREADY ACCOUNTED FOR IN THE PROVISIONAL REGISTER PUBLISHED ON JUNE 21

** APPLICATIONS FOR INCORPORATION IN THE FINAL REGISTER TO BE PUBLISHED ON JULY 26

IN THE LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD, 82,273 APPLICATIONS FOR THE GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED.

ON THE BASIS THAT THERE WILL BE A NET INTAKE OF 60% WHILE THE OTHER APPLICATIONS BEING DUPLICATIONS OR CHANGES OF PARTICULARS, THE FINAL REGISTRATION FIGURE MAY REACH 1,870,000, REPRESENTING A SLIGHT INCREASE OF 15,000 OVER THE 1990 REGISTERED ELECTORATE AND A RETURN TO THE REGISTRATION RATE OF 50%.

A TOTAL OF 8,949 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FOR THE LEGCO ELECTORAL ROLL FOR FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES DURING THE LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD. AFTER TAKING OUT LIKELY DUPLICATIONS, THE OVERALL REGISTRATION RATE FOR THE FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES MAY REACH 65%.

THE REGISTRATION OFFICER, MR K.T. LAI, SAID A HEALTHY RESPONSE WAS REGISTERED FOR THE SEVEN NEW FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES DURING THE LATE REGISTRATION PERIOD.

	POTENTIAL ELECTORATE -----	TOTAL APPLICATIONS RECEIVED -----
FINANCIAL SERVICES	1,200	740
TOURISM	1,204	951
REAL ESTATE AND CONSTRUCTION	579	391

/ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING

ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING & PLANNING	1,945	661 *
URBAN COUNCIL	40	40
REGIONAL COUNCIL	36	36
RURAL	146	108

* IN ADDITION TO THE 904 ELECTORS TRANSFERRED FROM THE EXISTING ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURAL, SURVEYING AND PLANNING FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCY.

FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES
Voter Registration Statistics

Functional Constituency	Electoral Division	Applications received up to 6 May	Applications received between 7 May and 1 July	Total Applications received
Commercial	First Commercial	185	521	706
Commercial	Second Commercial	127	105	232
Industrial	First Industrial	36	29	65
Industrial	Second Industrial	33	73	106
Finance & Financial Services	Finance	57	89	126
	Financial Services	230	510	740
Labour	-	15	25	40
Social Services	-	7	12	19
Tourism	-	589	362	951
Real Estate & Construction	-	104	287	391
Medical & Health Care	Medical	291	579	870
Medical & Health Care	Health Care	252	697	949
Teaching	-	2,417	4,120	6,537
Legal	-	109	90	199
Engineering, Architectural Surveying & Planning	Engineering	203	613	816
	Architectural, Surveying & Planning	175	486	661
Accountancy	-	502	188	690
Urban Council	-	0	40	40
Regional Council	-	1	35	36
Rural	-	0	108	108
Functional Constituency Total		5,333	8,949	14,282

Registration & Electoral Office
Government Secretariat
1 July 1991

**General Electoral Roll
Voter Registration Statistics**

District	Applications received up to 6 May	Applications received between 7 May and 1 July	Total Applications received
Islands	229	1,175	1,404
North	271	1,048	1,319
Sai Kung	1,161	2,959	4,120
Sha Tin	1,792	4,965	6,757
Tai Po	695	3,152	3,847
Tsuen Wan	736	2,837	3,573
Tuen Mun	1,066	7,519	8,585
Yuen Long	895	6,459	7,354
Kwai Tsing	1,067	6,376	7,443
RC Area Sub-total	7,912	36,490	44,402
Central & Western	1,339	2,324	3,663
Wan Chai	501	1,528	2,029
Eastern	1,849	8,546	10,395
Southern	1,222	3,232	4,454
Kowloon City	1,144	3,385	4,529
Kwun Tong	1,939	7,753	9,692
Mong Kok	414	916	1,330
Sham Shui Po	1,073	5,978	7,051
Wong Tai Sin	2,048	3,335	5,383
Yau Tsim	359	419	778
UC Area Sub-total	11,888	37,416	49,304
		+ 8,367*	+ 8,367*
Grand Total	19,800	82,273	102,073

* not yet entered by Districts

LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE BECOMES EFFECTIVE

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THE LIMITATION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1991 WHICH CHANGES THE TIME PERIODS WITHIN WHICH CERTAIN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IN RELATION TO CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES CAN BE BROUGHT HAS COME INTO EFFECT TODAY (MONDAY).

THE ORDINANCE ALSO UPDATES THE LAW IN THAT AREA WHERE THERE HAS BEEN FRAUD OR DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT OF FACTS BY A PARTY TO AN ACTION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINS THAT THE NEWLY EFFECTIVE ORDINANCE:

- * MAKES PROVISION FOR EXTENDING THE TIME LIMIT IN WHICH TO BRING AN ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE NOT INVOLVING PERSONAL INJURIES IN CASES WHERE THE DAMAGE DOES NOT BECOME APPARENT UNTIL SOMETIME AFTER IT OCCURS;
- * REDUCES FROM 20 YEARS TO 12 YEARS, THE PERIOD WITHIN WHICH IT IS POSSIBLE TO BRING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS TO RECOVER LAND AND OTHER INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY; AND
- * MODERNISES STATUTORY PROVISIONS WHICH DISAPPLY TIME LIMITS FOR STARTING AN ACTION WHERE THERE HAS BEEN FRAUD, DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT OR MISTAKE.

THE ORDINANCE WAS PASSED IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 8 THIS YEAR.

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LEGCO TO CONSIDER 11 BILLS ON WEDNESDAY

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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF SEVEN QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER 11 BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 3).

OF THE 11 BILLS, TWO WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. DEBATES ON THEM WILL BE ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE THE SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (1990-91) BILL 1991 AND A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL, THE ELECTORAL PROVISIONS (PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

DEBATES ON THE OTHER NINE BILLS WILL BE RESUMED AND EACH IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THEY ARE THE PRIVATE BILLS BILL 1990, OATHS AND DECLARATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, BANKRUPTCY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, FIXED PENALTY (TRAFFIC CONTRAVENTIONS) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (NO. 4) BILL 1991, EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

IN ADDITION, THE HON LAU WAH-SUM WILL MOVE A MOTION ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE. THE MOTION READS:

"THAT THIS COUNCIL SUPPORTS THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG TO MEET THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION'S TARGET OF 'HEALTH FOR ALL BY THE YEAR 2000', AND URGES GOVERNMENT TO TAKE EARLY STEPS TO IMPLEMENT THOSE IMPROVEMENT MEASURES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE WORKING PARTY ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, HAVING REGARD TO THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE PUBLIC BEFORE THE EXPIRY OF THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ON JULY 31, 1991."

THERE WILL ALSO BE AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON A NEW AIRPORT FOR HONG KONG.

THE HON J. D. MCGREGOR WILL RAISE UNDER STANDING ORDER 9(5) THE MATTER OF "THE POSSIBILITY OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING, WITH THE AGREEMENT OF THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS, DETAILS OF THE LATEST PROPOSALS BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON THE SITING, DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCING OF A NEW AIRPORT FOR HONG KONG".

IN OTHER BUSINESS, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL SPEAK ON THE REPORT OF CHANGES TO THE APPROVED ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE APPROVED DURING THE FINAL QUARTER OF 1990-91 PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE: SECTION 8.

DR THE HON DANIEL TSE WILL ALSO SPEAK ON THE 1990 ANNUAL REPORT BY THE COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SITTING AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR SEATS IN THE PUBLIC GALLERIES BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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LAB ENDORSES PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE PERIPHERAL POLY-NEUROPATHY
AS OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

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THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD TODAY (MONDAY) ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE PERIPHERAL POLY-NEUROPATHY AS AN OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE IN THE SECOND SCHEDULE OF THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE BETTER PROTECTION FOR WORKERS.

MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT SO FAR THERE WERE 16 CONFIRMED CASES OF PERIPHERAL POLY-NEUROPATHY WHICH WERE CAUSED BY WORKING WITH A COMMON SOLVENT KNOWN AS "PETROLEUM SPIRIT" IN THE PRINTING INDUSTRY.

SOME SUSPECTED CASES WERE STILL UNDER INVESTIGATION BY THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DIVISION OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

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UNDER THE PROPOSAL, AN EMPLOYEE SUFFERS INCAPACITY OR DIES AS A RESULT OF THE DISEASE CONTRACTED IN THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF ONE YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING SUCH INCAPACITY OR DEATH, THE EMPLOYEE, OR HIS DEPENDANTS IN THE CASE OF DEATH, WILL BE ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION.

ANOTHER ITEM DISCUSSED AT TODAY'S MEETING WAS THE REVISED LEVELS OF COMPENSATION TO BE AWARDED UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE.

IT WAS PROPOSED THAT THE LEVELS OF COMPENSATION UNDER VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE TWO ORDINANCES BE RAISED, HAVING TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE OVERALL WAGE RATE INCREASES AND INFLATION RATE. THE PROPOSED INCREASES ARE TO BE EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 1, 1992.

THE PRESENT LEVEL OF COMPENSATION HAS BEEN IN FORCE SINCE JANUARY 1, 1990.

MEMBERS GENERALLY ENDORSED THE PROPOSAL.

THE BOARD ALSO CONSIDERED SOME PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEAR) REGULATIONS WHICH AIM TO ENHANCE SAFETY OF EMPLOYEES OPERATING LIFTING EQUIPMENT IN ALL INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS, ESPECIALLY CONSTRUCTION SITES.

AFTER SOME DISCUSSIONS, MEMBERS AGREED TO THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

ALSO DISCUSSED BY THE BOARD WAS A PROPOSAL TO MAKE MINOR AMENDMENTS TO PROVISIONS ON MATERNITY PROTECTION UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE TO REMOVE SOME AMBIGUITIES AND CLARIFY SOME PROVISIONS.

MEMBERS ALSO NOTED A PROGRESS REPORT ON LABOUR LEGISLATION FOR THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR.

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CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED ELDERLY HOMES LAW BEGINS

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS CONDUCTING A CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON PROPOSED LAW ON RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES (ELDERLY PERSONS) BILL AND THE RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES (ELDERLY PERSONS) REGULATIONS, AIMED TO REGULATE RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE PRIVATE, NON-PROFIT-MAKING AND SUBVENTED SECTORS.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY): "WE HAVE SENT OUT COPIES OF CONSULTATION PAPER TO ALL THE OPERATORS IN THE FIELD TO POOL THEIR VIEWS."

MONDAY, JULY 1, 1991

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID COMMENTS SHOULD REACH THE DEPARTMENT IN WRITTEN FORM ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 16.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT WILL ORGANISE A SPECIAL CONSULTATION SESSION LATER THIS MONTH FOR OPERATORS TO UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE PROPOSED PROVISIONS.

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FUTURE PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS DEPENDS ON YOUNGER GENERATION

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THE FUTURE PROSPERITY AND PROGRESS OF HONG KONG DEPENDS ON THE YOUNGER GENERATION, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE JOINT GRADUATION CEREMONY OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT PRIMARY PUPILS AWARDS PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MR LI SAID EDUCATION WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN EQUIPPING THEM TO FACE THE CHALLENGES AHEAD.

HE SAID A BALANCED EDUCATION WOULD NOT ONLY STRESS STUDENTS' INTELLECTUAL ATTAINMENT BUT WOULD ALSO HELP THEM DEVELOP POSITIVE MORAL ATTITUDES, HEALTHY HABITS, HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER PEOPLE AND AN APPRECIATION OF BEAUTY.

THIRTY PUPILS RECEIVED AWARDS AFTER BEING CHOSEN AS GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS' OUTSTANDING STUDENTS.

THEY WERE SELECTED OUT OF 267 FOR THEIR EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE IN ACADEMIC STUDIES, EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

MR LI ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE UNION OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOL HEADMASTERS AND HEADMISTRESSES AND THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS NON-GRADUATE TEACHERS' UNION FOR BUILDING UP AND PROMOTING THE REPUTATION OF GOVERNMENT PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

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EXHIBITION ON HK'S HERITAGE

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THE ACTING CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS, MR HO CHE-LEUNG, WILL OPEN A LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT EXHIBITION ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 3) AT THE HONG KONG TEACHERS' CENTRE IN NORTH POINT.

ALSO OFFICIATING WILL BE THE RESOURCES OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY, HONG KONG UNIVERSITY, DR ELIZABETH SINN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT 15 SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN A PILOT PROJECT TO INTRODUCE LOCAL HISTORY INTO THE SECONDARY 1-3 HISTORY CURRICULUM.

/THE AIM

MONDAY, JULY 1, 1991

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THE AIM WAS TO GENERATE AWARENESS AND INTEREST IN HONG KONG'S HERITAGE AND TO CULTIVATE AMONG STUDENTS A SENSE OF IDENTITY TO THE COMMUNITY, HE SAID.

ON DISPLAY DURING THE EXHIBITION, WHICH WILL BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC VIEWING FROM WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY (JULY 3 TO 6), WILL BE EXHIBITS MOUNTED BY THE 15 SCHOOLS, THE MONUMENTS AND ANTIQUITIES OFFICE, THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION AND THE HISTORY SECTION OF THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER THE OPENING OF THE LOCAL HISTORY PROJECT EXHIBITION ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 3), AT 10 AM AT THE HONG KONG TEACHERS' CENTRE IN 4 PAK FUK ROAD, NORTH POINT.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 28.6 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 167.623 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 281.269 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 48 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	29.6.91	480
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	1.7.91	+48
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-48
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 114.0 *-0.1* 1.7.91		

/HONG KONG

MONDAY, JULY 1, 1991

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

		28.6.91	1.7.91
MATURING IN	1 WEEK	7.35 PCT	7.53 PCT
	1 MONTH	7.17 PCT	6.83 PCT
	3 MONTHS	6.52 PCT	6.70 PCT
	6 MONTHS	6.50 PCT	6.61 PCT
	12 MONTHS	6.77 PCT	6.76 PCT
TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED		5,052 MN	7,705 MN

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