



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 1991

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QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH DAY MESSAGE

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FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE QUEEN'S COMMONWEALTH DAY MESSAGE, WHICH IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 0001 HOURS TOMORROW (MONDAY, MARCH 11):

"EACH YEAR, THE COMMONWEALTH DAY CELEBRATIONS DRAW ATTENTION TO THE MULTI-NATION, MULTI-RACE AND MULTI-FAITH NATURE OF THIS UNIQUE ORGANISATION. BUT WE SHOULD ALSO BE LOOKING AT WAYS TO MAKE PRACTICAL USE OF THESE ADVANTAGES. I THEREFORE WELCOME THE IDEA THAT THIS YEAR THE THEME OF THE CELEBRATIONS SHOULD BE 'SCIENCE IN THE COMMONWEALTH'.

"THE LAWS OF NATURE, WHICH HAVE BEEN UNCOVERED BY SCIENTISTS OF ALL NATIONS, ARE VALID EVERYWHERE ON EARTH. THEY ARE NOT AFFECTED BY POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS OR RACIAL DIFFERENCES. SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES AFFECT ALL OUR LIVES AND THEY ALREADY HAVE AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON THE NATURAL WORLD.

"BUT WITH SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS, AS WE CLIMB ONE HILL ANOTHER HAS A WAY OF COMING INTO VIEW. FOR EXAMPLE, MEDICAL SCIENCE HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR MORE CHILDREN TO SURVIVE AND FOR MORE ADULTS TO LIVE HEALTHIER AND LONGER LIVES. THIS IS THE POSITIVE ACHIEVEMENT BUT IT HAS ALSO RESULTED IN AN ALARMING GROWTH IN THE WORLD'S HUMAN POPULATION. AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO PRODUCE MORE FOOD, AND INDUSTRIAL SCIENCE HAS BROUGHT A HIGHER STANDARD OF LIVING TO MANY PEOPLE. BUT THE PROCESSES OF AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION ARE USING UP MORE AND MORE OF THE WORLD'S LIMITED NATURAL RESOURCES. WE ARE NOW LOOKING FOR WAYS OF USING SCIENCE TO PROTECT OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND NOT DESTROY IT. IF WE SUCCEED, WE CAN BE SURE THAT THERE WILL BE ANOTHER HILL TO CLIMB.

"SCIENCE THEREFORE POSES A SERIOUS DILEMMA. IN ITSELF, IT IS NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD; THE PROBLEMS ARE ONLY CREATED BY THE WAY IT IS USED. THE CHALLENGE TO SCIENTISTS TODAY IS TO BRING BENEFITS OF SCIENCE TO THE LESS PROSPEROUS COMMUNITIES WHILST AT THE SAME TIME SAFEGUARDING THE NATURAL WORLD. TO DO THIS SUCCESSFULLY OUR SCIENTISTS WILL NEED UNDERSTANDING AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE POPULATION AS A WHOLE.

"THE COMMONWEALTH, WITH ITS MANY WELL TRIED CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION, IS UNIQUELY PLACED NOT ONLY TO ENABLE MEMBER COUNTRIES TO KEEP ABREAST OF SCIENTIFIC ADVANCES, BUT ALSO TO HELP THEM BENEFIT FROM THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS. I BELIEVE THAT THE COMMONWEALTH TRADITION OF QUIET CO-OPERATION AND ITS ADVANTAGE OF COMMON LANGUAGE CAN MAKE A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF SCIENCE WHEREVER IT IS MOST NEEDED FOR THE SAKE OF HUMAN WELFARE AS WELL AS FOR THE LONG-TERM HEALTH OF OUR PLANET."

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PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN DECEMBER
AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1990

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 1% IN THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 16%, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 9% IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 11% IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES, HAVING DISCOUNTED THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 1% AND 3% RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 2%.

AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX) WAS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE AVAILABLE.

COMPARING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 1990 WITH DECEMBER 1989, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOWED A LITTLE INCREASE OF LESS THAN 0.5%, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 21%.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 12%. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 21%. OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 1% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY. IMPORT PRICES INCREASED BY 3%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP FOR DECEMBER AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS DECREASED IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989, INCLUDING RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-30%); FOOTWEAR (-24%); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (-22%); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-17%); METAL MANUFACTURES (-16%); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-12%); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-9%); AND METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-4%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+18%); AND WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+12%).

/THE PRICES

THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989. THESE INCLUDED METAL MANUFACTURES (+6%); FOOTWEAR (+3%); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+3%); TEXTILE FABRICS (+3%); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+2%); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+2%); CLOTHING (+2%); AND DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+1%). HOWEVER, DECREASE IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WAS RECORDED IN METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-4%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR DECEMBER AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 6% IN VOLUME TERMS IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF TEA AND COFFEE; SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD; AND MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS. DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SUGAR; AND RICE.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 18%. INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR FOOTWEAR; TOBACCO MANUFACTURES; AND RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 9% IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989. INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR WOOD, LUMBER AND CORK; FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES; AND PAPER AND PAPERBOARD.

DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR; RAW COTTON; AND YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES.

IMPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 3% IN VOLUME TERMS IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 8% IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989.

INCREASES IN THE IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN OFFICE MACHINES; TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT; AND CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY. HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF TEXTILE MACHINERY; AND OTHER INDUSTRIAL MACHINERY (OTHER THAN TEXTILE MACHINERY AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY).

COMPARING 1990 WITH 1989, THE IMPORT PRICES OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED: FUELS (+21%); CONSUMER GOODS (+4%); CAPITAL GOODS (+3%); AND FOODSTUFFS (+3%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IMPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 1%.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR DECEMBER AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS IN 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 27% IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989. THOSE OF CAPITAL GOODS; AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 13% AND 4% RESPECTIVELY. HOWEVER, THE RE-EXPORT VOLUME OF FUELS AND FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 17% AND 1% RESPECTIVELY.

PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF ALL END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN 1990 AS COMPARED WITH 1989: FUELS (+10%); CONSUMER GOODS (+4%); RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES (+3%); CAPITAL GOODS (+2%); AND FOODSTUFFS (+1%).

FURTHER DETAILS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE DECEMBER 1990 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" WHICH WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND MARCH 12 AT HK\$3 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION OF THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO.: 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 823 4918).

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING DEC 1990 WITH DEC 1989			COMPARING JAN-DEC 1990 WITH JAN-DEC 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	*	1	-1	*	2	-1
TEXTILE FABRICS	-8	3	-11	2	3	*
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	4	2	2	-6	3	-9
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	-22	-2	-21	-12	*	-12
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	-26	6	-30	-29	2	-30
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	4	-4	8	18	*	18
FOOTWEAR	-32	3	-34	-22	3	-24
METAL MANUFACTURES	-11	5	-16	-12	6	-16

/METAL ORES

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METAL ORES AND SCRAP	9	-2	10	-8	-4	-4
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	24	3	20	12	*	12
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	-17	*	-17	-15	2	-17
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	3	*	3	-21	1	-22
ALL COMMODITIES	1	1	*	1	1	-1

* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING DEC 1990 WITH DEC 1989			COMPARING JAN-DEC 1990 WITH JAN-DEC 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	13	4	9	9	3	6
CONSUMER GOODS	29	4	24	23	4	18
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	19	*	19	8	-1	9
FUELS	48	37	8	16	21	-3
CAPITAL GOODS	35	5	28	12	3	8
ALL COMMODITIES	25	3	21	14	2	11

* LESS THAN 0.5%

/TABLE 3:

TABLE 3: CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING DEC 1990 WITH DEC 1989			COMPARING JAN-DEC 1990 WITH JAN-DEC 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	2	3	-1	*	1	-1
CONSUMER GOODS	36	3	32	32	4	27
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	12	1	10	6	3	4
FUELS	-62	49	-75	-9	10	-17
CAPITAL GOODS	25	1	24	15	2	13
ALL COMMODITIES	24	2	21	20	3	16

* LESS THAN 0.5%

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HONG KONG MOVES TOWARDS BEING THE GREATEST SERVICE CENTRE IN ASIA * * * * *

HONG KONG HAS TO PLAN AHEAD INTO THE NEXT CENTURY TO BE THE MOST EFFICIENT POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL SERVICE CENTRE FOR THE REGION WHICH NO ONE COULD SUBSTITUTE FOR IT, THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR GRAHAM BARNES, SAID THIS (SUNDAY) EVENING.

ADDRESSING THE CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF ARBITRATORS (HONG KONG BRANCH) AT ITS ANNUAL DINNER, MR BARNES POINTED OUT THAT IF ONE SAW IT IN THIS LIGHT CLEARLY, THE PORT AND AIRPORT PROJECTS ALL BECAME CRITICAL.

CHINA ITSELF, HE SAID, IS MODERNISING STEP BY STEP AND THE PEOPLE WHO GO THERE AND TRADE WITH IT NEED GREATLY IMPROVED TRANSPORT AND SHIPPING FACILITIES.

"AT THE SAME TIME, WE ARE IN A POSITION IN WHICH ALMOST ANY OF OUR FUNCTIONS CAN OVER TIME BE SUBSTITUTED BY OTHERS EITHER IN CHINA OR ELSEWHERE.

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"THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT FOR INSTANCE THAT THE SHENZHEN ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKE TO ATTRACT BOTH PORT AND AIRPORT BUSINESS FROM HONG KONG, AND SINGAPORE HAS ALWAYS COMPETED FOR SERVICE BUSINESS AND FOR REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND ALWAYS WILL DO SO.

"SO WE HAVE TO ACT WITH VIGOR."

MR BARNES NOTED THAT THE CHANGES OF THE NEXT 10 YEARS WOULD NOT BE JUST LIKE THOSE IN THE PREVIOUS 10 AS HE DOUBTED WHETHER HONG KONG COULD COUNT ON A STEADY UPWARD CLIMB IN THE ECONOMY AND A CONTINUED PROFITABLE SWING FROM MANUFACTURING TO SERVICE INDUSTRIES.

HE PREDICTED THAT ONE OF THE MOST INEVITABLE CHANGES IS LIKELY TO BE A MUCH MORE CONSCIOUS AND MUCH MORE DELIBERATE INTEGRATION OF THE HONG KONG ECONOMY WITH THE GUANGDONG ECONOMY AND A GREATER MEASURE OF CO-OPERATION IN PLANNING THAN EXISTS NOW.

"IT IS IN OUR INTERESTS THAT OUR COMMUNICATIONS TO AND FROM GUANGDONG AND GUANGDONG'S COMMUNICATIONS WITH HONG KONG SHOULD BE AS GOOD AS POSSIBLE," HE ADDED.

IN THIS RESPECT, MR BARNES DESCRIBED THE PROPOSALS BY MR GORDON WU TO BUILD A SPINE ROAD FROM GUANGZHOU TO SHENZHEN AS "ABSOLUTELY CRITICAL" ADDING THAT HIS OTHER IDEAS FOR A BRIDGE, CAUSEWAY AND TUNNEL ACROSS THE PEARL RIVER MOUTH FROM ZHUHAI AND MACAU AND THE SOUTH OF GUANGDONG TO TUEN MUN COULD ALSO INCREASE THE VIABILITY OF HONG KONG IN THE LONG TERM.

FURTHERMORE, THE ECONOMICS OF CLOSER CO-OPERATION WITH CHINA ARE AND WILL CONTINUE TO ACT IN FAVOUR OF THE WEST AND NORTH-WEST OF THE TERRITORY, INCLUDING TUEN MUN AND TIN SHUI WAI.

THIS TREND IS REFLECTED IN THE INCREASED REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY AND IN AREAS, BOTH LEGAL AND ILLEGAL, TO CATER FOR AMONGST OTHER THINGS CONTAINER STORES MID WAY BETWEEN THE FACTORIES IN CHINA AND THE PORT IN KWAI CHUNG.

ON CHANGES NEEDED FOR THE URBAN AREAS, MR BARNES SAID THE RESIDUE OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY NOW HOUSED IN OLD FASHIONED BUILDINGS, WOULD MIGRATE FROM HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON NORTHWARDS EITHER TO CHINA OR TO THE NORTHERN PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ACCESSIBLE FROM CHINA DURING THE NEXT DECADE.

"AND THIS MIGRATION OF INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE MAJOR FACTORS WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE URBAN AREAS - ANOTHER GREAT NEED AS WE MOVE TOWARDS BEING THE GREATEST SERVICE CENTRE IN ASIA.

"EVEN NOW BOTH FANLING AND YUEN LONG ARE QUITE POPULAR FOR INDUSTRY AS THE INDUSTRIAL LAND IS GENERALLY LOW DENSITY AND A FACTORY OWNER MAY BE ABLE TO AFFORD A SITE TO DEVELOP HIS OWN FACTORY THERE WITH ALL THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROLS NEEDED."

MR BARNES ALSO SPOKE ON THE METROPLAN WHICH IS A FRAMEWORK OR GUIDELINES FOR THE GRADUAL REDEVELOPMENT OF THE COMBINED URBAN AREAS OF HONG KONG, KOWLOON, NORTH KOWLOON AND TSUEN WAN/KWAI CHUNG.

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"THE PROJECTS IN WHICH WILL NOT BE DICTATED SO MUCH BY METROPLAN ITSELF, BUT BY OTHER OBJECTIVES SUCH AS REDEVELOPMENT OF OLD PUBLIC HOUSING, NEW RECLAMATION FOR EXPANSION OF THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, URBAN RENEWAL SCHEMES BY THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND OTHERS," HE SAID.

"IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE PLANS (BUT NOT PROJECTS) FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF RELEASED AIRPORT LANDS AT KAI TAK, WHICH IF OUR GUESS IS RIGHT; WILL BECOME THE HUB OF KOWLOON IN THE EARLY PART OF THE NEXT CENTURY."

MR BARNES SAID DETAILS OF THE FINAL METROPLAN WOULD BE RELEASED IN APRIL.

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DB VOTER TURNOUT LAYS FOUNDATION FOR FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS
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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MR DAVID LAN, HAS SAID THAT THE TURNOUT RATE IN THE RECENT DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS BEARS TESTIMONY TO THE PEOPLE'S CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME.

HE ADDED THAT THE 32 PER CENT TURNOUT RATE ACHIEVED COMPARED FAVOURABLY WITH THOSE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES.

MR LAN MADE THESE REMARKS WHEN HE WELCOMED THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE JUNIOR CHAMBER INTERNATIONAL, MR DAVID OJI, WHO PAID A COURTESY CALL TO THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION YESTERDAY (SATURDAY).

ON THE RECENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TERRITORY, MR LAN SAID THE ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE TO THE DISTRICT BOARD ELECTIONS ON MARCH 3 HAD LAID A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS LATER IN THE YEAR.

HE STRESSED THAT ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT SINCE IT WOULD BE THE FIRST-EVER DIRECT ELECTIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE OF HONG KONG.

HE ALSO SAID THAT IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO SEE MORE AND MORE YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATING AND BEING ELECTED IN THE POLLS.

"OF THE 272 NEW OR RE-ELECTED DB MEMBERS, 124 OF THEM, OR 45 PER CENT, ARE WITHIN THE 31-40 AGE BRACKET - THE YOUNGEST OF THEM WAS ONLY 21 YEARS OF AGE," HE SAID.

MR LAN PRAISED THE JAYCEES FOR BEING AN ASSOCIATION OF HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN RESPECTED NOT ONLY FOR THEIR CAREER AND BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENTS BUT ALSO FOR THEIR COMMUNITY SPIRIT.

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IN THIS CONNECTION, HE CALLED ON ITS MEMBERS TO HELP ENCOURAGE THE YOUNGER GENERATION IN HONG KONG TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN POLITICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

"THEY NEED TO GET INVOLVED BECAUSE IN THE COURSE OF TIME, WE WILL HAVE TO COUNT ON THEM FOR PROVIDING THE FUTURE LEADERSHIP FOR OUR SOCIETY," MR LAN EMPHASISED.

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CONSULTANCY STUDY ON RECYCLING OF
CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECEIVED AT LANDFILLS
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) HAS COMMISSIONED A CONSULTANCY STUDY TO DEVELOP A RECYCLING SYSTEM SUITABLE FOR PROCESSING LOCAL CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECEIVED AT LANDFILLS.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID CONSTRUCTION WASTE IS A WASTE ARISING FROM BUILDING ACTIVITY. IT INCLUDES VARIOUS TYPES OF BUILDING DEBRIS, TIMBER, SITE CLEARANCE MATERIALS AND MIXED SOFT MATERIALS.

HE SAID THE AMOUNT OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECEIVED AT LANDFILLS HAS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS.

ABOUT 8,000 TONNES ARE RECEIVED AT LANDFILLS PER DAY WHICH AMOUNTS TO HALF OF THE TOTAL MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE ARISING IN HONG KONG.

IN VIEW OF THE MASSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT TO BE CARRIED OUT IN 1990S, CONSTRUCTION WASTE ARISING ARE ANTICIPATED TO REMAIN SUBSTANTIAL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE STUDY WILL EVALUATE OVERSEAS EXPERIENCE ON CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECYCLING WITH RESPECT TO HONG KONG CONDITIONS, AND WILL UNDERTAKE SURVEYS TO IDENTIFY THE COMPOSITION AND QUANTITIES OF THE CONSTRUCTION WASTE RECEIVED AT LANDFILLS.

IT WILL ALSO IDENTIFY THE NATURE OF POTENTIALLY RECYCLED PRODUCTS FROM CONSTRUCTION WASTE AND TO ASSESS THE AVAILABILITY OF MARKETS FOR THESE PRODUCTS.

EMPHASIS WILL BE GIVEN TO STUDY THE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AT LANDFILLS FOR THE APPLICATION OF POTENTIAL RECYCLED PRODUCTS.

IT WILL ALSO RECOMMEND A SYSTEM AT A LANDFILL TO CONVERT CONSTRUCTION WASTE INTO USEFUL MATERIALS.

THE STUDY WILL BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS AT A COST OF HK\$1.2 MILLION.

AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSULTANCY STUDY WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE EPD'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (WASTE AND WATER POLICY), MR MIKE STOKOE, AND DIRECTOR OF DONOHUE/JRP ASIA PACIFIC LTD, MR T.E. SIEBERS.

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GOVT TO RESUME SEVEN PRIVATE STREETS

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO RESUME AND REPAIR SEVEN PRIVATE STREETS ON HONG KONG ISLAND.

THESE STREETS ARE THOMSON ROAD, ST FRANCIS YARD, A PORTION OF KWONG MING STREET AND ST FRANCIS STREET IN WAN CHAI; YUK SAU LANE, LI PO LUNG PATH AND THE REAR LANE OF 18A-26 BELCHER'S STREET IN WESTERN.

THESE PRIVATE STREETS ARE UNDER MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP AND ARE NOT PROPERLY MANAGED OR MAINTAINED.

SOME OF THEM ARE PARTLY OCCUPIED BY STALLS CAUSING OBSTRUCTION TO PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT. THE SITUATION GIVES RISE TO CONSIDERABLE ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS.

THE RESUMPTION WILL ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT TO REPAIR THE PRIVATE STREETS TO A PROPER STANDARD FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

WORKS ON THE PROJECTS ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN MAY 1992.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF OR INCIDENTAL TO THE WORKS OR THE USE, OBJECTS OR STRUCTURES ATTACHED TO OR PROJECTING FROM A NUMBER OF BUILDINGS IN THE FOLLOWING STREETS WILL HAVE TO BE REMOVED:

- * LI PO LUNG PATH
- * BELCHER'S STREET
- * TAI PAK TERRACE
- * HEE WONG TERRACE
- * SANDS STREET
- * WATER STREET
- * JOHNSTON ROAD
- * THOMSON ROAD
- * O'BRIEN ROAD
- * FLEMING ROAD
- * QUEEN'S ROAD EAST
- * ST FRANCIS STREET
- * ST FRANCIS YARD
- * KWONG MING STREET

NOTICES CONCERNING THE PROPOSED WORKS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME OF THE PROPOSED WORKS CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG; AND HONG KONG WEST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 19TH FLOOR, SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

FOR THE WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE WAN CHAI STREETS, RELEVANT PLANS AND SCHEMES CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, 2 O'BRIEN ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

FOR THOSE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN WESTERN, THEIR PLANS AND SCHEMES CAN BE INSPECTED AT THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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 NOT LATER THAN APRIL 30, 1991.

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FIVE GOVT LOTS FOR SALE BY AUCTION
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FIVE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WILL BE OFFERED FOR SALE IN A PUBLIC AUCTION BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT ON TUESDAY (MARCH 12).

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE, BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM.

THE FIRST LOT, AT AP LEI CHAU WEST AND WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 4,500 SQUARE METRES, IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES, EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE.

THE SECOND LOT IS LOCATED AT THE REAR OF NOS. 181-205 SHAU KEI WAN ROAD, SHAU KEI WAN, HONG KONG ISLAND.

MEASURING ABOUT 726.3 SQUARE METRES, THE SITE IS FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL, EXCLUDING HOTEL AND GODOWN PURPOSES.

THE OTHER THREE LOTS ARE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

LOCATED AT AREA 4B, SHEUNG SHUI AND WITH AN AREA OF ABOUT 1,759 SQUARE METRES, THE FIRST LOT IN THE NT IS FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES, EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE.

/THE SECOND

THE SECOND NT LOT IS LOCATED AT AREA 6, MA WO, TAI PO. IT HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 8,675 SQUARE METRES AND IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

THE REMAINING LOT IS LOCATED AT AREA 14B, YUEN SHUN CIRCUIT, SHA TIN.

MEASURING ABOUT 4,100 SQUARE METRES, THE SITE IS INTENDED FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES, EXCLUDING GODOWN, RESIDENTIAL AND HOTEL.

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HEAVIER FINES FOR LABOUR OFFENCES

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LABOUR LAW OFFENDERS ARE PAYING MORE DEARLY AS FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS CONTINUE TO GO UP.

ACCORDING TO LABOUR DEPARTMENT STATISTICS, THE AVERAGE FINE ON AN OFFENDER HAD RISEN FROM \$3,776 IN 1989 TO \$4,180 LAST YEAR, AN INCREASE OF 10.69 PER CENT.

DURING THE PERIOD, THE DEPARTMENT SUCCESSFULLY BROUGHT 3,156 CASES TO THE COURTS, RESULTING IN A TOTAL FINE OF \$13.19 MILLION, COMPARED WITH 4,036 CONVICTIONS AND \$15.23 MILLION FINES IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

"THE UPWARD TREND OF FINES FOR BREACHES OF LABOUR LEGISLATION SERVES TO MAKE EMPLOYERS TAKE WORKERS' SAFETY AND WELFARE MORE SERIOUSLY," THE SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (PROSECUTIONS), MR TSANG KIN-WOO, SAID.

"GIVEN OUR CONTINUOUS LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION, EMPLOYERS WILL HAVE TO DIG DEEPER INTO THEIR POCKETS FOR THEIR OFFENCES," MR TSANG SAID.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT MORE THAN 60 PER CENT OF THE CONVICTED CASES LAST YEAR RELATED TO INDUSTRIAL SAFETY OFFENCES.

"THEY INCLUDED 1,067 CASES OF BREACHES OF THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS, AND 828 CASES RELATED TO THE CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS, WITH FINES TOTALLING \$4.12 MILLION AND \$6.86 MILLION RESPECTIVELY," HE SAID.

THERE WERE ALSO 1,094 CONVICTIONS OF VIOLATION OF WELFARE PROVISIONS UNDER THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY), EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND EMPLOYMENT AGENCY REGULATIONS, AS WELL AS THE EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR RELATIONS AND EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCES. THE FINES IMPOSED TOTALLED \$1.87 MILLION.

OF THE REMAINING CASES, 137 INVOLVED BREACHES OF THE BOILERS AND PRESSURE VESSELS ORDINANCE, 29 CONCERNED FAILURE TO KEEP OR PRODUCE FOR INSPECTION EMPLOYEES RECORDS UNDER PART IVB OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE AND ONE RELATED TO OBSTRUCTION UNDER THE SUMMARY OFFENCES ORDINANCE, RESULTING IN FINES TOTALLING \$337,650.

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FUND APPLICATIONS FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PROJECTS INVITED

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THE COUNCIL OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH FOUNDATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED IS INVITING APPLICATION FROM VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS FOR A NUMBER OF GRANTS FOR FINANCING PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES FOR THE FURTHERANCE OF WELFARE, EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED IN HONG KONG.

THE GRANTS CAN ALSO BE USED FOR FINANCING THE PROMOTION OF EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED.

THE GUIDE TO APPLICATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SECRETARY, COUNCIL OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH FOUNDATION FOR THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED, REHABILITATION DIVISION, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, 14TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

APPLICATIONS FOR THE GRANTS SHOULD REACH THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT OF THE FOUNDATION NOT LATER THAN APRIL 17, 1991.

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BEWARE OF IMPOSTORS

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A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, DISABILITY ALLOWANCE OR OLD AGE ALLOWANCE TO BE WARY OF TRICKSTERS.

"WE HAVE PRODUCED A POSTER TO DRIVE THE MESSAGE HOME, AND THEY ARE NOW ON DISPLAY AT OUR SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD OFFICES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IT IS FOUND THAT THE VICTIMS, PARTICULARLY THE ELDERLY, HAD BEEN CHEATED BY PEOPLE CLAIMING TO BE OFFICERS FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 18 COMPLAINTS OF THIS NATURE LAST YEAR.

"WE STRONGLY ADVISE THE PUBLIC TO BE ON GUARD WHEN BEING APPROACHED BY PEOPLE CLAIMING TO BE A SWD OFFICER," HE ADDED.

HE SAID ALL THE STAFF CARRIED DEPARTMENTAL IDENTITY CARDS.

IN CASE OF DOUBT, THE PUBLIC COULD SIMPLY TELEPHONE THE SWD HOTLINE 343 2255 OR APPROACH THE NEAREST SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE.

"OUR SERVICES IN MAKING ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS ARE ENTIRELY FREE OF CHARGE AND YOU SHOULD NOT HAND OVER ANY MONEY TO OUR STAFF, NOR ANY CASH COUPONS OR BANK PASSBOOKS TO ANY STRANGERS," HE STRESSED.

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STUDENT WINNERS TO GIVE PUBLIC PERFORMANCES

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THE BEST DANCERS FROM AMONG THE 3,905 STUDENTS WHO TOOK PART IN THE 27TH SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL WILL PERFORM FOR THE PUBLIC THIS WEEK AND IN APRIL.

THEY WILL PERFORM AT THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI FROM THURSDAY (MARCH 14) TO MONDAY (MARCH 18) AND AT THE SHA TIN TOWN HALL FROM APRIL 5 TO APRIL 7.

ALL PERFORMANCES - CHINESE, ORIENTAL, MODERN, WESTERN FOLK AND NATIONAL DANCES - WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO ATTEND CAN BUY TICKETS, RANGING IN PRICE FROM \$10 TO \$25, FROM URBIX OUTLETS.

THERE WILL BE A 10 PER CENT DISCOUNT FOR EACH PURCHASE OF MORE THAN 10 TICKETS.

THE 27TH SCHOOLS DANCE FESTIVAL WINNERS' PERFORMANCES ARE PRESENTED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS, AND THE HONG KONG SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID 16 SPECIAL SCHOOLS, 142 PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND 82 SECONDARY SCHOOLS TOOK PART IN THE DANCE FESTIVAL.

TWENTY-EIGHT TEAMS RECEIVED HONOURS WHILE 131 WERE HIGHLY RECOMMENDED AND 168 COMMENDED. SEVENTEEN TEAMS WERE ALSO AWARDED FOR THEIR CHOREOGRAPHY.

RESULTS OF THE DANCE FESTIVAL WERE:

PRIMARY SCHOOLS SECTION

- OVERALL CHAMPION : ST PAUL'S CONVENT SCHOOL, PRIMARY SECTION
- OVERALL CO-SECOND : SAM SHUI NATIVES ASSN AM SCHOOL
NTW & JW ASSN LEUNG SING TAK PRIMARY
PM SCHOOL
- MOST PROGRESSIVE SCHOOL : NTW & JW ASSN LEUNG SING TAK PRIMARY
PM SCHOOL

SECONDARY SCHOOLS SECTION

- OVERALL CHAMPION : SKH BISHOP MOK SAU TSENG SECONDARY SCHOOL
- OVERALL SECOND : SACRED HEART CANOSSIAN COLLEGE
- OVERALL THIRD : KING GEORGE V SCHOOL
- MOST PROGRESSIVE SCHOOL : KING GEORGE V SCHOOL

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SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 1991

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HUNDREDS TOOK PART IN CROSS COUNTRY RACE

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HUNDREDS OF RUNNERS, AGED BETWEEN 12 AND 60, TOOK PART IN AN ANNUAL CROSS COUNTRY RACE IN NORTH DISTRICT THIS (SUNDAY) AFTERNOON.

SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD, THE RACE WAS ORGANISED BY THE SHEUNG SHUI DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION TO PROMOTE LOCAL RESIDENTS' INTEREST IN SPORTS.

THE RACE HAS BEEN HELD SINCE 1964 AS PART OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR ACTIVITIES, WITH THE NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS INCREASING FROM AN INITIAL 30 TO ABOUT 350 THIS YEAR.

GUESTS AT THE PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY WERE THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM HUI; THE REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR CHEUNG YAN-LEUNG; SHEUNG SHUI RURAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR BRIAN KAN; CHAIRMAN OF THE SHEK WU HUI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MR CHEUNG KUEN; AND THE FRONTIER POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR MICHAEL WATSON.

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