



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PROPOSAL TO PHASE OUT RENT CONTROL BY 1994	1
REVIEW OF POLICE FORCE ORDINANCE	4
LBAC MEETING ON LAND ASSESSMENT	6
CONCERTED EFFORTS ESSENTIAL TO REHABILITATION SERVICES	8
PUBLIC CONCERNS ABOUT NUCLEAR SAFETY WILL NOT DISAPPEAR OVERNIGHT: SES	9
STUDY ON SCIENCE PARK COMMISSIONED	10
APPLICATION FEES FOR CERTAIN TRADE LICENCES, DOCUMENTS AND SERVICES TO BE REVISED	11
OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE WITH CHINA IN 4TH QUARTER AND 1991	13
HK TO ATTEND PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COUNCIL	17
HEFTY FINE FOR UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS	18
LICENCE REQUIRED FOR MARINE FISH TRANSPORTATION	18
TWO HIGH COURT JUDGES APPOINTED	19
REGIMENT RECRUITMENT EXERCISE TO CLOSE SOON	20
135 RETURN TO VIETNAM	21
46 PASS MEDICAL LICENTIATE EXAM	21
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS VISIT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL	22
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS	23

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

PROPOSAL TO PHASE OUT RENT CONTROL BY 1994

* * * * *

PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO PHASE OUT RENT CONTROL BY THE END OF 1994 WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL EARLY NEXT MONTH, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

BUT HE EMPHASISED THAT THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY) WOULD CONTAIN A NUMBER OF SAFEGUARDS FOR AFFECTED TENANTS.

FOR INSTANCE, THE LAW WILL ALLOW THE NEW INCREASES AND THEIR TIME-FRAME TO BE ADJUSTED RELATIVELY EASILY SHOULD UNFORESEEN MARKET FORCES THREATEN ADVERSE SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR SPECIFIC LEVELS OF PERMITTED INCREASES OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS TO ALLOW CONTROLLED RENTS TO RISE CLOSE TO MARKET RENTS.

IN ADDITION, TENANTS WILL CONTINUE TO ENJOY SECURITY OF TENURE IF THEY ARE WILLING TO PAY MARKET RENTS AFTER DECONTROL.

ALSO, THOSE TENANTS DISPOSSESSED ON THE GROUNDS OF REDEVELOPMENT ARE PRESENTLY ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION AT TWICE THE 1983 RATEABLE VALUE OF THEIR PREMISES PLUS REMOVAL COSTS AND THE VALUE OF FITTINGS, ALTHOUGH IN MOST CASES LANDLORDS ARE PREPARED TO PAY MORE.

IN FUTURE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LEVEL WILL BE INCREASED TO A MULTIPLE OF 1.3 OF THE CURRENT RATEABLE VALUE. THIS WILL ROUGHLY DOUBLE THE CURRENT LEVEL OF STATUTORY COMPENSATION AND WILL CONTINUE TO APPLY EVEN AFTER THE PRESENT CONTROLS ON RENT END IN 1994.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT PROPOSED CHANGES WILL AFFECT THE RENT CONTROL MECHANISMS IN BOTH PARTS I AND II OF THE ORDINANCE.

UNDER PART I WHICH COVERS PRE-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES, THE PERMITTED RENT IS CURRENTLY 48 TIMES THE PRE-WAR RENT. THIS WILL BE REVISED TO 55 TIMES IN 1992, 65 IN 1993 AND 75 IN 1994.

HOWEVER, THE BILL ALSO SPECIFIES A MINIMUM RENT IN EACH OF THESE YEARS. THIS WILL BE 60% OF PREVAILING MARKET RENT IN 1992, 75% IN 1993 AND 92.5% IN 1994.

NO RENT INCREASES CAN BE MADE WITHIN 12 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE LAST INCREASE.

AS FOR PART II, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THIS RELATES TO TENANCIES CREATED BEFORE JUNE 10, 1983 IN THOSE POST-WAR DOMESTIC PREMISES BUILT BEFORE JUNE 19, 1981 WITH A 1983 RATEABLE VALUE OF LESS THAN \$30,000.

/THE RENTS

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 2 -

THE RENTS FOR THESE PREMISES MAY ONLY BE INCREASED ONCE EVERY TWO YEARS BY NOT MORE THAN 30% OF THEIR CURRENT PAYMENTS OR UP TO 70% OF THE PREVAILING MARKET RENT WHICHEVER IS THE GREATER.

THIS MINIMUM RENT WILL BE INCREASED TO 77.5% IN 1992, 85% IN 1993 AND 92.5% IN 1994.

TURNING TO THE NUMBER OF PREMISES WHICH WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE DECONTROL PROPOSALS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT NOW STOOD AT ONLY 39,000 WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 4% OF ALL PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL FLATS.

THIS NUMBER IS DIMINISHING AT THE RATE OF SOME 5,000 A YEAR OWING TO REDEVELOPMENT AND REPOSSESSION.

BECAUSE OF THIS DWINDLING FIGURE COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT TENANTS IN RENT CONTROLLED APARTMENTS ARE ONLY PAYING AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 60% OF MARKET VALUE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO MAINTAIN INDEFINITELY A POLICY OF GIVING THE BENEFITS OF REDUCED RENTS TO A SMALL MINORITY OF HOUSEHOLDS AT THE EXPENSE OF LANDLORDS WHO MIGHT BE DISCOURAGED FROM MAINTAINING AND REFURBISHING THEIR PREMISES.

HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT WHEN RENT CONTROLS WERE FIRST INTRODUCED THEY WERE INTENDED TO BE TEMPORARY MEASURES TO PROTECT TENANTS FROM EXCESSIVE RENT INCREASES.

FOR THIS REASON, THE GOVERNMENT HAD IN THE PAST REGULARLY AND PUBLICLY DECLARED ITS COMMITMENT TO THE DECONTROL OF RENTS WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES ALLOWED.

AN IMPORTANT INDICATION THAT THIS GOAL CAN BE ACHIEVED AT THE END OF 1994 IS THAT THE ONGOING HIGH PRODUCTION OF HOUSING IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS HAVE PRODUCED A REASONABLE BALANCE BETWEEN THE SUPPLY OF, AND THE DEMAND FOR HOUSING AS EVIDENCED BY THE MODEST MOVEMENT IN DOMESTIC RENTS IN RELATION TO PRICES.

THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED THAT SHOULD THERE BE UNFORESEEN CHANGES IN MARKET FORCES DURING THE PERIOD LEADING TO DECONTROL, OR IF HARDSHIP IS CAUSED TO TENANTS, THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION WILL ALLOW FOR THE ADJUSTMENT OF BOTH THE TIME-FRAME FOR DECONTROL AND THE LEVEL OF ANNUAL INCREASES BY A SIMPLE RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

- - - - -

/RENT CONTROL

Rent Control Mechanisms under Parts I and II of the Landlord and Tenant (Consolidation) Ordinance

Part I Control

Part II Control

Application

Tenancies in pre-war domestic premises

Tenancies created before 10 June 1983 in post-war domestic premises:

- (a) built before 19 June 1981 and
- (b) with a rateable value of less than \$30,000 in 1983.

Determination of Controlled Rent

(a) Current System

Maximum Rent

48 times the Standard Rent (rent payable on 25 December 1941) provided it does not exceed the prevailing market rent (PMR).

Minimum Rent

Not specified

Maximum Rent

1.3 times the current rent provided it does not exceed the prevailing market rent (PMR) or is not less than the Minimum Rent.

Minimum Rent

70% of the prevailing market rent.

(b) Proposed Changes

To increase progressively the standard rent multiplier and to specify a minimum level of controlled rent, as follows:

To increase the percentage governing the minimum rent in steps, as follows:

Year	Standard Rent Multiplier	Minimum Rent
1992	55	60% of PMR
1993	65	75% of PMR
1994	75	92.5% of PMR

Year	Minimum Rent
1992	77.5% of PMR
1993	85% of PMR
1994	92.5% of PMR

Provided that the rent determined by a multiple of the standard rent is not less than the Minimum Rent.

Frequency of Rent Increase

No rent increase can be made within 12 months from the date of the last increase.

No rent increase can be made within 24 months from the date of the last increase.

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 4 -

REVIEW OF POLICE FORCE ORDINANCE

* * * * *

POLICE POWERS TO STOP, SEARCH, ARREST AND DETAIN SUSPECTS ARE TO BE MODIFIED TO BRING THEM IN LINE WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS ORDINANCE.

THE EXISTING POWERS ARE CONTAINED IN THE POLICE FORCE ORDINANCE, ONE OF THE SIX PIECES OF LEGISLATION EXEMPTED FROM THE OPERATION OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS ORDINANCE WHEN IT CAME INTO EFFECT ON JUNE 8, 1991. THE EXEMPTION EXPIRES NEXT MONTH.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID MEASURES BEING PROPOSED IN THE POLICE FORCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 WOULD MEET PROVISIONS IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS ORDINANCE THAT NO ONE SHOULD BE SUBJECTED TO ARBITRARY ARREST OR DETENTION, OR UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE WITH HIS PRIVACY.

BUT HE STRESSED THAT THE CHANGES WOULD NOT AFFECT THE ABILITY OF THE POLICE TO COMBAT CRIME.

"THE PROPOSALS STRIKE A SENSIBLE BALANCE BETWEEN THE NEED TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE POLICE POWERS ON THE ONE HAND AND THE NEED TO MEET THE CONCERN OF THE BILL OF RIGHTS ON THE OTHER."

"UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION, THE POLICE MAY ARREST WITHOUT A WARRANT ANY PERSON WHO MAY BE CHARGED WITH OR WHOM THE POLICE OFFICER REASONABLY SUSPECTS OF HAVING COMMITTED ANY OFFENCE, REGARDLESS OF HOW TRIVIAL THE OFFENCE IS," HE SAID.

"THE PROPOSALS LIMIT THESE POWERS TO SITUATIONS WHERE AN OFFICER SUSPECTS THE PERSON HAS COMMITTED AN OFFENCE PUNISHABLE BY IMPRISONMENT ON FIRST CONVICTION; AN OFFENCE CARRYING A DEATH PENALTY OR LIFE IMPRISONMENT; AND ANY OFFENCE IF PROOF OF IDENTITY OR PERMANENT ADDRESS CANNOT BE ASCERTAINED FOR SERVING SUMMONS."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE POWER TO SEARCH AN ARRESTED PERSON WOULD ALSO BE MODIFIED.

"UNDER THE PROPOSED BILL, THE SEARCH AND SEIZURE MUST BE LIMITED TO THINGS OF VALUE TO THE INVESTIGATION OF A SUSPECTED OFFENCE COMMITTED BY THE ARRESTED PERSON. THIS FOLLOWS COMMON LAW PRINCIPLES," HE ADDED.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT RELATES TO THE POWER OF ENTRY, SEARCH, SEIZURE AND DETENTION UNDER A WARRANT ISSUED BY A MAGISTRATE.

IT IS PROPOSED TO RESTRICT THESE POWERS TO SEARCHING FOR AND SEIZING ARTICLES THAT ARE LIKELY TO BE OF VALUE IN THE INVESTIGATION OF AN OFFENCE. HOWEVER, THE POWER OF ARREST OR AT LEAST TEMPORARY DETENTION IS TO BE RETAINED.

"WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT TO PRESERVE THIS POWER TO GUARD AGAINST ANYONE DESTROYING VALUABLE EVIDENCE OR TIPPING OFF ASSOCIATES ELSEWHERE WHO MAY BE CONNECTED WITH THE OFFENCE," SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

/HOWEVER UNDER

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 5 -

HOWEVER UNDER THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT, POLICE OFFICERS CAN ONLY DETAIN PERSONS WHO, IF NOT DETAINED, MIGHT PREJUDICE THE PURPOSE OF THE SEARCH, AND ONLY FOR SUCH PERIOD AS IS REASONABLY REQUIRED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT SECTION 54 WHICH COVERS THE POWER TO STOP, SEARCH AND DETAIN, WOULD BE SPLIT UNDER THE NEW LEGISLATION INTO TWO SUBSECTIONS TO COVER TWO DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.

THE FIRST SITUATION INVOLVES A PERSON FOUND TO BE ACTING SUSPICIOUSLY IN A PUBLIC PLACE.

"A POLICE OFFICER MAY STOP SUCH A PERSON TO SEEK PROOF OF IDENTITY AND DETAIN HIM FOR A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME TO CHECK WHETHER HE IS A SUSPECTED OFFENDER," HE SAID.

"MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE OFFICER WILL HAVE THE POWER TO SEARCH THE SUSPECT IF HE THINKS IT NECESSARY TO ENSURE HIS OWN SAFETY," HE ADDED.

THE OTHER SITUATION INVOLVES PEOPLE REASONABLY SUSPECTED OF HAVING COMMITTED, OF BEING ABOUT TO COMMIT OR INTENDING TO COMMIT ANY OFFENCE.

IN ADDITION TO STOPPING AND DETAINING SUCH A PERSON, AN OFFICER MAY SEARCH FOR THINGS WHICH ARE SUSPECTED TO BE OF VALUE TO THE INVESTIGATION OF ANY OFFENCE RELATED TO THE PERSON.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE EXISTING SECTION 56, WHICH EMPOWERS POLICE TO DETAIN ANYONE FOUND REMOVING FURNITURE FROM PREMISES AT NIGHT, WAS OBSOLETE AND WOULD BE REPEALED.

HE SAID OTHER SECTIONS OF THE POLICE FORCE ORDINANCE WERE ALSO UNDER REVIEW BY THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION, BUT THAT THE CURRENT EXERCISE HAD FOCUSED ON POWERS THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE BILL OF RIGHTS.

"WE WILL STUDY THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION REPORT WHEN IT IS AVAILABLE TO SEE IF ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE ORDINANCE ARE REQUIRED," HE SAID.

THE BILL WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TOMORROW AND INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT WEDNESDAY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 6 -

LBAC MEETING ON LAND ASSESSMENT
* * * * *

THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LBAC) DISCUSSED THE ASSESSMENT OF FUTURE LAND REQUIREMENTS AND LAND SUPPLY FOR 1991/92 - 2000/01 IN ITS MEETING THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING.

THE ANNUAL ASSESSMENT, MADE BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, AIMS TO IDENTIFY ANY POSSIBLE SHORTFALL OR SURPLUS OF NEW SITES FOR PARTICULAR TYPES OF LAND USE IN HONG KONG OVER THE NEXT 10-YEAR PERIOD IN THE CONTEXT OF LAND REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY.

IT HAS ALSO TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE SUPPLY OF LAND FROM THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME AND PORT-RELATED PROJECTS.

RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT WILL PROVIDE A USEFUL INPUT TO THE REVIEW OF LAND PRODUCTION PROGRAMMES AND ADJUSTMENT OF PLANNED LAND USES SO AS TO REDUCE THE MISMATCH BETWEEN LAND SUPPLY AND REQUIREMENT.

MEMBERS OF THE LBAC WERE INFORMED THAT THE ASSESSMENT SHOWED A SHORTFALL OF LAND FOR PUBLIC HOUSING, BOTH PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING AND HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME WITHIN THE NEXT 10 YEARS.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT SOME OF THE SURPLUS IN OTHER LAND USES COULD BE RELEASED TO REDRESS THE SHORTFALL.

WHILE THERE IS A SURPLUS OF LAND SUPPLY FOR PRIVATE HOUSING IN THE MEDIUM TERM, A SHORTFALL IS EXPECTED BY THE END OF 2000/01.

BUT THIS WILL BECOME A CUMULATIVE SURPLUS WHEN UNCOMMITTED PROJECTS ARE INCLUDED IN THE LAND SUPPLY.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS ALSO NOTED THAT THE RECLAMATION PROJECTS IN CENTRAL AND WAN CHAI, WEST KOWLOON AND HUNG HOM WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE ADDITIONAL OFFICE SITES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

REGARDING THE LAND REQUIREMENTS FOR INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, THERE WILL BE A SURPLUS OF INDUSTRIAL LAND THROUGHOUT THE STUDY PERIOD, SOME OF THESE SURPLUS COULD BE REZONED TO OTHER LAND USES.

SOME OF THE SURPLUS IN LAND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY (GIC) AND OPEN SPACE WILL BE DEVELOPED EVENTUALLY WITH A BUILD-UP IN POPULATION IN NEW DEVELOPMENT AREAS AND WHEN FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

MEMBERS OF THE LBAC WERE ALSO TOLD THAT THE PROJECTED LAND REQUIREMENTS WERE BASED ON A NUMBER OF ASSUMPTIONS CONCERNING MARKET CONDITIONS AND STATE OF ECONOMY WHICH WERE SUBJECT TO CHANGES.

THE STATISTICS OF THE ASSESSMENT EXERCISE ARE INDICATIVE ONLY AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE USED WITH CAUTION AND FOR BROADBRUSH PLANNING PURPOSES ONLY.

/TABLE 1

Table 1 : Balance of Land Requirements and Land Supply for Major Land Uses
(Committed Projects)

Year of Development Year of Land Requirement	1995/96-1998/99 1992/93-1995/96 (ha)	1995/96-2000/01 1992/93-1997/98 (ha)
Public Housing		
Rental	-12.4	-28.5
HOS	-34.8	-41.8
PSPS	+0.0	+4.8
<hr/>		
Total	-47.2	-65.5
Year of Development Year of Land Requirement	1995/96-1998/99 1992/93-1995/96 (ha)	1995/96-2003/04 1992/93-2000/01 (ha)
Private Housing	+47.9	-36.2
Office	+5.3	+9.8
Industry	+114.4	+106.7
G/IC & Open Space	+150.1	+389.4

Note : Figures are cumulative

Table 2 : Balance of Land Requirements and Land Supply for Major Land Uses
(including Un-Committed Projects)

Year of Development Year of Land Requirement	1995/96-1998/99 1992/93-1995/96 (ha)	1995/96-2003/04 1992/93-2000/01 (ha)
Private Housing	+75.5	+16.8
Industry	+196.0	+285.6
G/IC & Open Space	+206.9	+522.9

Note : Figures are cumulative

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 8 -

CONCERTED EFFORTS ESSENTIAL TO REHABILITATION SERVICES

* * * * *

CONCERTED EFFORTS BY THE GOVERNMENT, NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND THE COMMUNITY ARE ESSENTIAL TO FURTHER IMPROVE AND DEVELOP REHABILITATION SERVICES, THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SIR DAVID MADE THE REMARKS WHEN VISITING A NUMBER OF SERVICE UNITS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE EAST KOWLOON, PROVIDING SERVICES TO MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS AND DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS.

"WE HAVE BEEN ATTACHING GREAT IMPORTANCE TO REHABILITATION SERVICES. THE GOVERNMENT HAS PLANNED TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL OF 2,600 PLACES FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE IN THE COMING THREE YEARS.

"BUT MUCH MORE NEED TO BE DONE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED AND I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE THIS A HIGH PRIORITY IN THE YEARS AHEAD," HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID, ACCOMPANIED BY THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MRS ROSE GOODSTADT, FIRST TOURED PO LEUNG KUK 88 KWUN TONG WORKSHOP AND HOSTEL AT TSUI PING ESTATE, WHICH CATER FOR MODERATELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS.

DURING THE TOUR, HE WAS BRIEFED ON SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE WORKSHOP AND HOSTEL.

THE WORKSHOP PROVIDES SHELTERED WORK FOR DISABLED PEOPLE WHO BECAUSE OF THEIR DISABILITY, CANNOT NORMALLY ENTER INTO OPEN AND COMPETITIVE EMPLOYMENT.

HE WAS IMPRESSED BY THE WORK THERE AND CALLED ON BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO GIVE THEM JOB.

THE WORKSHOP HAS A HOSTEL ATTACHED PROVIDING RESIDENTIAL PROVISION FOR THEM WHO ARE UNABLE TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY THEN PROCEEDED TO KOWLOON UNION CHURCH WAI JI DAY ACTIVITY CENTRE (DAC) CUM HOSTEL AT PO LAM ESTATE TO SEE FOR HIMSELF HOW THE DAC PROVIDED DAY CARE, SIMPLE OCCUPATIONAL TRAINING AND WORK TRAINING TO LOW-MODERATE AND SEVERELY MENTALLY HANDICAPPED ADULTS.

SIR DAVID ALSO TOURED THE HOSTEL, WHICH PROVIDES ACCOMMODATION, PERSONAL AND NURSING CARE, AND TRAINING TO THE RESIDENTS WHO CANNOT BE ADEQUATELY CARED FOR BY THEIR OWN MEANS OR BY THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS.

SIR DAVID'S LAST STOP WAS THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE'S TSUI LAM HOUSE FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS AT TSUI LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O WHERE HE SPOKE TO A NUMBER OF RESIDENTS THERE.

/HE WAS

HE WAS GLAD TO LEARN THAT SOME OF THEM WERE ALREADY FULLY EMPLOYED.

"I AM DELIGHTED TO SEE THE GOOD QUALITY OF SERVICES BEING PROVIDED BY THE NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS, AND THAT THE DEDICATED STAFF OF THESE AGENCIES ARE DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB TO HELP THE DISABLED.

"THE REHABILITATION OF THE MENTALLY ILL REQUIRE THE FULL SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY," SIR DAVID ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

PUBLIC CONCERNS ABOUT NUCLEAR SAFETY WILL NOT DISAPPEAR OVERNIGHT:SES
* * * * *

IT WOULD BE NAIVE TO THINK THAT PUBLIC CONCERNS ABOUT THE SAFETY OF NUCLEAR ENERGY ARE GOING TO DISAPPEAR OVERNIGHT, ACTING SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ELIZABETH BOSHER, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ON NUCLEAR ENERGY, MRS BOSHER SAID SOME OF THE CONCERNS WERE BASED ON IGNORANCE.

"FOR MOST OF US THE TECHNOLOGY IS BAFFLING AND THE POWER UNLEASHED BY NUCLEAR FISSION AWESOME," SHE SAID.

"IT IS RIGHT THAT WE SHOULD TREAT NUCLEAR ENERGY WITH THE RESPECT IT DESERVES.

"THAT IS WHY THE GOVERNMENT IS PUTTING IN PLACE COMPREHENSIVE PLANS AND PROCEDURES TO DEAL WITH THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF AN ACCIDENTAL RELEASE OF RADIATION AT DAYA BAY---NO MATTER HOW REMOTE THE CHANCES OF SUCH AN ACCIDENT MAY BE," SHE SAID.

MRS BOSHER SAID THE COMMISSIONING OF THE DAYA BAY POWER STATION NEXT YEAR WOULD MARK AN IMPORTANT MILESTONE.

"FOR THE FIRST TIME, HONG KONG PEOPLE WILL RECEIVE ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY NUCLEAR POWER," SHE SAID.

SOME 25% OF THE BASE LOAD REQUIREMENTS OF KOWLOON AND THE NEW TERRITORIES WILL BE SUPPLIED BY THE DAYA BAY POWER PLANT WHEN IT IS IN FULL OPERATION.

THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN SUPPORTIVE OF THE ROLE OF THE HONG KONG NUCLEAR INVESTMENT COMPANY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROJECT, MRS BOSHER SAID.

"I AM ONE OF TWO SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF THE COMPANY AND WE ARE SATISFIED THAT THE PLANT IS BEING CONSTRUCTED TO THE HIGHEST INTERNATIONAL SAFETY STANDARDS," SHE ADDED.

/THE SEMINAR

THE SEMINAR ON NUCLEAR ENERGY IS ORGANISED BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE HONG KONG NUCLEAR INVESTMENT COMPANY.

ITS PURPOSE IS TO PROMOTE WIDER PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES RELATED TO THE GENERATION OF NUCLEAR POWER.

- - - - 0 - - - -

STUDY ON SCIENCE PARK COMMISSIONED

* * * *

THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) COMMISSIONED A CONSULTANCY STUDY TO EXAMINE THE CASE FOR DEVELOPING A SCIENCE PARK IN HONG KONG.

THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, AND THE DIRECTOR (ASIA) OF SEGAL QUINCE WICKSTEED LTD (SQW), MR CHRIS GREEN, SIGNED THE \$4.19 MILLION CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT THIS MORNING.

IN ADDITION TO SQW WHICH CARRIED OUT THE ORIGINAL CONSULTANCY STUDIES LEADING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, THE PRESENT STUDY WILL INVOLVE A NUMBER OF SUB-CONSULTANTS.

THEY INCLUDED MACNEIL PACIFIC, HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL, HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, TOWNLAND, HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE, NOMURA RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NEXUS (USA) AND DYTECH (USA AND TAIWAN).

SPEAKING AFTER THE SIGNING CEREMONY, MR BARMA SAID THE STUDY FOLLOWED THE GOVERNMENT DECISION TO DEVELOP A TECHNOLOGY CENTRE.

"THE MAIN FUNCTION OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE IS TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR SMALL 'START-UP' COMPANIES. THE MAJORITY OF TENANTS OF THE CENTRE WOULD OCCUPY UNITS OF ONLY 20 TO 100 SQUARE METRES IN AREA.

"AS TENANTS OF THE TECHNOLOGY CENTRE GROW AND THEIR BUSINESSES EXPAND, SOME WILL WANT TO GO INTO A FACTORY ENVIRONMENT TO MANUFACTURE PRODUCTS THEY HAVE DEVELOPED.

"OTHERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO ARE RESEARCH- OR SERVICE-ORIENTED, SUCH AS COMPUTER SOFTWARE DESIGNERS AND LABORATORY TESTING FACILITIES, WILL WANT TO MOVE INTO LARGER ACCOMMODATION AND A SCIENCE PARK COULD PROVIDE THE EXTRA SPACE THAT THEY NEED," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE SCIENCE PARK COULD ALSO PROVIDE SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR EXISTING MANUFACTURERS WHO WANTED TO DEVELOP THEIR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CAPABILITY.

"MOREOVER, THE SCIENCE PARK COULD OFFER A LIMITED NUMBER OF SITES TO LARGE 'ANCHOR' TENANTS. IN SEVERAL SCIENCE PARKS, A KEY ROLE HAS BEEN PLAYED BY A SINGLE WELL-KNOWN HIGH TECHNOLOGY FIRM.

/"SUCH FIRMS

"SUCH FIRMS NOT ONLY ADD PRESTIGE TO THE PARK, WHICH ATTRACTS OTHER COMPANIES, BUT ALSO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTRACT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK BY OTHER SMALLER TENANTS OF THE PARK," HE SAID.

THE CONSULTANCY STUDY REQUIRES A BACKGROUND ANALYSIS OF THE PRESENT AND LIKELY FUTURE TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE IN HONG KONG AND THE ASIAN REGION, AND THE EXPERIENCE OF DEVELOPING SCIENCE PARKS ELSEWHERE.

IT ALSO REQUIRES A DETAILED MARKET ANALYSIS CONDUCTED BOTH LOCALLY AND OVERSEAS TO IDENTIFY THE DEMAND FOR A SCIENCE PARK IN HONG KONG AND THE SERVICES THAT TENANTS MIGHT REQUIRE, AND AN OVERALL ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE BENEFITS THAT MIGHT BE GAINED BY HONG KONG THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SCIENCE PARK.

"AS A RESULT OF THIS WORK THE CONSULTANTS WILL BE ASKED TO RECOMMEND CLEARLY WHETHER A SCIENCE PARK SHOULD OR SHOULD NOT BE DEVELOPED AND, IF SO, DEFINE WHAT THIS MIGHT MEAN IN THE CONTEXT OF HONG KONG," MR BARMA SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE CONSULTANTS' FINAL REPORT WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (ITDC) FOR ITS CONSIDERATION.

"IF THE ITDC BELIEVES THAT THE NEED FOR A SCIENCE PARK HAS CLEARLY BEEN SHOWN BY THE CONSULTANTS' FINDINGS, FUNDS WILL BE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR THE SECOND PART OF THE STUDY."

PART TWO OF THE STUDY WOULD INCLUDE WHERE AND HOW THE SCIENCE PARK MIGHT BE ESTABLISHED, THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS AS WELL AS THE DEGREE TO WHICH BOTH THE TERTIARY ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR MIGHT BE INVOLVED.

PART ONE OF THE STUDY WILL START ON JUNE 1 AND BE COMPLETED IN SIX MONTHS.

- - - - 0 - - - -

APPLICATION FEES FOR CERTAIN TRADE LICENCES,
DOCUMENTS AND SERVICES TO BE REVISED

* * * * *

AS FROM JUNE 1, APPLICATION FEES FOR CERTAIN TRADE LICENCES AND CERTIFICATES, DOCUMENTS AND SERVICES WILL BE REVISED UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (FEES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1992 TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (THURSDAY) STRESSED THAT THE INCREASE WAS NECESSARY TO RECOVER THE COST.

"COSTING REVIEWS CONDUCTED BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT THESE SERVICES HAVE BEEN OPERATING AT A LOSS," HE SAID.

/"IT IS

"IT IS THE GOVERNMENT POLICY THAT FEES AND CHARGES SHOULD RECOVER THE FULL COST OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES.

"THE NEW SCALE OF FEES IS DETERMINED ON A FULL COST RECOVERY BASIS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE APPLICATION FEES WERE LAST REVISED IN MID 1989.

"BETWEEN 1988-89 AND 1990-91, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF TEXTILES RELATED APPLICATIONS PROCESSED BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT INCREASED BY 20%. WHEREAS THE NUMBER OF STAFF IN THE TRADE DEPARTMENT INVOLVED IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TEXTILES EXPORT AND IMPORT CONTROL SYSTEM INCREASED BY 10% ONLY.

"THIS REPRESENTS A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT IN PRODUCTIVITY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE TEXTILES ADVISORY BOARD AND THE TRADE ADVISORY BOARD HAVE BEEN CONSULTED RESPECTIVELY ON THE REVISION AND THEY HAVE EXPRESSED THEIR SUPPORT," HE ADDED.

FROM JUNE 1, THE FOLLOWING NEW SCALE OF FEES WILL APPLY:

TYPE OF APPLICATION -----	FEES -----	
	CURRENT ----- (\$)	NEW ----- (\$)
(I) TEXTILES LICENCES, DOCUMENTS AND SERVICES -----		
(a) NON-RESTRAINED EXPORT LICENCE (FORM 4)	25	40
(b) RESTRAINED EXPORT LICENCE (FORM 5)	65	120
(c) IMPORT LICENCE (FORM 7)	25	25
(d) TEXTILES CONTROLS REGISTRATION (ANNUAL FEE)	1,000	1,100
(e) SWING OF QUOTAS	100	175
(f) TRANSFER OF QUOTAS	100	175
(g) INTER-REGIONAL TRANSFER OF QUOTAS	100	175
(h) FREE QUOTA EXPORT AUTHORISATION	200	325
(i) SURVEILLANCE EXPORT AUTHORISATION	100	175
(j) CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF LICENCES AND CERTIFICATES	25	45

/(k) LICENCES ISSUED

(k) LICENCES ISSUED UNDER THE SPECIAL
EXPORT AND IMPORT LICENSING
(TEXTILES) SCHEME FOR
PIECE-KNITTED GARMENTS:

EXPORT LICENCE (FORM 8)	NIL*	120
SPECIAL EXPORT LICENCES (FORMS 8a AND 8d)	NIL*	40
SPECIAL IMPORT LICENCES (FORMS 8b, 8c AND 8e)	NIL*	25

* NO FEES HAVE BEEN CHARGED SO FAR AS THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE SPECIAL SCHEME IN AUGUST 1991 COINCIDED WITH THE MORATORIUM WHICH PREVENTED THE INTRODUCTION OF FEES FOR SUCH LICENCES

TYPE OF APPLICATION -----	FEES -----	
	CURRENT ----- (\$)	NEW ----- (\$)
(II) NON-TEXTILES TRADE DOCUMENTS -----		
(a) DELIVERY VERIFICATION CERTIFICATE	40	90
(b) INTERNATIONAL IMPORT CERTIFICATE	30	35
(c) LANDING CERTIFICATE	150	210
(d) CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF TRADE DECLARATION AND CARGO MANIFEST	100	140
(e) PROVISION OF OFFICIAL RECORDS OF STATISTICAL DATA DERIVED OR EXTRACTED FROM IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATIONS	10 (PER PAGE)	12 (PER PAGE)

- - - - 0 - - - -

OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE WITH CHINA IN 4TH QUARTER AND 1991

* * * * *

IN THE FOURTH QUARTER LAST YEAR, 72% OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA WAS RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

ON THE OTHER HAND, 53% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA WAS FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING; THE FIGURE WAS 75% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND 45% FOR RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA.

/THE CORRESPONDING

THE CORRESPONDING PROPORTIONS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990 WERE 62% FOR IMPORTS, 60% FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, 80% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND 51% FOR RE-EXPORTS.

FOR THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1991, 68% OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA WAS RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING.

ON THE OTHER HAND, 55% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA WAS FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING; THE FIGURE WAS 77% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND 48% FOR RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA.

THE CORRESPONDING PROPORTIONS IN 1990 WERE 62% FOR IMPORTS, 59% FOR TOTAL EXPORTS, 79% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND 50% FOR RE-EXPORTS.

THE DECREASES IN THE PROPORTIONS OF EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING AS RECORDED IN THE FOURTH QUARTER AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1991 REFLECT THAT HONG KONG'S EXPORTS FOR MEETING DOMESTIC DEMAND IN CHINA, NAMELY EXPORTS TO CHINA NOT DESTINED FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING, INCREASED AT A FASTER PACE THAN OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE DURING THE PERIOD.

THIS IS IN LINE WITH THE INCREASING DOMESTIC DEMAND IN CHINA FOR IMPORTED GOODS.

TO ENHANCE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURE AND IMPORTANCE OF OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE IN CHINA, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CONDUCTING A SURVEY SINCE THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1988 TO DISTINGUISH HONG KONG'S DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA INTO THOSE THAT ARE FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING AND THOSE THAT ARE NOT.

THE SCOPE OF THE SURVEY HAS BEEN EXTENDED SINCE THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1989 TO BREAK DOWN HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA INTO THOSE THAT ARE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING AND THOSE THAT ARE NOT.

THE RESULTS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1991 ARE NOW AVAILABLE.

IN VALUE TERMS, \$60,183 MILLION OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1991 WERE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 40% OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING INCREASED BY 15% TO \$31,278 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING GREW BY 8% TO \$11,179 MILLION AND BY 20% TO \$20,100 MILLION RESPECTIVELY.

FOR THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1991, \$197,384 MILLION OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA WERE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 36% OVER 1990.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING INCREASED BY 24% TO \$113,931 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING GREW BY 11% TO \$40,369 MILLION AND BY 33% TO \$73,562 MILLION RESPECTIVELY.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY, EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING REFER TO THE EXPORTATION OF RAW MATERIALS OR SEMI-MANUFACTURES FROM OR THROUGH HONG KONG TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING WITH A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT FOR SUBSEQUENT RE-IMPORTATION OF THE PROCESSED GOODS INTO HONG KONG.

IMPORTS FROM CHINA RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING REFER TO THE IMPORTATION OF PROCESSED GOODS FROM CHINA OF WHICH ALL OR PART OF THEIR RAW MATERIALS OR SEMI-MANUFACTURES ARE UNDER CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT EXPORTED FROM OR THROUGH HONG KONG TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING.

A SAMPLE OF TRADE DECLARATIONS IN RESPECT OF HONG KONG'S TRADE WITH CHINA (IMPORTS FROM CHINA, DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA) IS SELECTED FOR ENUMERATION TO OBTAIN THE REQUIRED INFORMATION FROM THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED SYSTEM OF RECORDING TRADE FLOWS, ALL MOVEMENTS OF GOODS ACROSS THE BORDER, FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE, ARE RECORDED AS EXTERNAL TRADE.

THUS THE MOVEMENTS OF GOODS ASSOCIATED WITH OUTWARD PROCESSING ARE CORRECTLY INCLUDED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS, HE ADDED.

"THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY, HOWEVER, FACILITATE A MORE INFORMED ANALYSIS OF THE NATURE OF HONG KONG-CHINA TRADE. IN THIS RESPECT, THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE A USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS," HE SAID.

DETAILS OF THE SURVEY RESULTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE MARCH 1992 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE".

THIS REPORT WILL BE ON SALE AROUND MAY 22 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI AT \$52 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADE SURVEYS AND SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 582 5037.

THE ESTIMATES FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER AND THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1991 AND THE CORRESPONDING CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990 ARE SUMMARISED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

/TOTAL VALUE

TOTAL VALUE OF TRADE WITH CHINA AND ESTIMATED VALUE AND PROPORTION OF
TRADE OF OUTWARD PROCESSING NATURE, 4TH QUARTER AND WHOLE YEAR OF 1991

	4TH QTR. 1991 ----- (HKD MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER 4TH QTR. 1990 ----- (%)	1991 ----- (HKD MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE OVER 1990 ----- (%)
TOTAL TRADE VALUE * :				
IMPORTS FROM CHINA	84,024	+21.8	291,829	+24.3
TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA	59,381	+30.5	205,328	+31.3
DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA	14,980	+15.7	52,751	+14.4
RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA	44,401	+36.3	152,576	+38.3

ESTIMATED VALUE OF OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE :

IMPORTS FROM CHINA	60,183	+40.2	197,384	+36.0
TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA	31,278	+15.5	113,931	+24.0
DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA	11,179	+ 8.0	40,369	+10.8
RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA	20,100	+20.1	73,562	+32.6

ESTIMATED PROPORTION OF OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE IN TRADE WITH CHINA :

	4TH QTR. 1991 ----- (%)	4TH QTR. 1990 ----- (%)	1991 ----- (%)	1990 ----- (%)
IMPORTS FROM CHINA	71.6	62.2	67.6	61.8
TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA	52.7	59.5	55.5	58.8
DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA	74.6	80.0	76.5	79.0
RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA	45.3	51.4	48.2	50.3

* THE VALUE EXCLUDES COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED
ACCORDING TO KIND.

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 17 -

HK TO ATTEND PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COUNCIL
* * * * *

A HONG KONG DELEGATION WILL ATTEND THE PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION COUNCIL (PECC) STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING TO BE HELD TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN SEATTLE.

LED BY CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG COMMITTEE FOR PACIFIC ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION (HKCPEC) AND MANAGING DIRECTOR OF LAM SOON HONG KONG GROUP, DR RAYMOND K.F. CH' IEN, THE DELEGATION INCLUDES SECRETARY-GENERAL OF HKCPEC AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR JOHN C. TSANG.

"HONG KONG INTENDS TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION. BEING THE FOURTH LARGEST TRADING ENTITY IN THE REGION AND WITH TRADE WITH THE ASIA-PACIFIC ACCOUNTING FOR 78% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE LAST YEAR, HONG KONG WILL CONTRIBUTE TO, AND BENEFIT FROM, REGIONAL ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION," DR CH' IEN SAID.

HKCPEC WAS SET UP ON MARCH 19, 1990 TO ADVISE ON MATTERS RELATING TO HONG KONG'S PARTICIPATION IN THE PECC AND TO CO-ORDINATE HONG KONG'S INPUT TO THE COUNCIL.

IT COMPRISES PROMINENT PERSONS FROM BUSINESS AND ACADEMIC SECTORS AND FROM THE GOVERNMENT, ALL PARTICIPATING IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY.

HONG KONG WAS ADMITTED TO THE PECC IN MAY LAST YEAR.

PECC IS A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION SET UP IN 1980 TO DEVELOP CLOSE CO-OPERATION IN TRADE AND ECONOMIC POLICY ISSUES IN THE PACIFIC REGION.

PECC NOW COMPRISES 20 MEMBER COMMITTEES REPRESENTING THE ECONOMIES OF AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CANADA, CHILE, CHINA, HONG KONG, INDONESIA, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, PERU, THE PHILIPPINES, RUSSIA, SINGAPORE, CHINESE TAIPEI, THAILAND, THE UNITED STATES AND THE PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS, AND TWO INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS, THE PACIFIC BASIN ECONOMIC COUNCIL AND THE PACIFIC TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE.

POLICY MATTERS IN THE PECC ARE HANDLED BY A STANDING COMMITTEE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HEFTY FINE FOR UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS
* * * * *

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (THURSDAY) REITERATED THAT PROPERTY OWNERS MIGHT FACE HEFTY COURT FINES FOR HAVING CARRIED OUT BUILDING WORKS WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE AUTHORITY.

THE ADVICE CAME AFTER A RECENT COURT CASE IN WHICH A SCAFFOLDING COMPANY WAS FINED \$35,000 AT A SHA TIN COURT AFTER PLEADING GUILTY TO CARRYING OUT UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS ON ITS PROPERTY IN SHA TIN.

THE COURT WAS TOLD THAT STAFF OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, IN RESPONSE TO A COMPLAINT, INSPECTED THE PREMISES ON MA YEUNG PATH, SHA TIN ON OCTOBER 21 LAST YEAR AND REVEALED THAT A SERIES OF UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT.

THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS INCLUDED VARIOUS EXTENSIONS TO THE TWO-STOREY HOUSE, INTERNAL ALTERATIONS AND ROOFTOP STRUCTURES.

IN HIS MITIGATION, THE DIRECTOR OF VECTOR SCAFFOLDING COMPANY, MOK BONG-TUNG, TOLD THE COURT THAT HE HAD ALREADY STARTED TO REMOVE THE ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS FOR WHICH HE HAD SPENT ABOUT \$200,000.

HOWEVER, SPECIAL MAGISTRATE, MR H.H. TAM, IN PASSING SENTENCE, SAID A HEFTY FINE WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS WERE EXTENSIVE IN SCALE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

LICENCE REQUIRED FOR MARINE FISH TRANSPORTATION
* * * * *

FISHERMEN ARE REMINDED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM JUNE 1, VESSELS TRANSPORTING OVER 60 KILOGRAMMES OF MARINE FISH IN HONG KONG WATERS MUST BE IN POSSESSION OF A PERMIT ISSUED BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARKETING OF THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION (FMO).

THIS REQUIREMENT IS AIMED AT FURTHER COMBATTING ILLEGAL FISH MARKETING ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE WHOLESALE MARKETS RUN BY THE FMO.

PREVIOUSLY, VESSELS LICENCED AS FISHING VESSELS BY THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE WERE EXEMPTED FROM OBTAINING A PERMIT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, WHO IS CURRENTLY THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

WITH THE AMENDMENT OF THE MARINE FISH (MARKETING AND EXPORTATION) REGULATIONS, THE EXEMPTION PROVISION IS REMOVED.

OFFENDER IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000 AND IMPRISONMENT FOR SIX MONTHS.

APPLICATION FOR THE PERMIT MAY BE MADE AT THE FMO WHOLESALE MARKETS AND LIAISON OFFICES.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 19 -

TWO HIGH COURT JUDGES APPOINTED
* * * * *

THE JUDICIARY ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THE APPOINTMENTS OF TWO HIGH COURT JUDGES.

THEY ARE MR PATRICK CHAN SIU-OI AND MR FRANK STOCK, QC. THE APPOINTMENTS TOOK EFFECT TODAY.

MR CHAN WAS BORN IN HONG KONG IN OCTOBER 1948.

HE WAS EDUCATED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG WHERE HE OBTAINED HIS BACHELOR OF LAWS DEGREE WITH HONOURS IN 1974 AND WAS NOMINATED AS ONE OF TWO OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF THE YEAR IN THE LAW FACULTY.

HE TOOK HIS P.C.LL. WITH DISTINCTION THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

IN 1976, MR CHAN WAS CALLED TO THE BAR IN HONG KONG AND WAS IN PRIVATE PRACTICE UNTIL APPOINTED A DISTRICT COURT JUDGE IN NOVEMBER 1987. HE WAS APPOINTED A DEPUTY REGISTRAR IN JANUARY 1991.

APART FROM HIS JUDICIAL WORK, MR CHAN IS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT EXAMINATION BOARD ON THE P.C.LL. AND A CONSULTANT EDITOR OF HONG KONG LAW DIGEST.

HE IS AN HONORARY LECTURER AT HONG KONG UNIVERSITY AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WORK AT THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE AND A MEMBER OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES UNDER THE HONG KONG CARITAS.

HE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL WORK TRAINING AND MANPOWER PLANNING OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE POLICIES AND SERVICES SUPPORT SUB-COMMITTEE.

HE IS THE PATRON OF HONG KONG SOCIAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION.

MR CHAN, WHO IS MARRIED, HAS BEEN SITTING AS A DEPUTY HIGH COURT JUDGE SINCE SEPTEMBER 2, 1991.

MR STOCK WAS BORN IN RHODESIA IN JUNE 1945 AND EDUCATED THERE.

IN 1964, HE ATTENDED THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL IN ENGLAND WHERE HE GRADUATED IN 1967.

HE WAS CALLED TO THE BAR OF ENGLAND AND WALES IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

HE THEN SERVED HIS PUPILLAGE IN THE CHAMBERS OF THE LATE JOHN WILMERS, QC AND THEREAFTER WAS OFFERED A TENANCY IN THE SAME CHAMBERS.

IN 1978, MR STOCK JOINED THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AS CROWN COUNSEL WHERE HE WAS ATTACHED TO THE PROSECUTIONS DIVISION.

/HE WAS

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 20 -

HE WAS PROMOTED TO SENIOR CROWN COUNSEL THE FOLLOWING YEAR AND IN 1980, HAVING ACTED AS ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL, WAS PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL.

HE PLAYED A CONSIDERABLE PART IN DEVELOPING THE COMMERCIAL CRIME AND EXTRADITION SECTION.

MR STOCK WAS PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL IN 1984, OCCUPYING THE POST OF DEPUTY CROWN SOLICITOR. HE WAS MADE QUEEN'S COUNSEL THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

IN SEPTEMBER 1987, MR STOCK WAS APPOINTED SOLICITOR GENERAL. IN 1989, HE WAS APPOINTED JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

MR STOCK, WHO IS MARRIED WITH TWO SONS, HAS BEEN SITTING AS DEPUTY HIGH COURT JUDGE SINCE SEPTEMBER 1991 AND HAS BEEN HEARING CIVIL MATTERS ONLY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

REGIMENT RECRUITMENT EXERCISE TO CLOSE SOON
* * * * *

THE ROYAL HONG KONG REGIMENT (THE VOLUNTEERS) TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS TO SEND IN THEIR APPLICATIONS EARLY BEFORE THE LAST RECRUITMENT EXERCISE CLOSES ON MAY 31.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE VOLUNTEERS SAID: "THE REGIMENT WILL BE DISBANDED BY SEPTEMBER 1995, HONG KONG'S YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD TAKE THIS LAST OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN THE REGIMENT AND EXPERIENCE FOR THEMSELVES THE SATISFACTION OF BELONGING TO A DISCIPLINED ORGANISATION WHICH PROMOTES LEADERSHIP AND COMRADESHIP."

THIS YEAR, THE REGIMENT IS LOOKING FOR ABOUT 200 MALE AND 50 FEMALE RECRUITS.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE TRAINING IN BASIC MILITARY SKILLS, INCLUDING DRILL, HANDLING RIFLES, SUB-MACHINE GUNS, AND USE OF VEHICLES AND ASSAULT BOATS.

TRAINING IN MAP-READING, FIRST-AID AND OPERATING RADIO EQUIPMENT IS ALSO GIVEN.

"THIS NO DOUBT HELPS TO BUILD UP ONE'S PHYSIQUE AND CULTIVATE A MORE MATURE AND CAPABLE PERSONALITY.

"VOLUNTEERS WILL ALSO GAIN VALUABLE EXPERIENCE IN SUPERVISORY SKILLS, JUDGEMENT AND DECISION-MAKING," HE SAID.

A SIX-MONTH TRAINING FOR NEW RECRUITS WILL BE CARRIED OUT ON FOUR EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND PER MONTH. THEY WILL ALSO HAVE TO ATTEND TWO NINE-DAY TRAINING CAMPS BEFORE PASSING OUT.

/THE MAJORITY

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 21 -

THE MAJORITY OF TRAINING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE SCENIC COUNTRY PARKS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ON COMPLETION OF BASIC TRAINING, THE VOLUNTEERS WILL RECEIVE TRAINING ON TWO EVENINGS AND ONE WEEKEND A MONTH. THERE ARE TWO CAMP PERIODS, ONE OF WHICH IS SPENT ON MANNING THE HONG KONG-CHINA BORDER.

THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED SHOULD BE 18 YEARS OLD OR ABOVE, HAVE COMPLETED SECONDARY EDUCATION AND HAVE A REASONABLE KNOWLEDGE OF SPOKEN ENGLISH. THEY SHOULD ALSO HAVE REGULAR EMPLOYMENT AND SHOULD HAVE OBTAINED THEIR EMPLOYERS' CONSENT FOR JOINING THE FORCE.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INFORMATION LEAFLETS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS ON SPORTS ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY.

FURTHER INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE VOLUNTEERS' HEADQUARTERS ON TEL 576 1371.

- - - - 0 - - - -

135 RETURN TO VIETNAM

* * * *

A GROUP OF 135 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (THURSDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 56 MEN, 32 WOMEN, 30 BOYS AND 17 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 104TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THIS GROUP BROUGHT TO 4,226 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 18,205 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

- - - - 0 - - - -

46 PASS MEDICAL LICENTIATE EXAM

* * * * *

THE LICENTIATE COMMITTEE OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL OF HONG KONG ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT A TOTAL OF 46 CANDIDATES HAVE PASSED THE PART II (ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONAL USE PAPER) OF THE LICENTIATE EXAMINATION FOR UNREGISTRABLE DOCTORS THIS YEAR.

THE 1992 PART II EXAMINATION HAS BEEN HELD IN MARCH AND MAY THIS YEAR GIVING CANDIDATES A CHOICE OF EXAMINATION DATES AND THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE WHO FAILED IN THE FIRST EXAMINATION TO TAKE ANOTHER ONE IN THE SAME YEAR.

/OF THE

OF THE 46 SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES, 41 PASSED THE EXAMINATION IN MARCH AND FIVE IN MAY.

ALL THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED THE PART II EXAMINATION THIS YEAR ARE ELIGIBLE TO TAKE THE PART III EXAMINATION SCHEDULED FOR JULY THIS YEAR.

THE PART III EXAMINATION IS AN ORAL EXAMINATION ON CANDIDATES' ABILITY TO APPLY PROFESSIONAL KNOWLEDGE TO CLINICAL PROBLEMS.

EACH CANDIDATE WILL BE TESTED IN EACH OF THE THREE DISCIPLINES OF MEDICINE, SURGERY AND OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY.

- - - - 0 - - - -

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS VISIT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

* * * * *

SIX MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, LED BY CHAIRMAN MR TIMOTHY HA, TODAY (THURSDAY) CONTINUED THEIR TOURS OF SCHOOLS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS BY VISITING THE CHINESE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN BRAEMAR HILL, NORTH POINT.

ESTABLISHED IN 1984, THE SCHOOL USES ENGLISH AND PUTONGHUA AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION.

BOARD MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE SCHOOL WAS OPERATING 36 KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY CLASSES FOR 822 STUDENTS COMING FROM A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED KINGDOM, USA, AUSTRALIA AND OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES.

THE SECONDARY SECTION HAS JOINED THE GOVERNMENT'S DIRECT SUBSIDY SCHEME.

APART FROM OFFERING ACADEMIC COURSES, THE SCHOOL ALSO PLACED IMPORTANCE ON EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING GYMNASTICS, ARTS AND CRAFTS, CHINESE PAINTING AND SPORTS.

THE BOARD MEMBERS TAKING PART IN THE VISIT WERE MS SANSAN CHING, MRS MINNIE LAI, MISS SO YAN-LAP, MR CHAN KIN-HUNG AND MR LUKE YIP. THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), MR LUCAS CHAN.

- - - - 0 - - - -

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1992

- 23 -

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

	DATE	\$ MILLION
	----	-----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	20.5.92	1,288
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	21.5.92	-359*
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+59
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+700**
* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED	-300MN	
OTHER FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED	-59MN	
** O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON	22/5	
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX	111.7 *+0.2* 21.5.92	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.62 PCT	18 MONTHS	2311	6.25	102.35	4.65
1 MONTH	2.86 PCT	21 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.86	5.04
3 MONTHS	3.15 PCT	24 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.67	5.21
6 MONTHS	3.43 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.01 PCT					
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 10,018 MN						
CLOSED 21 MAY 1992						

- - - - 0 - - - -