



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1994

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1994

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STONECUTTERS CONTRACT AN OPEN TENDER: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THIS (MONDAY) EVENING SAID THE CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTING THE STONECUTTERS ISLAND BASE WAS AWARDED AS ALL GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, FRANCHISES AND GRANTS WERE AWARDED ON A STRICT-FORWARD LEVEL PLAYING FIELD BASIS.

RESPONDING TO A PRESS QUESTION, AFTER HIS RETURN FROM LONDON, ON THE IMPLICATION OF THE GRANTING OF THE STONECUTTERS ISLAND CONTRACT TO JARDINE, THE GOVERNOR DISMISSED THE SUGGESTION THAT IT WOULD WORSEN SINO-BRITISH RELATIONS AND MIGHT INFLUENCE THE AIRPORT AGREEMENT.

"IN THIS CASE, THERE WAS AN OPEN TENDER AND, I THINK, A NUMBER OF CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR RECENTLY THAT THEY ARE KEEN ON OPEN TENDERS," MR PATTEN SAID.

"THIS WAS AN OPEN TENDER AND I AM SURE THAT THE RESULT WILL BE AN EXCELLENT BASE BUILT AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE."

ASKED ABOUT THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, THE GOVERNOR SAID WHAT ALL PEOPLE IN HONG KONG WANTED WAS TO SEE THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL SET UP AND RUNNING WELL BEFORE 1997 OTHERWISE THERE WOULD BE A GAP IN HONG KONG'S LEGAL AND JURIDICAL ARRANGEMENTS.

"IT'S A SUBJECT WHICH HAS BEEN VERY CLOSELY DISCUSSED SINCE THE FIRST AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA IN THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP," HE SAID.

"I DON'T THINK THAT THERE ARE MANY NEW ANGLES FOR PEOPLE TO EXPLORE BUT OBVIOUSLY WE WANT TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF HEARING THE VIEWS OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND WE ALSO WILL WANT TO HAVE THE VIEWS ON THE BILL OF THE CHINESE SIDE AND THEN I HOPE WE CAN GET ON WITH THIS."

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TRANSCRIPT OF GOVERNOR'S MEDIA SESSION AT AIRPORT

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THE FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEDIA SESSION BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AFTER HIS RETURN FROM LONDON THIS (MONDAY) EVENING:

GOVERNOR: I'VE HAD A VERY SUCCESSFUL, ROUTINE, STOCKTAKING VISIT TO LONDON, PARTICULARLY VALUABLE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS AND THE ANNUAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL DINNER WAS ITS USUAL SUCCESS. I THINK MORE AND MORE PEOPLE EACH YEAR COME TO THAT OCCASION. IT'S A TRIBUTE TO HONG KONG'S SUCCESS ECONOMICALLY AND COMMERCIALY BOTH IN THE REGION AND INTERNATIONALLY, WITH SO MANY PEOPLE VERY CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE TERRITORY. AND THIS YEAR, WE HAD, I THINK, AN OUTSTANDING SPEECH BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND WHICH, I KNOW, THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL COMMUNITY WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY. I'M NOW BACK FOR AN OCCASION. IN ABOUT TWENTY MINUTES, I'M GOING TO THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR INDUSTRY CELEBRATIONS WHICH, I AM SURE, YOU'LL ALL BE FOLLOWING WITH GREAT INTEREST. ANY QUESTION BEFORE I GO?

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: ANY GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE AIRPORT?

GOVERNOR: I THINK THAT THE GOOD NEWS IS EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS WHEN I ANSWERED QUESTIONS LAST WEEK IN LONDON AND WHEN THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THEN THE ACTING GOVERNOR, WAS ANSWERING QUESTIONS EARLIER TODAY. I DON'T THINK THAT THERE IS ANYTHING THAT STANDS BETWEEN US ON AN AGREEMENT ON THE MINUTES EXCEPT THE ARRANGEMENTS ABOUT THE TIME AND PLACE TO SIGN IT. WHAT WE'VE THEN GOT TO DO IN IT IS A POINT THAT WE'VE BEEN STRESSING, NOT IN ORDER TO TAKE AWAY FROM THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MINUTES SIGNING BUT IN ORDER TO STRESS THAT WE ARE NOT QUITE AT THE END OF THE ROAD. WHAT WE'VE THEN GOT TO GET ON AND DO IS TO AGREE THE FSAS AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE, ONE FOR THE MTRC AND ONE FOR THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY. I THINK THOSE'RE THE DOCUMENTS THAT BANKERS WILL WANT TO SEE SAFELY TIED UP AND LOCKED AWAY. BUT IT'S, I HOPE, SHORTLY GOING TO BE THE END OF WHAT HAS BEEN A LONG NEGOTIATION. PEOPLE IN HONG KONG HAVE BEEN VERY PATIENT. I SUSPECT THEY'VE BEEN MORE PATIENT BECAUSE THEY'VE SEEN US GETTING ON BUILDING THE AIRPORT AS RAPIDLY AS WE WERE ABLE TO DO.

QUESTION: THE CONTRACT OF CONSTRUCTING THE STONECUTTERS ISLAND WAS GRANTED TO JARDINE. DO YOU THINK IT WILL WORSEN THE SINO-BRITISH RELATIONS, MAYBE IT WILL INFLUENCE THE AIRPORT AGREEMENT?

GOVERNOR: NO. IT WAS AWARDED AS ALL OUR CONTRACTS, FRANCHISES AND GRANTS ARE AWARDED ON A STRICT-FORWARD LEVEL PLAYING FIELD BASIS. IN THIS CASE, THERE WAS OPEN TENDER AND, I THINK, A NUMBER OF CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE MADE IT CLEAR RECENTLY THAT THEY ARE KEEN ON OPEN TENDERS. THIS WAS AN OPEN TENDER AND I AM SURE THE RESULT WILL BE AN EXCELLENT BASE BUILT AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE. IT WAS AN IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN OUR OVERALL AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF DEFENCE LANDS. THAT WAS ONE OF THE MOST DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS THAT WE HAD, DIFFICULT FOR THE CHINESE, DIFFICULT FOR US AND IT CAME OFF WITH A SOLUTION WHICH WILL BE EXTREMELY GOOD FOR HONG KONG IN THE FUTURE.

QUESTION: ANY INDICATION AT ALL FROM THE CHINESE SIDE THAT IT WILL NOT BE ...?

GOVERNOR: NO INDICATION THAT IT WILL AND NO REASON WHY IT SHOULD BE.

QUESTION: HOW CONFIDENT YOU ARE TO RESOLVE THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL AS MARTIN LEE HAS SAID THAT AMEND THE BILL?

GOVERNOR: I THINK THAT WHAT ALL OF US WANT IS TO SEE THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL SET UP AND RUNNING WELL BEFORE 1997. OTHERWISE, AS MANY OF OUR MOST SENIOR LEGAL OFFICIALS HAVE POINTED OUT, THERE WILL BE A GAP IN OUR LEGAL, OUR JURIDICAL ARRANGEMENTS AND THAT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT ANYBODY SHOULD WANT TO SEE. IT'S A SUBJECT WHICH HAS BEEN VERY CLOSELY DISCUSSED SINCE THE FIRST AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA IN THE JLG. I DON'T THINK THAT THERE ARE MANY NEW ANGLES FOR PEOPLE TO EXPLORE BUT OBVIOUSLY WE WANT TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY OF HEARING THE VIEWS OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND WE ALSO WILL WANT TO HAVE THE VIEWS ON THE BILL OF THE CHINESE SIDE AND THEN I HOPE WE CAN GET ON WITH THIS BECAUSE IT'S ONE OF THE, I THINK, COPING STONES IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE LEGAL ARRANGEMENTS. IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE GET ON WITH IT. ONE MORE.

/QUESTION:

QUESTION: WHAT WILL THE GOVERNMENT DO IN THE NEXT STAGE FOR THE OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME AS TODAY IS THE END OF THE CONSULTATION BUT QUITE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY HAVE STATED THEIR OPPOSITIONS TO THE SCHEME?

GOVERNOR: THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF COMMENTS ON THE SCHEME WITH SOME PEOPLE CRITICISING IT AND SOME PEOPLE SAYING YET THEY THINK IT IS A VERY GOOD THING. I BELIEVE THAT MOST OF THE SURVEYS WHICH HAVE BEEN DONE ON PUBLIC OPINION SUGGEST THAT THERE'S A HUGE MARGIN IN FAVOUR OF THE SCHEME BUT WHAT WE NOW HAVE TO DO IS TO LOOK AT ALL THE DIFFERENT PROPOSALS THAT HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD AND SEE HOW CLOSELY THEY COME TO OUR PRIORITY WHICH IS TO DEAL WITH NEEDS AMONG THE ELDERLY AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE AND AT AS REASONABLE AND PRUDENT A COST AS POSSIBLE. AND WHEN WE CONSIDER THOSE VARIOUS PROPOSALS MADE BY OTHER PEOPLE, WE WILL COME FORWARD WITH OUR OWN CONSIDERED VIEW ON THE BEST WAY FORWARD AND THEN WE WILL WANT TO DISCUSS THAT WITH SENIOR OFFICIALS IN THE PRC BECAUSE EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT THIS IS PRINCIPALLY A SOCIAL POLICY FOR THE FUTURE AND IT VERY MUCH AFFECTS THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SAR GOVERNMENT IN THE FUTURE. I DON'T THINK THERE'S ANY DOUBT ABOUT THAT. BUT OUR VIEW, SINCE WE BELIEVE IN STRONG EXECUTIVE-LED GOVERNMENT THAT UNDERSTANDS OTHER PEOPLE DO AS WELL, OUR VIEW IS THAT THESE AREN'T PROBLEMS WHICH WILL BE EASIER TO SOLVE IF WE PUT THEM OFF INTO THE FUTURE. THEY WILL BE MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF ELDERLY PEOPLE IS INCREASING ALL THE TIME AND THIS COMMUNITY, I THINK, WANTS TO BE FAIR TO ITS ELDERLY. THANKS VERY MUCH.

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HK SHOULD SPEAK UP TO MAKE 'ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS' A REALITY

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THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID WITH THE TRANSITION REACHING ITS FINAL PHASE, THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG HAD TO SPEAK UP TO MAKE A REALITY OF THE "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" CONCEPT.

ADDRESSING A LUNCHEON OF THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB TODAY (MONDAY), MRS CHAN SAID: "OUR FUTURE IS WHAT WE MAKE OF IT."

"IF WE UNITE TO MAKE OUR VOICES HEARD AND IF WE ALL SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE FOR THE COMMON GOOD, THEN I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT, GIVEN THE COMMITMENT OF BOTH SOVEREIGN POWERS TO FAITHFULLY IMPLEMENT THE JOINT DECLARATION AND BASIC LAW, WE WILL MAKE A REALITY OF THE 'ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS' CONCEPT," SHE SAID.

MRS CHAN DID NOT HAVE ANY DOUBTS ABOUT BRITAIN AND CHINA'S COMMITMENT TO THE HISTORIC TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY. SHE BELIEVED THAT ALL WANTED IT TO SUCCEED.

HOWEVER, SHE KNEW THAT SECURING THE HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY GUARANTEED TO THE TERRITORY BY THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW FOR THE LIFE OF THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (SAR) GOVERNMENT WAS NOT GOING TO HAPPEN JUST BECAUSE THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW SAID IT WOULD.

/"WE ARE

"WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO WORK HARD, VERY, VERY HARD, TO MAKE SURE THAT IT HAPPENS."

THAT'S WHY THE DESIRE FOR CO-OPERATION BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA ON THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES OF THE TRANSITION RUNS SO DEEP IN THE COMMUNITY, MRS CHAN SAID.

"THEY WANT BOTH SIDES TO GET ON WITH IT, TO COME UP WITH ANSWERS TO THE PROBLEMS WE NEED TO RESOLVE BETWEEN NOW AND 1997."

"I BELIEVE THE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE GOVERNOR IN HIS POLICY ADDRESS OFFER A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY TO DO THIS.

"I'M SURE THE COMMUNITY WOULD WELCOME A POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THEM, AS THEY WOULD ANY NEW IDEAS OR PROPOSALS WHICH THE CHINESE SIDE ITSELF MIGHT PUT FORWARD."

SHE SAID: "IT ALSO MEANS HONG KONG PEOPLE ARE INCREASINGLY GOING TO HAVE TO ASSERT THEMSELVES AS A COMMUNITY AND SAY CLEARLY WHAT THEY THINK AUTONOMY MEANS.

"MORE IMPORTANTLY, THEY MUST MAKE IT CLEAR WHEN THEY SEE THAT AUTONOMY THREATENED OR COMPROMISED.

MRS CHAN SAID SHE HAD NEVER KNOWN THE PUBLIC OR THE MEDIA TO BE SHY ABOUT OFFERING ADVICE AND CRITICISM TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THEY MUST BE AS FRANK WITH THE FUTURE SOVEREIGN ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO THE TERRITORY AS THEY HAVE BEEN WITH THE CURRENT SOVEREIGN, SHE SAID.

SHE SAID AT THE TOP OF THAT LIST WAS SURELY THE AUTONOMY GUARANTEED TO HONG KONG BY THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW, ADDING THAT IT WAS WHAT HONG KONG'S FUTURE WAS ALL ABOUT.

SHE ADDED THAT FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO WOULD BE LIVING HERE AFTER 1997, THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW WERE THEIR GUARANTEE OF HONG KONG'S CONTINUING LIFESTYLE AFTER 1997, AND THAT THEY HAD A CRITICAL STAKE IN THEIR FULL AND FAITHFUL IMPLEMENTATION.

BUT MRS CHAN MADE IT CLEAR THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE COULD NOT AFFORD TO BE SELECTIVE ABOUT WHICH PARTS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW THEY WANTED TO SEE IMPLEMENTED.

"THEY MUST BE TAKEN AND IMPLEMENTED WHOLE.

"WE CAN'T SETTLE FOR AN EASY LIFE BY TURNING A BLIND EYE WHEN ONE OR OTHER ISSUE MAKES THE GOING ROUGH.

"ONCE WE START SAYING THAT CERTAIN PARTS OF THEM CAN BE IGNORED OR DISREGARDED, WE ARE IN DANGER OF PULLING APART THE WHOLE EDIFICE.

MRS CHAN HOPED THAT THE COMMUNITY COULD MAKE ITSELF HEARD IN A CALM, REASONABLE AND BALANCED MANNER.

/SHE SAID.....

SHE SAID CIVIL SERVANTS WERE USED TO AUTONOMY FROM BRITAIN, AND THEY LOOKED FORWARD TO WORKING WITH A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY IN THE SAR GOVERNMENT, WHICH WAS THE GUARANTEE OF THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW.

NOTING THE BUSINESS LINKS ALREADY IN EXISTENCE BETWEEN CHINA AND HONG KONG, MRS CHAN SAID THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THIS SYMBIOTIC RELATIONSHIP SHOULD NOT CONTINUE TO RUN ITS NATURAL COURSE AFTER 1997.

"SO LONG AS ALL OF THE PLAYERS IN THE GAME WORK TO ENSURE THAT ALL THE CONDITIONS PAINSTAKINGLY LAID OUT IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW ARE APPLIED IN FULL."

MRS CHAN SAID HAVING THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW DID NOT GUARANTEE SUCCESS.

"WITH THE TRANSITION REACHING ITS FINAL PHASE, THE COMMUNITY WILL WANT TO SEE THE EVIDENCE THAT THE PROMISES ARE BEING MINTED INTO BANKABLE POLITICAL CURRENCY.

"IF THEY FEEL THAT IS NOT HAPPENING, THEY WILL, AS I HAVE SAID, HAVE TO HOLD UP THEIR HAND."

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QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION BY DEPUTY TO GOVERNOR

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FOLLOWING IS THE TRANSCRIPT OF THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION BY THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, MRS ANSON CHAN, AFTER HER LUNCHEON ADDRESS AT FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS' CLUB TODAY (MONDAY):

QUESTION: CHAIRMAN, I AM SURE WE ALL ENDORSE THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR'S CALL FOR PEOPLE TO SPEAK OUT. THERE IS A COROLLARY TO THAT, OF COURSE, AND THAT IS THAT THE GOVERNMENT KNOWS HOW TO LISTEN TO WHAT IS SAID - DOES NOT SELECTIVELY CHOOSE WHAT IT LIKES AND DISREGARD WHAT IT DOESN'T LIKE. AND THERE ARE NOTABLE EXAMPLES OF THAT.

MY QUESTION IS SIMPLY THIS. THE INITIATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE HUGE BACKLASH FROM CHINA HAVE DEFEATED SUCH THINGS AS THE THROUGH-TRAIN CONCEPT. NOW, I SUGGEST DRASTIC PROBLEMS CALL FOR DRASTIC SOLUTIONS. WOULD THE DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR CARE TO COMMENT ON THIS RATHER RADICAL IDEA IN AN OBJECTIVE FASHION:

FIRST, THE GOVERNOR STAYS IN BRITAIN IN ORDER TO BRING IN AND PERSUADE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO ENACT LEGISLATION, AND ALLOWS THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO FORM SOMETHING SIMILAR TO WINSTON CHURCHILL'S WARTIME CABINET. THAT IS, FORMS AN ASSEMBLY WHICH BRINGS TOGETHER BUSINESSMEN, LEGISLATORS AND CHINESE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES SO THAT WE HAVE AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT REPRESENTING ALL POINTS OF VIEW TO BRING ABOUT THAT MUCH SMOOTHER ..

/CHAIRMAN:

CHAIRMAN: CAN WE GET TO THE POINT?

MRS CHAN: I'LL BE HAPPY TO ANSWER THE QUESTION IF YOU WILL JUST LET ME KNOW WHAT THE QUESTION IS.

QUESTION: SORRY. WOULD YOU COMMENT ON THAT PROPOSITION, OF AN INTERIM GOVERNMENT TO SMOOTH OUT THE TRANSITION BECAUSE THE PRESENT SITUATION IS SUCH THAT WE DO NOT SEEM TO BE FACING A SMOOTH TRANSITION IN TWO-AND-A-HALF YEAR'S TIME?

MRS CHAN: THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW MAKE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, TOGETHER WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION OF HONG KONG BETWEEN NOW AND 1997. THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM PACKAGE THAT WE HAVE NOW PUT IN PLACE, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, IN OUR VIEW, IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE BASIC LAW, THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED BETWEEN THE TWO SOVEREIGN POWERS; THEY ARE CLEARLY WHAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WISH TO HAVE. THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG WISH TO SEE CONTINUITY IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AFTER 1997. AND WE BELIEVE THAT SINCE WE'VE PUT TOGETHER A CREDIBLE PACKAGE, SUPPORTED BY THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, AND PARTICULARLY IF THEY ARE SEEN TO BE WORKING SMOOTHLY - AND WE HAVE JUST HAD OUR FIRST SET OF ELECTIONS UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS - THERE IS NO REASON WHY THESE ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE DISMANTLED AFTER 1997. I AM SURE THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL WISH TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE.

QUESTION: MRS CHAN, YOU SAID THAT THE WORDS OF THE RECENT DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED TO MEAN WHAT THEY SAID. BUT THE PROBLEM REALLY IS: WHAT DO THESE WORDS TRULY MEAN? NORMALLY, THE PARTIES WILL DIFFER - AS IN THE CASE OF CONSTITUTING ELECTIONS - ABOUT WHAT WORDS MEAN. SOMETIMES, HOWEVER, THE UK AND CHINA HAVE AGREED ON AN INTERPRETATION OF THE RELEVANT WORDS THAT SEEMS TO BE AT VARIANCE WITH THE MEANING, THE COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD MEANING OF THOSE WORDS, AS IN THE CASE OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL. WOULD YOU COMMENT, PLEASE, ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL WITH RESPECT TO THE PROCESS OF INTERPRETING THESE VERY IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS?

MRS CHAN: WE BELIEVE THAT THE ARRANGEMENTS, THE AGREEMENT REACHED WITH THE CHINESE IN 1991 OVER THE SETTING UP OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BASIC LAW. WE FEEL THAT IT IS IMPORTANT, ON THE BASIS OF THAT AGREEMENT, TO TRY AND ENACT THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION AND TO ESTABLISH THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL BEFORE 1997 SO THAT THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO, AS IT WERE, BUILD UP JURISPRUDENCE. AND SO WITH THAT VIEW IN MIND WE HAVE DRAFTED LEGISLATION WHICH WE ARE CURRENTLY CONSULTING - WE WILL SHORTLY BE CONSULTING - OR HAVE IN FACT CONSULTED THE LEGAL PROFESSION. WE HAVE SHOWN THE DRAFT BILL TO THE CHINESE AND WE VERY MUCH HOPE THAT WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO ESTABLISH THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL IN MID-1996.

QUESTION: CHIEF SECRETARY, WHAT ARE THE PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES, OR WHAT ARE SOME OF THE PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES ABOUT WHICH YOU THINK THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG SHOULD SPEAK, AS YOU SAY, IN A CLEAR WAY SO THAT PEKING IS QUITE CLEAR ABOUT WHAT IT IS THAT PEOPLE HERE REALLY NEED?

/MRS CHAN:

MRS CHAN: I THINK THAT THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG SHOULD MAKE IT QUITE CLEAR HOW THEY BELIEVE THE HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY PROMISED TO THE FUTURE SAR SHOULD ACTUALLY BE EXERCISED. THEY SHOULD EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE SUGGESTION FROM AN ADVISORY BODY TO THE NPC THAT THERE SHOULD BE A PROVISIONAL LEGISLATURE AFTER 1997. THEY SHOULD EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF A WHOLE RANGE OF FREEDOMS WHICH UNDERPIN OUR VERY LIFESTYLE AND OUR ECONOMIC PROSPERITY, SO AS FREEDOMS SUCH AS FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, FREEDOM OF THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL IN AND OUT OF HONG KONG, ALL THOSE SORT OF THINGS, THEY SHOULD MAKE THEIR VIEWS ABSOLUTELY CLEAR.

QUESTION: MRS CHAN, (INAUDIBLE) WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU WILL BE DOING IN 968 DAYS?

MRS CHAN: WHAT DO I THINK I WILL BE DOING? YOU ALL KNOW THE NORMAL RULES FOR RETIREMENT IN THE CIVIL SERVICE - I DON'T HAVE TO RETIRE UNTIL I AM SIXTY, AND I'M NOT SIXTY IN THE YEAR 1997. SO GOD WILLING - GOD WILLING - I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY TO CONTINUE TO SERVE IN THE SAR GOVERNMENT AFTER 1997. BUT IF, FOR ANY REASON, THAT IS NOT TO HAPPEN THEN I AM SURE THERE ARE MANY OTHER CAPACITIES IN WHICH I CAN CONTINUE TO SERVE HONG KONG. I HAVE NO INTENTION OF LEAVING HONG KONG - NEITHER MY HUSBAND NOR I.

QUESTION: CHIEF SECRETARY, I GET THE FEELING THAT YOU WOULDN'T BE SAYING WHAT YOU DO SAY IF YOU DIDN'T FEEL THAT THE HONG KONG PEOPLE ARE IN FACT WIMPING-OUT IN THE FACE OF 1997, THAT THE FATALISM THAT PREVAILS IS SUCH AS EVERYBODY FEELS THAT, WELL, 1997 COMES, WE ARE HELPLESS, THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT; AFTER JULY 1ST 1997 FATE DECIDES. DO YOU REALLY FEEL, TO TURN YOUR ARGUMENT TO THE OTHER SIDE, THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE REALLY HAVE RESIGNED THEMSELVES TOO MUCH TO FATE AND REALLY DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE 1ST JULY 1997?

MRS CHAN: I THINK SOME PEOPLE OF HONG KONG - I WOULDN'T SAY THAT ALL PEOPLE OF HONG KONG - I'M SURE THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO SHARE MY VIEWS. THAT IS, THAT IT IS UP TO US TO MAKE A REALITY OF THE "ONE COUNTRY, TWO SYSTEMS" CONCEPT. I THINK CERTAINLY WITHIN THE CIVIL SERVICE WE OWE IT TO OURSELVES AND TO THE COMMUNITY TO BELIEVE, I DON'T THINK WE HAVE ANY CHOICE BUT TO BELIEVE IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND BASIC LAW AND TO WORK FAITHFULLY TOWARDS THEIR FULL IMPLEMENTATION. IF WE DIDN'T BELIEVE THAT, THEN I DON'T THINK WE DESERVE TO BE CIVIL SERVANTS.

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE) IS YOUR POINT IN SAYING THAT HONG KONG PEOPLE SHOULD BE MORE ASSERTIVE - ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU FEEL THAT PEOPLE AREN'T ASSERTING THEMSELVES ENOUGH NOW? ARE PEOPLE BEING TOO QUIET, ARE THEY?

MRS CHAN: WELL I THINK THERE ARE, ON CERTAIN ISSUES PEOPLE CAN ASSERT THEMSELVES. I DO STRESS THAT I AM SAYING THAT THIS SHOULD NOT BE DONE IN A CONFRONTATIONAL MANNER. THERE ARE ALL MANNERS AND ALL CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION THAT COULD BE USED AND USED VERY CONSTRUCTIVELY. SOMETIMES VIEWS ARE BEST PUT ACROSS AWAY FROM THE PUBLIC'S GAZE. I THINK THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAVE SAID TIME AND AGAIN THEY ARE COMMITTED TO THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE JD AND THE BASIC LAW. THEY HAVE SAID THAT THEY DO WISH TO LISTEN TO THE VIEWS OF THE HONG KONG PEOPLE AND I AM ENCOURAGING THE HONG KONG PEOPLE TO SPEAK UP.

QUESTION: WHEN WILL THE AIRPORT AGREEMENT ACTUALLY BE SIGNED?

MRS CHAN: I DON'T THINK THAT THERE IS ANYTHING WHICH STANDS IN THE WAY OF AN AGREEMENT. WE ARE CONTINUING INFORMAL CONTACTS. I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THE AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED VERY SOON. BUT HAVING SAID THAT, AS YOU KNOW, THERE ARE OTHER DOCUMENTS THAT WE NEED TO BE DISCUSSING AND GETTING ON WITH WITH THE CHINESE, IN PARTICULAR THE TWO FINANCIAL SUPPORT AGREEMENTS FOR THE MTRC AND THE PAA. SO I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT THERE WILL BE PROGRESS SHORTLY.

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2,500 SUBMISSIONS ON OPS RECEIVED

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OVER 2,500 SUBMISSIONS ON THE PROPOSED OLD AGE PENSION SCHEME HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH SINCE THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE WAS LAUNCHED ON JULY 12 THIS YEAR.

COMMENTING ON THE RESPONSE, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER MR TONY REYNALDS SAID TODAY (MONDAY): "I AM VERY ENCOURAGED BY THE OVERWHELMING PUBLIC INTEREST IN THIS ISSUE, THE RESPONSE INDICATES THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS SUBJECT TO THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.

"OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, THE TASK FORCE WILL ANALYSE THE SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED AND CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE SCHEME WHERE APPROPRIATE," MR REYNALDS SAID.

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\$10 BIMETAL COIN TO BE ISSUED ON NOVEMBER 1

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THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT IT WOULD BEGIN ISSUING A NEW \$10 COIN TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

IT IS HONG KONG'S FIRST BIMETAL COIN, WITH AN OUTER RING OF CUPRO-NICKEL AND AN INNER CORE OF NICKEL-BRASS.

THE LAST IN A SERIES OF SEVEN BAUHINIA COINS FIRST INTRODUCED IN EARLY 1993, THE \$10 COIN FEATURES A BAUHINIA FLOWER AND "HONG KONG" IN CHINESE CHARACTERS AND ENGLISH ON THE OBVERSE AS WITH THE OTHER BAUHINIA COINS.

THE REVERSE FEATURES THE DENOMINATION IN CHINESE CHARACTERS AND ENGLISH WITH A LARGE ARABIC NUMERAL IN THE CENTRE AND THE YEAR OF ISSUE BELOW IT.

COMPARED WITH THE BAUHINIA \$5 COIN, THE \$10 COIN IS LIGHTER AND SMALLER IN DIAMETER AND THICKNESS.

/THE \$10

THE \$10 COINS ARE BEING ISSUED TO MEET THE NEED OF THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY COMMUTERS, FOR HIGHER-VALUE COINS.

ALSO, COINS, WHICH USUALLY LAST 20 TO 30 YEARS, ARE MORE DURABLE THAN \$10 NOTES, WHICH HAVE AN AVERAGE LIFE SPAN OF ABOUT 30 MONTHS.

THE \$10 NOTES WILL BE GRADUALLY REPLACED BUT WILL REMAIN LEGAL TENDER.

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VICTORIA HARBOUR WATER CONTROL ZONE EFFECTIVE TOMORROW

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PHASE I OF THE VICTORIA HARBOUR WATER CONTROL ZONE (WCZ), WHICH COVERS KWUN TONG, KWAI CHUNG AND THE EASTERN PART OF TSUEN WAN, WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

ALL WASTEWATER DISCHARGES FROM INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE ZONE WILL NEED TO OBTAIN A LICENCE FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD).

"THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THE WATERS OF VICTORIA HARBOUR HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN A WCZ AND IS A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD IN THE GOVERNMENT'S PLAN TO CONTROL POLLUTING WASTEWATER DISCHARGES AND TO IMPROVE WATER QUALITY IN HONG KONG'S COASTAL WATERS," AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, MR JOHN BOXALL, SAID.

"STARTING FROM TOMORROW, ANYONE WISHING TO START A BUSINESS THAT DISCHARGES WASTEWATER IN THE WCZ MUST OBTAIN A LICENCE BEFOREHAND. THEY MUST ALSO BE ABLE TO TREAT THEIR WASTEWATER DISCHARGES TO STANDARDS LAID DOWN IN THE LICENCE.

"FOR EXISTING DISCHARGES, LICENCE APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO EPD BY JUNE 30, 1995. PEOPLE ARE ENCOURAGED TO MAKE EARLY APPLICATIONS SO THAT THEY WILL HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PROVIDE FOR OR IMPROVE TREATMENT OF THEIR DISCHARGES TO MEET THE REQUIRED STANDARDS," HE SAID.

ANY PERSON WHO DISCHARGES POLLUTING WATER INTO THE WCZ IS COMMITTING AN OFFENCE AND IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$200,000 FOR THE FIRST TIME AND \$400,000 FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT OFFENCE. OFFENDERS MAY ALSO BE LIABLE TO SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

DISCHARGERS CAN CONTACT THE EPD'S LOCAL CONTROL OFFICES TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ON TEL 417 6150 (FOR TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG AREA) AND TEL 755 3241 (FOR KWUN TONG AREA).

EPD WILL ORGANISE A SEMINAR IN MID-NOVEMBER ON THE CONTROL REQUIREMENTS IN THE ZONE FOR WASTEWATER CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS WHO PROVIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT EQUIPMENT TO DISCHARGERS.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SEMINAR CAN BE MADE ON 417 6064 .

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GOVT TO ISSUE FIRM GUIDANCE ON SAFE CANOPIES

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY TODAY (MONDAY) SIGNED A FIRM GUIDE FOR ISSUE TO ALL AUTHORISED PERSONS AND REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ON THE SAFE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF CANTILEVERED CANOPIES OVER STREETS.

THE GUIDE, KNOWN AS PRACTICE NOTE, EMPHASISES THAT THE SOLE PURPOSE OF A CANOPY IS TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FROM RAIN OR SUN, AND IT SHOULD NOT BE LOADED WITH ANY STRUCTURES.

AUTHORISED PERSONS AND REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS SHOULD REGARD IT A PUBLIC DUTY TO GUIDE DEVELOPERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS TO CARRY OUT REGULAR INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE TO BUILDINGS, PARTICULARLY CANOPIES.

THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS SPECIFIED IN THE PRACTICE NOTE MORE STRINGENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE STRUCTURAL DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, DRAINAGE AND SITE SUPERVISION OF REINFORCED CONCRETE CANOPIES.

THESE INCLUDE FIRMER SPECIFICATIONS ON THE THICKNESS OF STRUCTURAL CONCRETE, SUPERIMPOSED LOADS, DETAILS OF STEEL REINFORCEMENT, CONSTRUCTION JOINTS AND DRAINAGE ARRANGEMENT.

AUTHORISED PERSONS AND REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ARE ALSO REQUIRED TO PROVIDE REGULAR AND QUALIFIED SUPERVISION ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND TO SUBMIT INSPECTION REPORTS AND RECORD PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE BUILDING AUTHORITY UPON COMPLETION OF THE WORKS.

THE PRACTICE NOTE HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE AUTHORISED PERSONS AND REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS COMMITTEE, WHICH IS THE GOVERNMENT'S NORMAL CHANNEL FOR DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE DUTIES AND PRACTICE OF AUTHORISED PERSONS AND REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS AND THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS ARE MEMBERS OF THIS COMMITTEE.

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WEATHER RADAR SYSTEM CONTRACT AWARDED FOR NEW AIRPORT

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THE CENTRAL TENDER BOARD HAS APPROVED THE AWARD OF AN AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME (ACP) CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF A TERMINAL DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR SYSTEM FOR THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK.

THE CONTRACT, VALUED AT ABOUT \$100 MILLION, WILL BE AWARDED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO RAYTHEON COMPANY OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE TERMINAL DOPPLER WEATHER RADAR SYSTEM WILL BE INSTALLED IN TAI LAM CHUNG TO DETECT WINDSHEAR CONDITIONS ASSOCIATED WITH SMALL-SCALE CIRCULATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF RAIN SHOWERS OR THUNDERSTORMS.

/WARNINGS WILL

WARNINGS WILL BE COMMUNICATED VIA HIGH SPEED DATA LINKS TO THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK FOR THE ATTENTION OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS AND PILOTS.

WORK WILL START NEXT MONTH AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1996.

THE AWARD OF THIS CONTRACT BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ACP CONTRACTS AWARDED SO FAR TO 71, WITH A TOTAL VALUE OF OVER \$52 BILLION.

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PUBLIC VIEWS ON TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REVIEW PUBLISHED
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THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT HAS COMPLETED A REPORT ON PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS FORMULATED UNDER THE TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY REVIEW (TDSR), WHICH AIMS AT ESTABLISHING A LONG-TERM LAND USE-TRANSPORT-ENVIRONMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR THE TERRITORY UP TO 2011.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE TDSR WAS CONDUCTED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 30 AND DECEMBER 31 LAST YEAR WITH PRESENTATIONS TO 32 ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND ORGANISATIONS AS WELL AS DISTRIBUTION OF SOME 25,000 COPIES OF THE CONSULTATION DIGEST TO THE PUBLIC.

A TOTAL OF 37 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS WERE RECEIVED, CONTAINING COMPREHENSIVE AND WIDE-RANGING COMMENTS.

THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING, DR PETER PUN, TODAY (MONDAY) SAID THERE WERE THREE BROAD TYPES OF COMMENTS AMONG THE WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED FROM INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS.

"THE FIRST TYPE RELATES TO STRATEGIC PLANNING ISSUES RELEVANT TO TDSR, SUCH AS POPULATION FORECASTS, HONG KONG'S FUTURE ROLES AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA, AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF RAPID ECONOMIC GROWTH. WE AGREE TO MANY OF THESE COMMENTS AND WILL TAKE ON BOARD THE SUGGESTIONS MADE IN PREPARING THE FINAL RECOMMENDED STRATEGY.

"THE SECOND TYPE OF COMMENTS RELATES TO DISTRICT RATHER THAN STRATEGIC PLANNING, SUCH AS URBAN DESIGN AND LAND USE INTERFACE PROBLEMS. THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED IN OUR ONGOING DISTRICT PLANNING WORK.

"THE THIRD TYPE COVERS BROAD POLICY ISSUES, SUCH AS ENERGY POLICY AND CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT. THESE WILL BE TAKEN UP WITH THE RELEVANT POLICY BRANCHES OR DEPARTMENTS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION," HE EXPLAINED.

DR PUN NOTED THAT WHILE THERE WAS A MAJORITY VIEW IN FAVOUR OF CONTINUING A HIGH LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT, THERE WAS ALSO A LOT OF CONCERN OVER ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION.

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT PARTICULAR CONSIDERATION WOULD HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS RELATING TO AIR QUALITY, WASTE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL, DR PUN EXPLAINED THAT THE TDSR BY ITSELF COULD NOT PROVIDE ANSWERS TO ALL ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

"HOWEVER, THE IMPACTS OF VARIOUS DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS WOULD BE EXAMINED IN DETAIL IN THE FORMULATION OF A RECOMMENDED STRATEGY," HE SAID.

DR PUN STRESSED THAT IN FORMULATING THE FINAL PROPOSALS FOR THE TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY, THE RECOMMENDED BROAD PATTERNS OF LAND USE AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROVISION WOULD BE DERIVED FROM A PROCESS THAT ENDEAVOURED TO BALANCE THE OBJECTIVES OF VARIOUS SECTORAL INTERESTS.

"THE FORMULATION OF A STRATEGY THAT SATISFIES ALL INTERESTS WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE AND THERE ARE LIKELY TO BE A NUMBER OF CONTENTIOUS ISSUES THAT WILL NEED CLOSER AND FURTHER STUDIES BEFORE A RESOLUTION CAN BE DERIVED.

"FOR THE MEDIUM TERM, HOWEVER, THERE HAS TO BE A COMMITMENT TO THE BEST POSSIBLE PATTERN OF DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE LIMITS SET BY RESOURCE AVAILABILITY AND PRAGMATIC COMPROMISE," HE NOTED.

"THE NEXT STEP WILL BE TO COMBINE THE RESULTS OF THE TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS WITH THE COMMENTS ALREADY RECEIVED THROUGH PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PREFERRED OPTIONS AND THE RECOMMENDED STRATEGY," DR PUN CONCLUDED.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE TDSR WILL BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 1995.

DETAILS OF THE PUBLIC VIEWS ARE PRESENTED IN A FULL TECHNICAL REPORT, WHICH IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REFERENCE AT THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG.

COPIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THIS REPORT CAN BE OBTAINED FREE OF CHARGE FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT, DISTRICT OFFICES AND THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, GROUND FLOOR, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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TRADE DEPARTMENT DELEGATION TO CANADA

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A TRADE DEPARTMENT DELEGATION, LED BY DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR THOMAS YIU, WILL BEGIN BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT TOMORROW (TUESDAY) IN OTTAWA OVER TEXTILES AND CLOTHING ARRANGEMENTS.

THEY WILL DISCUSS MATTERS RELATING TO CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN THE HONG KONG-CANADA TEXTILES MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) AND NOTIFICATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS UNDER THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION AGREEMENT ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING (ATC).

"WE WILL DISCUSS WITH THE CANADIANS ON TWO SPECIFIC ISSUES," MR YIU SAID BEFORE DEPARTING FOR CANADA.

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"FIRST, WE WILL REVIEW CERTAIN SPECIAL FLEXIBILITY PROVISIONS PROVIDED TO HONG KONG BY CANADA SINCE JANUARY 1993 AS A RESULT OF THE CONVERSION OF THE CATEGORISATION SYSTEM UNDER THE MOU TO ONE BASED ON THE HARMONISED SYSTEM.

"SECOND, WE WILL DISCUSS ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS NOTIFIABLE UNDER ARTICLE 2.17 OF THE ATC, WITH A VIEW TO AGREEING ON A SET OF ARRANGEMENTS DEEMED NECESSARY IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY PROVISION OF ARTICLE 2 OF THE ATC WHICH PRIMARILY DEALS WITH QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS.

"THIS SET OF MUTUALLY AGREED ARRANGEMENTS WILL EVENTUALLY BE NOTIFIED TO THE TEXTILES MONITORING BODY, TO BE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION."

MR YIU SAID HONG KONG WOULD ALSO WISH TO DISCUSS WITH CANADA ADMINISTRATIVE MEASURES DURING THE TRANSITION FROM THE MOU INTO THE ATC TO AVOID ANY DISRUPTION TO TRADE IN TEXTILES EXPORTS FROM HONG KONG TO CANADA.

"THE ATC WILL REPLACE ALL EXISTING BILATERAL TEXTILES AGREEMENTS WHEN PUT INTO FORCE, PROVIDING A 10-YEAR TRANSITION DURING WHICH TEXTILE QUOTAS WILL BE PHASED OUT IN STAGES," HE SAID.

"AT THE END OF THE TRANSITION, GLOBAL TRADE IN TEXTILES AND TEXTILE PRODUCTS WILL BE RE-INTEGRATED UNDER THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE/WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION DISCIPLINES."

MR YIU SAID THAT DURING HIS STAY IN OTTAWA AND TORONTO HE WOULD ALSO PAY COURTESY CALLS ON CANADIAN OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER 1994

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THE SEPTEMBER MONETARY STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY INDICATED THAT THE RISE IN HONG KONG DOLLAR INTEREST RATES IN LATE AUGUST MIGHT HAVE RESTRAINED CREDIT DEMAND.

LOANS GROWTH SLOWED DOWN IN GENERAL AND MORTGAGE LOANS MODERATED MARKEDLY IN THE SEPTEMBER QUARTER.

DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR TIME DEPOSITS PICKED UP FURTHER MOMENTUM, RISING BY 3.1% IN SEPTEMBER, FOLLOWING A 2.4% INCREASE IN AUGUST.

AFTER FOUR MONTHS OF STAGNANCY, SAVINGS DEPOSITS HAD A MILD GROWTH OF 1.4% IN SEPTEMBER. DEMAND DEPOSITS ALSO RECORDED A SMALL GROWTH OF 1.0%. THEIR ANNUAL GROWTH RATES WERE 6.6% AND 10.1% RESPECTIVELY, UP FROM 6.2% AND 3.6% IN THE PREVIOUS MONTH.

AFTER SUCCESSIVE GROWTH IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, US DOLLAR DEPOSITS DECLINED SLIGHTLY, BY 0.3% IN SEPTEMBER. NON-US DOLLAR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED FOR THE SECOND MONTH IN A ROW. THEY ROSE BY 0.9% IN SEPTEMBER FOLLOWING A 2.3% RISE IN AUGUST.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

THE GROWTH OF TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS FELL BY A MODEST 0.2% IN SEPTEMBER, LIKELY REFLECTING THE RESTRAINING IMPACT ON CREDIT DEMAND OF THE INTEREST RATE RISE IN LATE AUGUST.

IN PARTICULAR, US DOLLARS LOANS DECLINED BY 0.2% WHILE THE GROWTH OF HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS SLIPPED TO 0.8% FROM 1.4% IN AUGUST.

QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR

DURING THE SEPTEMBER QUARTER OF 1994, TOTAL LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG (EXCLUDING THOSE FOR TRADE FINANCING) INCREASED BY 2.6%. OF THESE, RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS SLOWED DOWN MARKEDLY TO 1.2% FROM 5.0% IN THE JUNE QUARTER, IN LINE WITH THE SUBDUED TRANSACTIONS IN THE PROPERTY MARKET IN RECENT MONTHS.

OUTSTANDING LOANS TO OTHER MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS SHOWED VARIED PERFORMANCE. LOANS TO BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION, PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT AS WELL AS LOANS TO WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE RECORDED STABLE GROWTH OF AROUND 5% DURING THE SEPTEMBER QUARTER, SIMILAR TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GROWTH IN THE PREVIOUS QUARTER.

LOANS TO THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, HOWEVER, DECREASED MARGINALLY BY 0.1% AFTER TWO CONSECUTIVE QUARTERS OF STRONG GROWTH.

MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1 ROSE MODESTLY BY 0.8% IN SEPTEMBER. FOR MOST OF THIS YEAR, INTEREST RATE RISES HAD INDUCED A SHIFTING OF NON-INTEREST BEARING MONEY BALANCES INTO TIME DEPOSITS.

HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 BOTH GREW BY 2.3% IN SEPTEMBER, SLIGHTLY GREATER THAN IN AUGUST. HOWEVER, THEIR ANNUAL GROWTH RATES REMAINED FAIRLY STABLE SINCE MARCH, RANGING FROM 20% TO 26%.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS AND RESTRICTED LICENSED BANKS BOTH INCREASED BY ONE TO 176 AND 60 RESPECTIVELY WHILE THAT OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 138.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER PRESS ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS SECTION, HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY ON TELEPHONE 878 8261.

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - SEPTEMBER 1994

	(HK\$mn)			
	Sep 1994	Earlier months (% change to Sep 1994)		Sep 1993
		Aug 1994	Jun 1994	
Money Supply				
M1 - HK\$	169,027	167,724 (0.8)	165,678 (2.0)	155,162 (8.9)
Foreign currency	17,199	18,458 (-6.8)	19,540 (-12.0)	20,044 (-14.2)
Total	186,226	186,182 (0.0)	185,218 (0.5)	175,206 (6.3)
M2 - HK\$@	1,058,768	1,034,733 (2.3)	1,011,555 (4.7)	839,114 (26.2)
Foreign currency*	867,600	866,422 (0.1)	834,084 (4.0)	829,505 (4.6)
Total	1,926,368	1,901,155 (1.3)	1,845,640 (4.4)	1,668,619 (15.4)
M3 - HK\$@	1,075,378	1,051,695 (2.3)	1,028,462 (4.6)	855,680 (25.7)
Foreign currency*	926,316	921,277 (0.5)	882,243 (5.0)	861,769 (7.5)
Total	2,001,694	1,972,971 (1.5)	1,910,705 (4.8)	1,717,450 (16.6)
Notes and coins in circulation	74,160	73,924 (0.3)	72,613 (2.1)	69,215 (7.1)
of which held by public	65,326	65,029 (0.5)	64,605 (1.1)	61,013 (7.1)
Total Deposits				
Total Demand deposits	120,900	121,152 (-0.2)	120,613 (0.2)	114,193 (5.9)
Total Savings deposits	408,734	406,305 (0.6)	408,340 (0.1)	397,090 (2.9)
Total Time deposits with licensed banks	1,292,690	1,271,319 (1.7)	1,214,229 (6.5)	1,075,580 (20.2)
Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks	34,369	34,216 (0.4)	31,911 (7.7)	26,276 (30.8)
Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies	19,389	17,497 (10.8)	16,726 (15.9)	17,662 (9.8)
HK\$ deposits@	983,724	960,563 (2.4)	935,897 (5.1)	779,682 (26.2)
US\$ deposits*	475,328	476,785 (-0.3)	446,514 (6.5)	405,708 (17.2)
Other foreign currency deposits*	417,031	413,140 (0.9)	409,408 (1.9)	445,412 (-6.4)
All deposits	1,876,082	1,850,489 (1.4)	1,791,819 (4.7)	1,630,802 (15.0)
Foreign currency swap deposits	102,003	99,353 (2.7)	90,740 (12.4)	66,620 (53.1)
Total Loans and advances				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	126,444	123,555 (2.3)	119,487 (5.8)	103,113 (22.6)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	13,179	12,788 (3.1)	11,881 (10.9)	12,324 (6.9)
Other loans for use in H.K.	1,224,179	1,212,268 (1.0)	1,193,135 (2.6)	1,052,591 (16.3)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	1,799,595	1,819,723 (-1.1)	1,814,030 (-0.8)	1,651,266 (9.0)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	45,037	45,645 (-1.3)	46,814 (-3.8)	42,401 (6.2)
Loans in HK\$	1,091,008	1,082,318 (0.8)	1,061,987 (2.7)	930,740 (17.2)
Loans in foreign currencies	2,117,427	2,131,660 (-0.7)	2,123,361 (-0.3)	1,930,957 (9.7)
Total loans and advances	3,208,434	3,213,978 (-0.2)	3,185,348 (0.7)	2,861,697 (12.1)

* Adjusted to exclude foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

@ Adjusted to include foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

Note : 1. 'Restricted licence banks' and 'deposit-taking companies' were known as 'licensed deposit-taking companies' and 'registered deposit-taking companies' respectively before 1 February 1990.

2. Data may not be added to total due to rounding.

TABLE 2 : QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR - SEPTEMBER 1994

<u>Sectors</u>	<u>Sep 1994</u>	<u>Earlier quarters</u> (% change to Sep 1994)		
		<u>Jun 1994</u>	<u>Mar 1994</u>	<u>Sep 1993</u>
Manufacturing	86,567	86,693 (-0.1)	79,787 (8.5)	74,373 (16.4)
Transport and transport equipment	69,180	67,568 (2.4)	64,211 (7.7)	64,067 (8.0)
Building, construction, property development and investment	213,722	202,579 (5.5)	192,356 (11.1)	172,704 (23.8)
Wholesale and retail trade	118,869	113,155 (5.0)	107,901 (10.2)	102,445 (16.0)
Financial concerns *	172,589	159,951 (7.9)	155,865 (10.7)	141,109 (22.3)
Individuals:				
to purchase flats in the Home Ownership Scheme and Private Sector Participation Scheme	40,202	38,085 (5.6)	35,853 (12.1)	32,181 (24.9)
to purchase other residential property	258,544	255,370 (1.2)	243,269 (6.3)	230,018 (12.4)
other purposes	108,957	113,026 (-3.6)	114,305 (-4.7)	100,595 (8.3)
Others	155,549	156,708 (-0.7)	145,868 (6.6)	135,099 (15.1)
Total	1,224,179	1,193,135 (2.6)	1,139,415 (7.4)	1,052,591 (16.3)

* This excludes funds advanced to authorized institutions.

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SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS
FOR SECOND QUARTER OF 1994

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IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, 9,288 OCEAN-GOING VESSELS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 41.3 MILLION NET REGISTERED TONS (NRT) ARRIVED AT HONG KONG.

THIS INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THE REPORT ENTITLED "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS, APRIL - JUNE 1994" PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE FIGURES REFLECT AN INCREASE OF 12% IN NUMBER OF VESSELS AND 9% IN CAPACITY OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1993.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THERE WERE 9,371 OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 40.9 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 11% IN NUMBER AND 9% IN CAPACITY OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1993.

IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 20.9 MILLION TONNES, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 14% OVER THE SAME QUARTER IN 1993.

DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) AND SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 8.6 MILLION TONNES, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 26%.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, 81% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE SEABORNE IMPORTS AND 19% WERE SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, AND 51% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE CONTAINERISED CARGO.

OF THOSE LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS, 61% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) AND 39% WERE SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, AND 86% IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WERE CONTAINERISED CARGO.

THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 1.

IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, THE TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS (INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND SEABORNE INWARD TRANSHIPMENT) WERE SINGAPORE (WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR 18% IN TONNAGE TERMS), JAPAN (13%), CHINA (12%), TAIWAN (9%) AND THE USA (8%).

THE TOP FIVE COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS (INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS AND SEABORNE OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT) WERE CHINA (22%), THE USA (20%), TAIWAN (8%), THE NETHERLANDS (5%) AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (4%).

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THE TOP FIVE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IN TONNAGE TERMS INCLUDE PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (18%); COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (11%); IRON AND STEEL (11%); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (8%); AND PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS (6%).

THE TOP FIVE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES LOADED ONTO OUTGOING OCEAN-GOING VESSELS IN TONNAGE TERMS INCLUDE MACHINERY (11%); OTHER MANUFACTURED GOODS CLASSIFIED CHIEFLY BY MATERIAL (10%); OTHER MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (8%); PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (5%); AND TOYS (5%).

CHANGES IN THE TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED AND LOADED ANALYSED BY THE TOP 10 COUNTRIES OF LOADING AND DISCHARGE BETWEEN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994 AND THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1993 ARE SHOWN RESPECTIVELY IN TABLE 2 AND TABLE 3.

SIMILAR STATISTICS FOR CARGO DISCHARGED AND LOADED ANALYSED BY THE TOP 10 PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES ARE SHOWN RESPECTIVELY IN TABLE 4 AND TABLE 5.

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

CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ARE COMPILED FROM A SAMPLE OF CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS OF SHIPPING AND CARGO STATISTICS OF OCEAN-GOING VESSELS FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994 ARE CONTAINED IN THE REPORT ENTITLED "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS, APRIL - JUNE 1994".

THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI AT \$52 A COPY.

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

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/Table 1:

Table 1: Summary of shipping and cargo statistics of ocean-going vessels

	2nd quarter <u>1994</u>	% change over 2nd quarter <u>1993</u>
Incoming ocean-going vessel		
Number	9 288	+12
Capacity (Mn. NRT)	41.3	+9
Cargo discharged (Mn. tonnes)	20.9 (51)	+14
Seaborne imports (Mn. tonnes)	17.0 (42)	+7
Seaborne inward transshipment (Mn. tonnes)	3.9 (89)	+64
Outgoing ocean-going vessel		
Number	9 371	+11
Capacity (Mn. NRT)	40.9	+9
Cargo loaded (Mn. tonnes)	8.6 (86)	+26
Seaborne exports (Mn. tonnes) (including domestic exports and re-exports)	5.3 (79)	+17
Seaborne outward transshipment (Mn. tonnes)	3.4 (97)	+44

Note: Figures in brackets denote the extent of containerization in percentage.

/Table 2:

Table 2: Cargo discharged from incoming ocean-going vessels
by the top ten countries of loading

<u>Country of loading</u>	<u>2nd quarter 1994</u> ('000 tonnes)	<u>% change over 2nd quarter 1993</u>
Singapore	3 780	+19
Japan	2 725	+13
China	2 512	+4
Taiwan	1 974	+13
U.S.A.	1 656	+35
Republic of Korea	1 210	-9
Australia	1 092	-8
Republic of South Africa	981	-15
Indonesia	423	-29
Thailand	415	+25

Note: Cargo discharged includes seaborne imports and seaborne inward transshipment.

/Table 3:

Table 3: Cargo loaded onto outgoing ocean-going vessels
by the top ten countries of discharge

<u>Country of discharge</u>	<u>2nd quarter</u> <u>1994</u> ('000 tonnes)	<u>% change over</u> <u>2nd quarter 1993</u>
China	1 905	+47
U.S.A.	1 728	+23
Taiwan	727	+20
Netherlands	397	+37
Federal Republic of Germany	358	+2
Philippines	345	+109
Japan	345	+5
Singapore	319	+4
Thailand	246	+89
United Kingdom	232	+24

Note: Cargo loaded includes seaborne exports and seaborne outward transshipment.

/Table 4:

Table 4: Cargo discharged from incoming ocean-going vessels
by the top ten principal commodities

<u>Commodity group</u>	<u>2nd quarter</u> <u>1994</u> ('000 tonnes)	<u>% change over</u> <u>2nd quarter 1993</u>
Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	3 751	+3
Coal, coke and briquettes	2 327	-24
Iron and steel	2 271	+45
Artificial resins and plastic materials	1 704	+48
Paper and paper products	1 161	+28
Machinery	1 077	+3
Cement and cement clinker	937	+19
Other manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	834	+21
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	638	+21
Stone, sand and gravel	619	+5

Note: Cargo discharged includes seaborne imports and seaborne inward transshipment.

/Table 5:

Table 5: Cargo loaded onto outgoing ocean-going vessels
by the top ten principal commodities

<u>Commodity group</u>	<u>2nd quarter 1994</u> ('000 tonnes)	<u>% change over 2nd quarter 1993</u>
Machinery	971	+23
Other manufactured goods classified chiefly by material	823	+27
Other manufactured articles	679	+18
Petroleum, petroleum products and related materials	471	+76
Toys	466	+33
Articles of apparel and clothing accessories	454	+19
Textile yarn, fabrics, made-up articles and related products	413	+6
Iron and steel	325	+24
Footwear	316	-6
Other chemicals and related products	313	+37

Note: Cargo loaded includes seaborne exports and seaborne outward transshipment.

HK: A HIGH QUALITY MANUFACTURING CENTRE

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HONG KONG HAS THE CULTURE, PEOPLE AND INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH ARE ESSENTIAL FOR HIGH QUALITY MANUFACTURING AND ITS ENTREPRENEURS HAVE MADE QUALITY CHANGE OVER THE YEARS POSSIBLE, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE 1994 GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR INDUSTRY, MR PATTEN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN PLAYING ITS PART TO ENSURE QUALITY PEOPLE AND A QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE.

HE NOTED THAT SOME 7,500 FIRST DEGREE STUDENTS WERE EXPECTED TO GRADUATE IN 1997, COMPARED WITH JUST OVER 2,000 GRADUATES FROM THE TERTIARY INSTITUTES IN HONG KONG IN 1989.

MORE LAND HAD BEEN MADE AVAILABLE FOR HIGH TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES IN THE TSEUNG KWAN O INDUSTRIAL ESTATE LAST MONTH, MR PATTEN SAID.

"EARLIER THIS MONTH, 20,000 SQUARE METRES HAD BECOME AVAILABLE FOR TECHNOLOGY-BASED ENTERPRISES IN THE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE."

APPLIED RESEARCH HAS ALSO RECEIVED A SUBSTANTIAL BOOST. "THIS YEAR, WE ARE DISBURSING \$180 MILLION FOR PROJECTS TO IMPROVE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY IN AREAS AS DIVERSE AS FOOD TECHNOLOGY AND ADVANCED ELECTRONICS," HE SAID.

"NEXT YEAR, WE WILL ESTABLISH THE APPLIED RESEARCH CENTRE WITH INITIAL FUNDING OF \$50 MILLION."

MR PATTEN SAID HONG KONG'S ENTREPRENEURS HAD ALREADY SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHIFT LOW VALUE-ADDED MANUFACTURING PROCESSES TO CHINA.

"THE CHALLENGE NOW IS TO SECURE A LASTING ADVANTAGE BY FORGING A MANUFACTURING SECTOR OF EXCELLENCE IN HONG KONG.

"THE RESULTS OF THIS YEAR'S AWARD AUGUR WELL FOR THE FUTURE OF INDUSTRY HERE," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR INDUSTRY WAS ORGANISED BY THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION, THE PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL, THE TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITTEE IN THE ENVIRONMENT.

FIVE FIRMS WIN GOVERNOR'S INDUSTRY AWARD
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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THIS (MONDAY) EVENING PRESENTED THE 1994 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY TO FIVE COMPANIES IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR EXCELLENCE IN INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE.

THIS YEAR'S AWARD WINNERS ARE : ACL DATACOM LTD FOR THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN CATEGORY; PO YUEN (TO'S) MACHINE FTY LTD FOR THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN AND EXPORT MARKETING CATEGORIES; TAL APPAREL LTD FOR THE PRODUCTIVITY CATEGORY; MOTOROLA SEMICONDUCTORS HONG KONG LTD FOR THE QUALITY CATEGORY; AND ACL ELECTRONICS HK LTD FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE CATEGORY.

THEY ARE ENTITLED TO DISPLAY AN OFFICIAL LOGO ON THE COMPANY LETTERHEADS, ENVELOPES, COMPLIMENTARY SLIPS, PRESS ADVERTISING AND OTHER PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

THEY ALSO RECEIVE A TROPHY, A HANDSOME AND INDIVIDUALLY CRAFTED SCULPTURE, AS A PERMANENT MEMENTO OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENT.

INTRODUCED IN 1989, THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY COMMENDS DISTINGUISHED COMPANIES THAT HAVE ACHIEVED EXCELLENCE IN DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE.

COMPETITIONS ARE HELD EVERY YEAR IN THE SIX AWARD CATEGORIES, EACH ORGANISED BY A DIFFERENT ORGANISATION.

THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG FOR THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL FOR THE PRODUCTIVITY CATEGORY; THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR THE QUALITY CATEGORY; THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE CATEGORY AND THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR THE EXPORT MARKETING CATEGORY.

APART FROM THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY, WHICH IS AWARDED TO THE MOST OUTSTANDING ENTRY IN EACH CATEGORY, EACH OF THE SIX ORGANISATIONS ALSO MAKES A NUMBER OF AWARDS AND CERTIFICATES OF MERIT IN ITS OWN NAME TO DESERVING ENTRIES IN THE CATEGORY FOR WHICH IT IS RESPONSIBLE.

STAMPS FEATURE CORALS

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A SET OF SPECIAL STAMPS ON HONG KONG CORALS WILL BE ISSUED ON NOVEMBER 17, THE ACTING POSTMASTER-GENERAL, MISS NANCY LAW, ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

THERE WILL BE FOUR DENOMINATIONS OF \$1, \$1.90, \$2.40 AND \$5. A SOUVENIR SHEET INCORPORATING THE FOUR STAMPS WILL ALSO BE ISSUED.

THE STAMPS ARE DESIGNED BY BRUSHSTROKE DESIGN AND PRINTED BY THE HOUSE OF QUESTA OF ENGLAND.

THEY FEATURE FOUR KINDS OF CORALS FOUND IN HONG KONG WATERS: ALCYONIUM (\$1), ZOANTHUS (\$1.90), TUBASTREA (\$2.40) AND PLATYGYRA (\$5).

THE STAMPS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE AND SHA TIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE FROM NOVEMBER 3.

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVERS AT \$1 EACH WILL BE PUT ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE, FROM NOVEMBER 3.

ADVANCE ORDERS FOR SERVICED FIRST DAY COVERS WILL BE ACCEPTED FROM NOVEMBER 3 TO 10. THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF COVERS PER ORDER IS FIVE.

EACH CUSTOMER CAN BUY NOT MORE THAN 10 SOUVENIR SHEETS AND TWO STAMP SHEETS (100 PIECES) OF EACH DENOMINATION ON THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE.

MISS LAW SAID A BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED PRESENTATION PACK CONTAINING THE FOUR STAMPS WOULD ALSO BE PUT ON SALE AT \$18 EACH AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE, FROM NOVEMBER 17.

SERVICED FIRST DAY COVERS AFFIXED WITH THE SET OF STAMPS AND CANCELLED WITH THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE POSTMARK, AT \$13.8 EACH, WILL BE ON SALE ON NOVEMBER 17 AT THE FOLLOWING SIX PHILATELIC OFFICES:

- * BEACONSFIELD HOUSE POST OFFICE
- * GENERAL POST OFFICE
- * GRANVILLE ROAD POST OFFICE
- * PEAK POST OFFICE
- * SHA TIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE
- * TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE

ON THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE, HAND-BACK SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE, TO OFFICIAL AND PRIVATELY MADE COVERS BEARING THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE INDICATION.

RAT PREVENTION CAMPAIGN STARTS NEXT MONTH

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WILL LAUNCH A TERRITORY-WIDE RAT PREVENTION EDUCATION CAMPAIGN IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS TO REMIND THE PUBLIC OF THE IMPORTANCE OF OBSERVING RAT PREVENTION PRACTICES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE CAMPAIGN, BEARING THE THEME "NO RATS, NO THREATS", WAS ORGANISED UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS.

THE SPOKESMAN CALLED FOR THE PUBLIC'S FULL SUPPORT AND CO-OPERATION IN CARRYING OUT RAT CONTROL MEASURES, POINTING OUT THAT RATS COULD DAMAGE HOME FURNITURE AND FITTINGS.

"RATS ARE NOT ONLY CARRIERS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES SUCH AS PLAGUE AND TYPHUS, THEY ALSO INDIRECTLY TRANSMIT INTESTINAL DISEASES INCLUDING FOOD POISONING," HE SAID.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, PRINTED MATERIALS ON RAT PREVENTION SUCH AS POSTERS, LETTERS AND LEAFLETS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO BUILDING MANAGEMENT OFFICES, FOOD PREMISES, HOUSING ESTATES AND SCHOOLS.

A 24-HOUR HOTLINE (723 0013) WILL BE IN OPERATION TO PROVIDE THE PUBLIC A PRE-RECORDED MESSAGE IN CANTONESE ON RAT PREVENTION.

ADVICE OR ASSISTANCE ON RAT PREVENTION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE DISTRICT PEST CONTROL UNITS OF THE URBAN SERVICES AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS.

MEANWHILE, THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL METHOD IN RAT CONTROL WAS TO IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION IN WHICH RATS WOULD BE DEPRIVED OF HARBOURAGES AND FOOD SUPPLIES.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED TO TAKE HEED OF THE FOLLOWING MEASURES TO PREVENT RAT INFESTATION:

- * KEEP THE PREMISES CLEAN. STORE ALL FOOD PROPERLY AND PUT ALL REFUSE AND FOOD REMNANTS INTO A PROPER DUSTBIN SO AS TO LEAVE NO FOOD FOR RATS;
- * SEAL OFF ANY HOLES ON CEILINGS, WALLS AND FLOORS. INSPECT REGULARLY THE BOTTOM AND BACK OF BULKY FURNITURE AND CONCEALED PLACES SO AS TO ELIMINATE BREEDING PLACES FOR RATS PROMPTLY;
- * KEEP DRAIN GRATING IN GOOD REPAIR AND RENDER ALL VENTILATION OPENINGS RAT-PROOF; AND
- * AFFIX METAL PLATES TO THE LOWER PART OF WOODEN DOORS TO KEEP AWAY RATS.

THREE REPORTS ON BUSINESS ACTIVITIES PUBLISHED

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED THREE REPORTS THAT CONTAIN A WIDE RANGE OF STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURAL AND OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS OF VARIOUS ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES FOR THE REFERENCE YEAR 1992, BASED ON DATA COLLECTED FROM ESTABLISHMENTS.

THEY ARE NAMED:

- * "1992 SURVEY OF WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS" (\$34);
- * "1992 SURVEY OF TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES" (\$28); AND
- * "1992 SURVEY OF STORAGE, COMMUNICATION, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES" (\$30).

EXAMPLES OF STATISTICAL ITEMS INCLUDED IN THE REPORTS ARE:

- * NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS, NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED;
- * COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES;
- * SALES, BUSINESS RECEIPTS AND OTHER INCOMES;
- * VALUE ADDED (A MEASURE OF CONTRIBUTION TO GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT);
- * OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES; AND
- * GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS.

APART FROM STATISTICS RELATING TO THE YEAR 1992, THE REPORTS ALSO CONTAIN SUMMARY STATISTICS FOR 1990 AND 1991 TO SHOW THE DEVELOPMENT OF THESE ACTIVITIES IN RECENT YEARS.

THE REPORTS ARE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL OR AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SECTION, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 97.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 568.827 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 516.075 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 88.1 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1994

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,843	0930	+2,152
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,699	1000	+2,152
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+2,153
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+2,153	1200	+2,153
LAF TODAY	-1,297	1500	+2,153
		1600	+2,153
LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER		TWI 120.8	*+0.0* 31.10.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.05	19 MONTHS	2605	6.35	99.97	6.47
1 MONTH	4.45	22 MONTHS	2608	6.15	99.30	6.67
3 MONTHS	4.98	30 MONTHS	3704	6.15	97.95	7.19
6 MONTHS	5.32	33 MONTHS	3710	7.25	99.76	7.48
12 MONTHS	5.89	59 MONTHS	5909	7.45	97.79	8.16

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 18,291 MN

CLOSED 31 OCTOBER 1994

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