



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1992

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1992

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IMPACT OF U.S. RETALIATORY TRADE ACTION ASSESSED

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, TODAY (FRIDAY) RELEASED THE RESULTS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT WHICH TRADE ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES AGAINST CHINA COULD HAVE ON HONG KONG.

MR CHAU SAID ALTHOUGH THE MARKET ACCESS TRADE TALKS WERE A BILATERAL ISSUE BETWEEN CHINA AND THE U.S., THERE WAS GREAT CONCERN IN HONG KONG ABOUT THE POSSIBLE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF ANY TRADE ACTION WHICH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT MIGHT TAKE.

"THE PRELIMINARY LIST OF PRODUCTS ON WHICH THE U.S. HAVE THREATENED TO RAISE TARIFFS COVERS A VERY WIDE RANGE OF OUR RE-EXPORT TRADE," MR CHAU SAID.

"OUR BROAD ESTIMATE IS THAT IF IMPLEMENTED TO THE FULL EXTENT, OUR TRADE, INCLUDING RELATED TRADE FLOWS, WOULD DROP BY HK\$35 BILLION (US\$4.5 BILLION) IN THE YEAR OF INCIDENCE.

"ARISING FROM THIS LOSS IN TRADE, THERE WOULD BE A LOSS OF AROUND 16,600 JOBS. THE GROWTH RATE OF OUR GDP WOULD ALSO DROP BY ABOUT 0.7 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT," HE NOTED.

"THE LONGER TERM KNOCK-ON EFFECTS, WHILE NOT READILY QUANTIFIABLE, ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE SERIOUS," HE SAID.

"THEY INCLUDE WEAKENING OF INVESTMENT INTERESTS BY HONG KONG AND FOREIGN COMPANIES IN CHINA, UNDERMINING OF HONG KONG'S ROLE AS A GATEWAY TO CHINA AND MAJOR ENTREPOT, AND REDUCING HONG KONG'S LONGER-TERM GROWTH POTENTIAL," HE ADDED.

"THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE CONVEYING THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT TO THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION.

"IT WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO EXPRESS HONG KONG'S CONCERNS TO BOTH THE U.S. AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS," HE NOTED.

MR CHAU HOPED THAT BEFORE THE U.S. STATUTORY DEADLINE FOR TALKS EXPIRED ON OCTOBER 10, CHINA AND THE U.S. WOULD BE ABLE TO CONCLUDE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT.

ON AUGUST 27, THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION PUBLISHED A LIST OF SOME US\$3.9 BILLION WORTH OF UNITED STATES IMPORTS FROM CHINA THAT ARE BEING CONSIDERED FOR RETALIATION.

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/THE SECRETARY .....

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU; ACTING DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR CHRISTOPHER JACKSON; PRINCIPAL ECONOMIST OF THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH, MR ESMOND LEE; AND ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR GREGORY CHIU, WILL GIVE A PRESS BRIEFING AT GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM, FIFTH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL AT 3.30 PM TODAY (FRIDAY).

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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PROVISIONAL FIGURES ON RETAIL SALES FOR JUNE

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN JUNE, ESTIMATED AT \$13.1 BILLION, INCREASED BY 21% OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SHARP INCREASE IN RETAIL SALES REFLECTED A CONTINUED STRENGTHENING IN SPENDING BY BOTH LOCAL CONSUMERS AND TOURISTS.

AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES OVER THE PERIOD, TOTAL RETAIL SALES INCREASED BY 16% IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE INCREASE WAS MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE GROWTH IN CONSUMER SPENDING ON MOTOR VEHICLES, OTHER CONSUMER DURABLES, CLOTHING, JEWELLERY AND WATCHES.

SALES OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN JUNE CONTINUED TO REGISTER THE LARGEST YEAR-ON-YEAR INCREASE, BY 68% IN VALUE AND 59% IN VOLUME, WHILE SALES OF CONSUMER DURABLE GOODS OTHER THAN MOTOR VEHICLES WENT UP BY 27% IN VALUE AND 26% IN VOLUME.

SALES OF CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ALLIED PRODUCTS WENT UP BY 37% IN VALUE AND 25% IN VOLUME AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

SALES OF JEWELLERY, WATCHES, CLOCKS AND VALUABLE GIFTS ROSE BY 22% IN VALUE AND 29% IN VOLUME. THE LARGER INCREASE IN VOLUME WAS DUE TO THE FALL IN THE PRICES OF JEWELLERY ITEMS.

MORE MODERATE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SALES IN DEPARTMENT STORES, BY 15% IN VALUE AND 5% IN VOLUME, AND FOR SALES OF FUELS, BY 12% IN VALUE AND 2% IN VOLUME.

ON THE OTHER HAND, SALES IN SUPERMARKETS SHOWED NO GROWTH IN VOLUME DESPITE AN INCREASE IN VALUE BY 8%.

SALES IN OTHER FOODSTUFF OUTLETS DROPPED BY 3% IN VALUE AND 9% IN VOLUME. THIS WAS ATTRIBUTABLE TO A DECREASE IN SALES IN MARKET STALLS SELLING FISH, MEAT AND VEGETABLES.

/COMPARING THE .....

COMPARING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, TOTAL RETAIL SALES ROSE BY 20% IN VALUE AND 14% IN VOLUME.

COMPARING WITH MAY 1992, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RETAIL SALES IN JUNE 1992 INCREASED BY 4% IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS.

CHANGES IN THE VOLUME OF RETAIL SALES ARE DERIVED FROM FIGURES ON THE VALUE OF RETAIL SALES AFTER HAVING ADJUSTED FOR PRICE CHANGES. THE RELEVANT COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ARE USED AS INDICATORS OF PRICE CHANGES.

THE REPORT CONTAINING THE ANALYSIS OF THE JUNE 1992 RESULTS IS NOW ON SALE AT \$1.5 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1258.

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TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED TOTAL RETAIL SALES FIGURE FOR MAY 1992 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURE FOR JUNE 1992.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES IN MAY AND JUNE 1992 FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS AND BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET, WITH AVERAGE RETAIL SALES FROM OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 TAKEN AS 100.

COMPARISONS OF JUNE 1992 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR MAY 1992 AND JUNE 1991, AND COMPARISONS OF RETAIL SALES IN THE PERIOD JANUARY TO JUNE OF 1992 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1991 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

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TABLE 1 : TOTAL RETAIL SALES

Total Retail Sales for June 1992 (Provisional Figure) = HK\$13,097.6 million  
 for May 1992 (Revised Figure) = HK\$12,625.4 million

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF RETAIL SALES FOR MAY 1992 AND JUNE 1992  
 (Monthly average of Oct. 89 - Sept. 90 = 100)

Item	Index of Retail Sales	May 1992	June 1992	June 1992 compared with May 1992		June 1992 compared with June 1991		Jan.-Jun.1992 compared with Jan.-Jun.1991	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
<b>(A) FOR ALL RETAIL OUTLETS</b>									
	Value	134.4	139.5	+5.0	+3.7	+24.6	+21.4	+22.1	+19.9
	Volume	117.5	122.2	+4.7	+4.0	+16.8	+15.9	+14.2	+13.6
<b>(B) BY TYPE OF RETAIL OUTLET</b>									
Foodstuffs, alcoholic drinks and tobacco (other than supermarkets)	Value	118.1	113.4	-4.7	-4.0	-3.0	-2.6	+6.6	+6.1
	Volume	100.5	93.4	-7.1	-7.1	-9.1	-8.9	-3.1	-3.2
Supermarkets	Value	126.7	133.9	+7.2	+5.7	+10.1	+8.2	+12.9	+11.5
	Volume	104.0	109.7	+5.7	+5.5	-0.3	-0.3	+2.7	+2.6
Fuels	Value	141.4	135.5	-5.8	-4.1	+14.5	+12.0	+7.6	+6.4
	Volume	109.9	104.5	-5.4	-4.9	+2.2	+2.1	-0.5	-0.5
Clothing, footwear and allied products	Value	150.3	147.4	-2.9	-1.9	+39.4	+36.5	+27.5	+23.9
	Volume	121.7	119.6	-2.2	-1.8	+23.8	+24.9	+14.2	+13.2
Consumer durable goods *	Value	162.4	175.4	+13.0	+8.0	+53.5	+43.9	+44.8	+40.6
	Volume	146.1	157.4	+11.2	+7.7	+44.0	+38.8	+35.7	+34.3
- Motor vehicles and parts	Value	179.0	202.3	+23.3	+13.0	+81.9	+68.0	+82.3	+80.6
	Volume	151.3	170.8	+19.5	+12.9	+63.4	+59.0	+64.2	+68.8
- Consumer durable goods other than motor vehicles and parts	Value	150.4	155.9	+5.5	+3.7	+32.9	+26.8	+17.6	+15.1
	Volume	142.4	147.7	+5.2	+3.7	+30.0	+25.5	+15.1	+13.5
Department stores	Value	120.5	119.4	-1.1	-0.9	+15.2	+14.6	+17.7	+16.7
	Volume	100.1	98.9	-1.2	-1.2	+4.9	+5.3	+7.3	+7.3
Jewellery, watches and clocks, and valuable gifts	Value	128.6	141.7	+13.1	+10.2	+26.0	+22.4	+24.4	+22.9
	Volume	131.9	148.6	+16.8	+12.7	+33.3	+28.9	+30.0	+28.9
Other consumer goods not elsewhere classified	Value	123.4	133.0	+9.6	+7.8	+22.1	+20.0	+15.7	+13.3
	Volume	106.8	114.6	+7.8	+7.3	+10.6	+10.2	+4.3	+3.8

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

FESTIVAL TO STRESS FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN HK AND CANADA

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FESTIVAL HONG KONG '92, WHICH CENTRED ON THE THEME OF FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION, WOULD SHOWCASE HONG KONG'S DYNAMISM AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY TO CANADA THROUGH SOME 150 CULTURAL, SPORTS, EDUCATIONAL AND BUSINESS EVENTS.

THIS WAS STATED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, IN HIS ADDRESS TO A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG NORTHEAST.

HE SAID FESTIVAL HONG KONG '92 WAS THE BIGGEST AND MOST AMBITIOUS OVERSEAS PROMOTION HONG KONG HAD EVER STAGED.

THE FESTIVAL WILL BE HELD BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 26 AND OCTOBER 21 IN FIVE CITIES IN CANADA - TORONTO, MONTREAL, CALGARY, OTTAWA AND VANCOUVER.

IT WILL STRESS THE MUTUAL BENEFITS THAT CAN BE GAINED THROUGH STRONGER EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL, FAMILY AND BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CANADA.

"HONG KONG IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING ECONOMIES. THE FESTIVAL WILL UNDERLINE THE VALUE OF HONG KONG AS CANADA'S KEY TO ASIA, THE FASTEST GROWING ECONOMIC REGION IN THE WORLD.

"HONG KONG ALSO PRESENTS ENORMOUS OPPORTUNITY AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA," MR SO SAID.

APART FROM FUN AND ENJOYMENT, THE FESTIVAL WOULD ALSO OFFER IMMENSE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN TO GET TO KNOW THEIR CANADIAN COUNTERPARTS AS WELL AS TO EXCHANGE EXPERIENCES AND TO DEVELOP LASTING FRIENDSHIP WITH THEM.

MR SO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR THEIR FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE FESTIVAL EVENTS.

HE SAID THE CANADIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HONG KONG, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE CHINESE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WERE ORGANISING DELEGATIONS TO CANADA TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTMENT.

HE ADDED THAT BARONESS DUNN, SIR Q W LI, MR PETER SUTCH, MR CHOW MAN-YIU AND MANY PROMINENT HONG KONG BUSINESSMEN WOULD BE SPEAKING AT BUSINESS SEMINARS IN CANADA.

"THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL BE VISITING OTTAWA AND VANCOUVER IN MID-NOVEMBER. WHILE IN OTTAWA, HE WILL PRESENT A 40-FOOT HANDCRAFTED DRAGON BOAT TO THE PEOPLE OF CANADA TO MARK THE OFFICIAL CLOSING OF THE FESTIVAL," MR SO SAID.

OTHER SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO WILL ATTEND THE FESTIVAL EVENTS ARE THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR DAVID FORD; THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR JOHN CHAN; THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN; AND THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU.

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TWO INSHORE PROJECTS AUTHORISED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO DREDGE ABOUT 1,603 SQUARE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE SLIPWAYS FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING OF YACHTS AT PAK SHA WAN, SAI KUNG.

THE WORK WILL BEGIN IN OCTOBER AND BE COMPLETED AROUND MARCH NEXT YEAR.

MEANWHILE, AUTHORISATION HAS ALSO BEEN GIVEN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF TWO REINFORCED CONCRETE PLATFORMS WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 128 SQAURE METRES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED AT SHAM WAN/ABERDEEN CHANNEL.

THE PLATFORMS WILL BE USED FOR INSTALLATIONS TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY TO FLOATING RESTAURANTS.

THE WORK WILL TAKE ABOUT TWO MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE EXTENTS OF THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THE TWO PROJECTS ARE DESCRIBED IN SEPARATE NOTICES GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICES AND THE PLANS CAN BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER.

FOR THE PROJECT IN SAI KUNG, THE PLAN CAN ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THE TSEUNG KWAN O SUB-OFFICE, SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, UNIT 121-122, GROUND FLOOR, PO NING HOUSE, PO LAM ESTATE, TSEUNG KWAN O, SAI KUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

THE PLAN FOR THE SHAM WAN/ABERDEEN CHANNEL PROJECT CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, HONG KONG SOUTH, 20TH FLOOR, SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG AND AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SHOP 25, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN, HONG KONG.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 3, 1993.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR FACILITIES AT ELDERLY COMPLEX

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF IRRIGATION FACILITIES AND A MEDICAL GASES SYSTEM FOR A SERVICES COMPLEX FOR THE ELDERLY AT WONG CHUK HANG.

THE SPRINKLER SYSTEM INCLUDES WATER PUMPS AND WATER POINTS FOR IRRIGATING ITS OPEN SPACE.

THE MEDICAL GASES INSTALLATION INCLUDES THE SUPPLY OF OXYGEN AND VACUUM/SUCTION SYSTEM

WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO START NEXT MONTH AND TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

TENDERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON OCTOBER 2.

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

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NEW REPTILE HOUSE IN ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN

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VISITORS TO THE HONG KONG ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL GARDENS WILL HAVE AN ADDITIONAL PLACE OF INTEREST TO TOUR LATE NEXT YEAR WHEN A NEW REPTILE HOUSE IS COMPLETED.

THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS TO CONSTRUCT THE TWO-LEVEL OPEN-TOP REPTILE HOUSE WHICH WILL MEASURE ABOUT 13 METRES BY 8 METRES AND WILL ACCOMMODATE VARIOUS TYPES OF REPTILES.

THE UPPER LEVEL OF THE HOUSE WILL BE OPEN TO PUBLIC WHILE THE LOWER LEVEL IS TO BE USED AS A WORKSHOP.

THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN AT THE END OF THIS YEAR AND BE FINISHED BY NEXT SEPTEMBER.

TENDER OFFER WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON SEPTEMBER 25.

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

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SOUTH LANTAU COAST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN AMENDED

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED IN THE GAZETTE AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT SOUTH LANTAU COAST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

THE MAJOR AMENDMENTS INCLUDE THE REZONING OF A SITE TO THE EAST OF PUI O VILLAGE FROM "COASTAL PROTECTION AREA" TO "OTHER SPECIFIED USES" (WATER WORKS PUMPING STATION).

ANOTHER AMENDMENT IS THE REZONING OF TWO AREAS NEAR CHEUNG SHA FROM "COASTAL PROTECTION AREA" TO "RESIDENTIAL (GROUP C)".

MEANWHILE, AN AREA TO THE NORTH AND EAST OF TAI LOONG WAN TSUEN IS REZONED FROM "VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT" TO "GREEN BELT", WHEREAS AN AREA TO THE SOUTH OF THE VILLAGE IS REZONED FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT".

ALSO, ALL THE AREA COVERED BY THE LANTAU SOUTH COUNTRY PARK WITHIN THE PLANNING SCHEME AREA IS REZONED FROM "GREEN BELT" TO "COUNTRY PARK".

THE AMENDMENT PLAN CAN BE INSPECTED FROM TODAY FOR THREE WEEKS AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- \* ISLANDS DISTRICT OFFICE,  
20TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING,  
38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG;
- \* PLANNING DEPARTMENT,  
16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING,  
GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG; AND
- \* LANTAU AND ISLANDS DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE,  
10TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE,  
77 LEIGHTON ROAD, HONG KONG

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTION IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 13TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG WITHIN A PERIOD OF THREE WEEKS FROM TODAY.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND ITS KOWLOON MAP SALES OFFICE AT 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR WATER MAINS ON HK SOUTH  
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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE LAYING OF FRESH WATER MAINS ON HONG KONG ISLAND SOUTH TO HELP IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY TO REPULSE BAY, CHUNG HOM KOK, STANLEY AND RED HILL AREAS.

WORKS WILL INCLUDE THE LAYING OF ABOUT 4,000 METRES OF DUCTILE IRON MAINS RANGING FROM 300 TO 450 MILLIMETRES IN DIAMETER FROM SOUTH BAY TO STANLEY.

THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED TO START THIS DECEMBER AND TAKES ABOUT 19 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDERS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE NOON ON SEPTEMBER 25.

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SENIOR DIRECTORATE APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED  
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT MR HU MAN-SHIU, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, WOULD SUCCEED MR WONG KWOK-LAI AS DIRECTOR ON SEPTEMBER 15.

MR WONG WILL BE RETIRING AFTER 32 YEARS' SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

MEANWHILE, MR KWOK PING-KI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, HAS SUCCEEDED MR MIAO CHI AS DIRECTOR SINCE AUGUST 3.

ON HIS RETIREMENT, MR MIAO HAS COMPLETED 28 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

FOLLOWING ARE BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THESE OFFICERS:

MR WONG KWOK-LAI  
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MR WONG, AGED 56, FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ASSISTANT ENGINEER IN 1960. HE WAS PROMOTED TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES IN 1982 AND TO DIRECTOR IN 1988.

MR HU MAN-SHIU  
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MR HU, AGED 54, JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN APPRENTICE ENGINEER IN 1963. HE WAS PROMOTED TO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES IN 1986 AND TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR IN 1990. MR HU HAS ACTED AS DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.

/MR MIAO .....

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MR MIAO CHI  
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MR MIAO, AGED 58, FIRST JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ASSISTANT ELECTRICAL ENGINEER IN 1963. HE WAS PROMOTED TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES IN 1986 AND TO DIRECTOR IN 1990.

MR KWOK PING-KI  
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MR KWOK, AGED 58, JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ASSISTANT ELECTRICAL ENGINEER IN 1959. HE WAS PROMOTED TO GOVERNMENT BUILDING SERVICES ENGINEER IN 1982 AND TO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES IN 1990. MR KWOK HAS ACTED AS DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS.

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REGIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE TO MEET IN HK

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THE 43RD SESSION OF THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO) REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE WESTERN PACIFIC WILL BE HELD AT THE GRAND HYATT HOTEL NEXT WEEK.

HOSTED BY HONG KONG, THE FIVE-DAY MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY ABOUT 100 SENIOR HEALTH OFFICIALS, INCLUDING MINISTERS OF HEALTH, FROM OVER 30 COUNTRIES AND PLACES IN THE REGION.

DELEGATES TO THE MEETING WILL INCLUDE THOSE FROM CHINA, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN ON MONDAY AFTERNOON DURING WHICH THE CHAIRMAN AND OTHER OFFICIALS FOR THE 43RD SESSION WILL BE ELECTED.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE AN ANNUAL REPORT ON AIDS AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES, PROGRESS REPORT ON ERADICATION OF POLIOMYELITIS IN THE REGION AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGIONAL ACTION PLAN ON TOBACCO OR HEALTH FOR 1990-1994.

THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING CEREMONY WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 7).

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APPRENTICE SCHEME GIVES IMPETUS TO ECONOMY

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THE GOVERNMENT'S TECHNICIAN AND CRAFT APPRENTICE TRAINING SCHEME NOT ONLY EQUIPS THE TRAINEES FOR THEIR FUTURE CAREER BUT ALSO HELPS TO GIVE IMPETUS TO THE DYNAMIC ECONOMY OF HONG KONG.

THIS WAS STATED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR MR STEPHEN CHEONG AT A GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE TRAINEES TODAY (FRIDAY).

OFFICIATING AT THE CEREMONY, MR CHEONG SAID THE FOUR-YEAR COMPREHENSIVE AND USEFUL TRAINING PROGRAMME COVERED BOTH THEORY AND PRACTICE AND PROVIDED A GOOD SOLID FOUNDATION FOR THE APPRENTICES TO MEET THEIR NEW CHALLENGES.

HE SAID THE GRADUATING APPRENTICES COULD CREATE A BETTER FUTURE FOR THEMSELVES AND FOR HONG KONG THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS THEY WERE GOING TO MAKE IN THEIR JOBS.

NOTING THAT HONG KONG HAD EMBARKED ON A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF LARGE-SCALE INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS, MR CHEONG SAID A GREAT NEED FOR TECHNICAL PERSONNEL TO CARRY OUT THE ENGINEERING WORKS WOULD BE REQUIRED.

SINCE 1969, MORE THAN 2,600 TECHNICAL PERSONNEL HAD BEEN TRAINED UNDER THE SCHEME.

"NOW, ANOTHER BATCH OF FRESH GRADUATES ARE GOING TO JOIN THIS FORCE; THEY WILL CONTINUE AND INCREASE THE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY MADE UNDER THIS SCHEME," HE ADDED.

GRADUATING TODAY WERE 22 CRAFT APPRENTICES AND NINE TECHNICIAN APPRENTICES WHO HAD SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE TRAINING COURSE WHICH WAS ORGANISED BY THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE PROGRAMME, WHICH INCLUDED ON-THE-JOB TRAINING, HAS BEEN DEVELOPED TO COPE WITH THE NEEDS FOR PROFICIENCY IN THEORETICAL TECHNOLOGY AND SKILL IN PRACTICAL WORK.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR KWOK PING-KI, STAFF INVOLVED IN THE TRAINING PROGRAMME AND PARENTS OF THE GRADUATING APPRENTICES.

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THREE PRE-WAR BUILDINGS DECLARED DANGEROUS

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY HAS DECLARED THE BUILDINGS AT 1 GILMAN STREET AND 2 WING ON STREET IN CENTRAL TO BE DANGEROUS AND THE BUILDING AT 3 GILMAN STREET/4 WING ON STREET LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED TODAY (FRIDAY), THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT BUILDING SURVEYOR SAID THE BUILDINGS WERE THREE-STORY PRE-WAR STRUCTURES.

THE BUILDING AT 1 GILMAN STREET WAS CONSTRUCTED OF TIMBER FLOORS AND ROOF ON LOAD-BEARING WALLS; WHILE THAT AT 2 WING ON STREET HAS TIMBER FLOORS AND CONCRETE ROOF ON LOAD-BEARING WALLS.

HE SAID THE LATTER WAS VERY DILAPIDATED WITH OVER HALF OF THE STRUCTURAL TIMBER JOISTS DECAYED AND FRACTURES TO THE BRICKWALLS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS, IN PARTICULAR AT THE REAR PARTY WALL COMMON WITH 1 GILMAN STREET.

NO. 1 GILMAN STREET WAS ALSO IN VERY POOR CONDITION WITH OVER HALF OF THE STRUCTURAL TIMBER JOISTS DECAYED AND FRACTURED BRICKWALLS AT THE REAR, HE ADDED.

IT IS THEREFORE CONSIDERED THAT THESE TWO BUILDINGS HAVE DETERIORATED TO THE POINT THAT THEY ARE NOW DANGEROUS AND SHOULD BE CLOSED AND DEMOLISHED.

THE BUILDING AT 3 GILMAN STREET/4 WING ON STREET WAS MADE OF TIMBER AND CONCRETE FLOORS WITH LOAD-BEARING WALLS.

ALTHOUGH IT IS IN BETTER CONDITION, THE SURVEYOR CONSIDERED THAT IT COULD NOT SAFELY WITHSTAND THE DEMOLITION OF THE OTHER TWO BUILDINGS AND SHOULD ALSO BE CLOSED AS BEING LIABLE TO BECOME DANGEROUS AND SUBSEQUENTLY BE DEMOLISHED.

NOTICES OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON NOVEMBER 4 WERE POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY.

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WORKERS' SAFETY IN CONFINED SPACES URGED

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PROPRIETORS OF FACTORIES AND THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ARE REMINDED OF THEIR STATUTORY OBLIGATION TO ENSURE WORKERS' SAFETY IN CONFINED SPACES.

CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR CHAN TAT-KING, MADE THE APPEAL FOLLOWING RECENT VISITS BY FACTORY INSPECTORS TO 54 DRAINAGE WORK SITES TO PRESS FOR BETTER SAFETY PERFORMANCE BY THE MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS.

"PROSECUTION HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT AGAINST TWO PROPRIETORS FOR FAILING TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A SAFE WORK SYSTEM UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE," MR CHAN SAID.

"BOTH CASES ARE CONNECTED WITH ENTRY INTO DRAINAGE MANHOLE AND IN ONE CASE THE ALLEGED OFFENCE WAS DETECTED LATE AT NIGHT," HE SAID.

MR CHAN POINTED OUT THAT WORKING IN CONFINED SPACES REQUIRED CAREFUL PLANNING AND BOTH EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES MUST TAKE APPROPRIATE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AGAINST POSSIBLE DANGERS.

"DETAILS ABOUT LIABILITIES OF PROPRIETORS AND EMPLOYEES FOR SAFE ENTRY INTO CONFINED SPACES AND A SAFE WORK SYSTEM ARE STIPULATED IN THE GENERAL DUTIES PROVISIONS AND THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (CONFINED SPACES) REGULATIONS," HE SAID.

"EMPLOYERS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE SAFETY PROVISIONS ARE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50,000 AND 12 MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT WHILE THE MAXIMUM PENALTY FOR AN OFFENDING EMPLOYEE IS A FINE OF \$10,000," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID FURTHER PROSECUTIONS WOULD BE TAKEN OUT AGAINST EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES WHO BREACHED THE LAWS.

HE SAID THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE WAS ALWAYS READY TO OFFER ADVICE ON WORK SAFETY IN CONFINED SPACES.

ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE TO THE BRANCH OFFICES OF THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE OR THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE ON 13TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

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#### CAMPAIGN AGAINST CAR THEFT IN KOWLOON CITY

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A CAMPAIGN AGAINST CAR THEFT WILL BE LAUNCHED IN KOWLOON CITY TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE CAMPAIGN, JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE POLICE, AIMS AT DRIVING HOME THE MESSAGE AMONG RESIDENTS, PARTICULARLY BUILDING CARETAKERS AND CAR PARK ATTENDENTS.

RESIDENTS WILL ALSO BE ENCOURAGED TO REPORT CRIME IMMEDIATELY.

A PUBLICITY BUS WILL TOUR THE DISTRICT. POPULAR SINGER, MR HACKEN LEE, WILL JOIN THE PARADE TO URGE RESIDENTS TO FIGHT AGAINST CRIME.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1992

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AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW OUTSIDE THE "WHAMPOA" AT SHUNG KING STREET, WHAMPOA GARDEN.

OFFICIATING GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM YAP; POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER, MR TERRENCE ORSLER, AND CHAIRMAN OF THE KOWLOON CITY DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, MR PATRICK WONG.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
REVERSAL OF LAF	NIL
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-260
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,240

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 109.1 \*\*0.7\* 4.9.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.40 PCT	15 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.45	3.32
1 MONTH	2.43 PCT	18 MONTHS	2402	5.50	102.70	3.60
3 MONTHS	2.46 PCT	21 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.70	3.88
6 MONTHS	2.66 PCT	24 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.73	4.02
12 MONTHS	3.13 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 2,725 MN

CLOSED 4 SEPTEMBER 1992

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