



Received by PRO
on 25 AUG 1993

DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1993

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MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1993

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FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IMPORTANT IN FUTURE : ACTING GOVERNOR

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IT IS PART OF THE CONFIDENCE OF HONG KONG PEOPLE TO CHOOSE THE FUTURE THAT THEY WILL BE ABLE TO LEAVE HONG KONG AND TO COME BACK, THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING AN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ASIAN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES, SIR DAVID SAID THE FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT FOR HONG KONG PEOPLE WAS VERY IMPORTANT IN THE FUTURE.

"IT'S SOMETHING WHICH IS ENSHRINED IN THE BASIC LAW, AND IS SOMETHING THAT PEOPLE LOOK FORWARD TO.

"AND IT'S ALSO INTEGRAL TO HONG KONG'S SUCCESS AS A COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTRE'" HE ADDED.

SIR DAVID SAID ANY SUGGESTION THAT THAT WOULD NOT HAPPEN IN FUTURE WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE A GREAT WORRY TO PEOPLE IN HONG KONG.

"I HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF CHINA HAS TAKEN NOTE OF THE EXPRESSIONS OF WORRY WHICH HAVE STARTED TO APPEAR IN THE MEDIA AS A RESULT OF THEIR DEALING WITH MR HAN (DONGFANG)'S CASE," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE MAKE KNOWN OUR CONCERN TO THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ON TWO OCCASIONS AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO AS THE OPPORTUNITY ARISES."

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'ONE COUNTRY TWO SYSTEMS' CONCEPT WILL FLOURISH: ACTING GOVERNOR

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CHINA, BRITAIN AND HONG KONG CITIZENS WILL STRIVE TO FLOURISH THE IMAGINATIVE CONCEPT OF ONE COUNTRY TWO SYSTEMS, THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SIR DAVID SAID THERE WOULD BE UPS AND DOWNS IN HONG KONG'S RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA BETWEEN NOW AND 1997, BUT HE WAS QUICK TO ADD THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO REASONS TO DOUBT THAT THESE FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS OF HONG KONG'S POSITION WOULD SURVIVE.

SIR DAVID WAS SPEAKING ON "HONG KONG: THE ENDURING CITY" AT THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE 34TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ASIAN AND NORTH AFRICAN STUDIES.

"HONG KONG HAS MOVED FORWARD AND FLOURISHED BY COMING TO TERMS WITH THE CONSTRAINTS IMPOSED ON OUR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

/"WE HAVE

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"WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP OUR ENVIABLE FREEDOM OF ACTION AS A GOVERNMENT AND A COMMUNITY, BY FOCUSING POSITIVELY ON THE STRENGTH OF OUR POSITION RATHER THAN SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME ON THE UNATTAINABLE.

"THIS IS NOT EXPEDIENCE; IT IS PRAGMATISM," SIR DAVID SAID.

HE SAID PRAGMATISM HAD NOT PREVENTED HONG KONG FROM PRESERVING INDIVIDUAL LIBERTY IN HONG KONG, OR FROM DEVELOPING CONSIDERABLE FREEDOM OF ACTION AS A GOVERNMENT.

"ABOVE ALL, IT HAS NOT PREVENTED US FROM STICKING TO THE MOST IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE OF ALL, THAT THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG COME FIRST," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY DICTATED THAT HONG KONG WAS DEPENDENT ON CHINA.

AT THE SIMPLEST LEVEL, THAT MEANS THE TERRITORY RELIES ON CHINA TO PROVIDE TWO-THIRDS OF WATER AND A THIRD OF ITS DAILY FOOD SUPPLIES.

AT A MORE ELEVATED LEVEL, IT MEANS THAT INDEPENDENCE HAS NEVER BEEN AN OPTION FOR HONG KONG.

"AND WE HAVE ACCEPTED THAT AS A FACT OF LIFE.

"THAT IN TURN HAS MEANT THAT WE COULD SURVIVE AND PROSPER ONLY IF WE ACTED IN A WAY THAT WAS NOT SEEN AS DETRIMENTAL OR THREATENING TO CHINA'S OVERRIDING NATIONAL INTERESTS," SIR DAVID SAID.

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GOVT REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR ETHNIC MINORITIES

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AT A MEETING WITH THE INDIAN RESOURCES GROUP TODAY (MONDAY), A GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL REAFFIRMED HONG KONG'S SUPPORT FOR THE ETHNIC MINORITIES CASE FOR FULL BRITISH CITIZENSHIP BUT STRESSED THAT THE BASIC LAW IN ANY CASE GAVE LIBERAL GUARANTEES FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCY HERE.

DR SIMON VICKERS, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE BASIC LAW OVER THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

HE POINTED OUT THAT NOT ONLY WERE THE FEW MINOR BRITISH PRIVILEGES IN THE LAW BEING REMOVED AS IN OTHER COLONIES, ALSO "THE BASIC LAW GIVES A BETTER SITUATION TO OTHER NATIONALITIES THAN AFTER INDEPENDENCE ELSEWHERE".

RIGHT OF ABODE FOR ANYBODY IS, ACCORDING TO ARTICLE 24, ESSENTIALLY BASED ON SEVEN YEARS' STAY AND TAKING HONG KONG AS PLACE OF PERMANENT RESIDENCE, HE SAID.

/HE EXPLAINED

HE EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WERE INTENDING TO BRING FORWARD THESE MORE STRAIGHTFORWARD PROVISIONS EVEN EARLIER THAN 1997.

"HOWEVER WE OBVIOUSLY NEED TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF ALIGNMENT WITH THE CHINESE SIDE."

DR VICKERS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT, IN ADDITION TO THE BRITISH NATIONALS (OVERSEAS) PASSPORT, WHICH SOME HONG KONG PEOPLE WISHED TO KEEP THROUGH 1997, AND THE BRITISH OVERSEAS CITIZENS PASSPORT WHICH WOULD BE AN EXTRA OPTION FOR THE ETHNIC MINORITY TO PREVENT STATELESSNESS, THE MAIN PASSPORT AFTER 1997 WOULD BE A HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION PASSPORT.

HE SAID DETAILS WOULD NEED TO BE WORKED OUT WITH THE CHINESE SIDE IN THE NEXT YEAR OR TWO, SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR ITS ISSUE BY THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT COULD BE READY IN TIME FOR 'DAY ONE' OF CHINESE SOVEREIGNTY.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS PASSPORT WOULD, UNDER THE JOINT DECLARATION, BE AVAILABLE TO ALL CHINESE CITIZENS OF HONG KONG, AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS INDICATED THAT PEOPLE BELONGING TO ETHNIC MINORITIES COULD ALSO APPLY FOR CHINESE CITIZENSHIP.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR JULY

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CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION RESUMED ITS MODERATING TREND IN JULY AFTER THE TEMPORARY REBOUND IN MAY AND JUNE.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) IN JULY WAS 8.2% HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THIS WAS APPRECIABLY SLOWER THAN THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES OF 8.5% IN MAY AND 8.6% IN JUNE.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS ENCOURAGING TO SEE CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION EASING BACK IN JULY.

"APART FROM THE SLOWER INCREASE IN FOOD PRICES, PARTICULARLY THOSE OF VEGETABLES AND SALT-WATER FISH, THE PRICES FOR TRANSPORT AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES CONTINUED TO RISE LESS RAPIDLY. THE RATES OF INCREASE IN THE PRICES OF OTHER COMPONENTS IN THE CPI ALSO TENDED TO STABILISE IN RECENT MONTHS," HE EXPLAINED.

"TAKING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS TOGETHER, THE YEAR-ON-YEAR INCREASE IN THE CPI (A) AVERAGED AT 8.5%. THIS IS ONE PERCENTAGE POINT BELOW THE FORECAST OF 9.5% FOR 1993 AS A WHOLE," HE ADDED.

THE CPI (B) AND THE HANG SENG CPI WERE HIGHER BY 8.5% AND 9.2% RESPECTIVELY IN JULY THAN IN THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR. THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES IN JUNE WERE 8.7% AND 9.5%.

THE COMPOSITE CPI, WHICH IS COMPILED BASED ON THE COMBINED EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF HOUSEHOLDS COVERED BY THE THREE CPIS, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 8.6% IN JULY OVER THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR, THIS WAS ALSO LOWER THAN THE CORRESPONDING INCREASE OF 8.8% IN JUNE.

COMPARING JULY 1993 WITH JULY 1992, RELATIVELY SLOWER INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR DURABLE GOODS (2.0% IN BOTH CPI (A) AND CPI (B)); FUEL AND LIGHT (3.6% IN BOTH CPIS); FOOD EXCLUDING MEALS AT RESTAURANTS (5.5% IN BOTH CPIS); MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES (7.3% IN THE CPI (A) AND 7.0% IN THE CPI (B)); MISCELLANEOUS GOODS (7.4% AND 6.7%); AND CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (7.4% AND 8.0%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, RELATIVELY FASTER INCREASES IN PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR HOUSING (12.5% IN THE CPI (A) AND 13.2% IN THE CPI (B)); AND ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (9.5% AND 8.7%).

AS FOR MEALS AT RESTAURANTS AND TRANSPORT, THEIR CORRESPONDING INCREASES WERE 8.5% AND 8.7% IN THE CPI (A) AND 8.4% AND 8.0% IN THE CPI (B).

COMPARING JULY 1993 WITH JUNE 1993, THE CPI (A) DECREASED BY 0.2% WHILE THE CPI (B) INCREASED BY 0.1%. HOWEVER, THIS COMPARISON COULD BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS.

FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JULY 1993, THE CPI (A) WAS, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 8.4% THAN IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JULY 1992. THE CORRESPONDING INCREASE FOR THE CPI (B) WAS 8.7%.

FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY TO JULY 1993, THE CPI (A) AND CPI (B) WERE, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 8.5% AND 8.9% RESPECTIVELY THAN IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1992.

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDING JULY 1993, THE CPI (A) AND CPI (B) WERE, ON AVERAGE, HIGHER BY 8.8% AND 9.2% RESPECTIVELY THAN IN THE PRECEDING 12-MONTH PERIOD.

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED SERIES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE FOR THE CPIS. THE DESEASONALISED CPI (A) AND CPI (B) BOTH INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.6% PER MONTH DURING THE THREE MONTHS ENDING JULY 1993.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR JULY 1993, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$12 A COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG; OR FROM THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS, CONTACT SHOULD BE MADE WITH THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDICES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 805 6403.

DETAILS REGARDING THE HANG SENG CPI ARE CONTAINED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

Table 1 Consumer Price Indices and Rates of Increase for July 1993

(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

Component	CPI(A)		CPI(B)		Hang Seng CPI		Composite CPI	
	Index for Jul 93	% change over Jul 92	Index for Jul 93	% change over Jul 92	Index for Jul 93	% change over Jul 92	Index for Jul 93	% change over Jul 92
Food	133.2	+7.0	134.6	+7.3	134.5	+8.2	134.0	+7.3
Meals bought away from home	141.2	+8.5	141.1	+8.4	139.0	+9.7	140.7	+8.7
Food, excluding meals bought away from home	125.3	+5.5	125.6	+5.5	126.9	+5.5	125.7	+5.5
Housing	148.2	+12.5	149.7	+13.2	150.6	+13.3	149.5	+13.0
Fuel and light	120.6	+3.6	120.0	+3.6	120.0	+3.8	120.3	+3.7
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	177.1	+9.5	167.4	+8.7	163.4	+8.6	171.8	+9.1
Clothing and footwear	127.0	+7.4	128.6	+8.0	135.1	+8.9	130.4	+8.2
Durable goods	109.1	+2.0	108.1	+2.0	113.7	+4.1	110.1	+2.6
Miscellaneous goods	123.7	+7.4	121.9	+6.7	120.9	+6.5	122.3	+6.9
Transport	136.5	+8.7	135.4	+8.0	135.8	+7.5	135.9	+8.1
Miscellaneous services	138.9	+7.3	136.3	+7.0	130.7	+6.1	135.4	+6.9
All items	135.8	+8.2	136.1	+8.5	136.9	+9.2	136.2	+8.6

The 1989/90-based consumer price indices are based on the expenditure patterns derived from the 1989/90 Household Expenditure Survey. The CPI(A) is based on the expenditure pattern of about 50% of urban households in Hong Kong, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$2,500-\$9,999 in 1989/90. The CPI(B) is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 30% of urban households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$10,000-\$17,499 in the same period. The Hang Seng CPI is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 10% of urban households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$17,500-\$37,499 in 1989/90.

Whereas the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI are based on the expenditure patterns of groups of households with different magnitudes of household expenditure, the Composite CPI is compiled based on the expenditure pattern of all these households taken together. Thus, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI show the impact of consumer price changes on different groups of households, the Composite CPI shows the impact of consumer price changes on the household sector generally.

Table 2 Consumer Price Indices for January 1991 - July 1993
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

<u>Year/month</u>	<u>CPI(A)</u>	<u>CPI(B)</u>	<u>Hang Seng CPI</u>	<u>Composite CPI</u>
1991 January	108.3	108.4	108.6	108.4
February	110.3	110.1	110.2	110.2
March	111.9	111.1	110.7	111.3
April	113.9	113.0	112.0	113.1
May	114.0	113.6	113.4	113.7
June	114.6	114.1	113.9	114.2
July	115.4	114.8	113.9	114.8
August	116.0	115.3	114.6	115.4
September	116.8	116.1	115.8	116.3
October	117.2	116.8	117.4	117.1
November	117.7	117.6	118.7	117.9
December	118.1	118.3	118.5	118.3
1992 January	119.7	119.3	119.4	119.5
February	121.8	121.2	121.0	121.4
March	122.5	121.9	121.8	122.1
April	124.0	123.4	122.9	123.5
May	124.0	123.8	124.2	124.0
June	125.3	125.1	125.2	125.2
July	125.5	125.4	125.4	125.4
August	125.6	125.9	125.8	125.8
September	128.3	127.9	127.5	128.0
October	128.4	128.4	128.6	128.5
November	128.5	129.0	129.9	129.0
December	129.3	129.8	130.0	129.7
1993 January	131.8	131.6	131.5	131.7
February	132.4	132.2	132.0	132.2
March	132.0	132.2	133.1	132.4
April	133.5	133.9	134.5	133.9
May	134.5	134.8	136.3	135.1
June	136.0	135.9	137.1	136.3
July	135.8	136.1	136.9	136.2

/Chart 1

Chart 1 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in CPI(A)

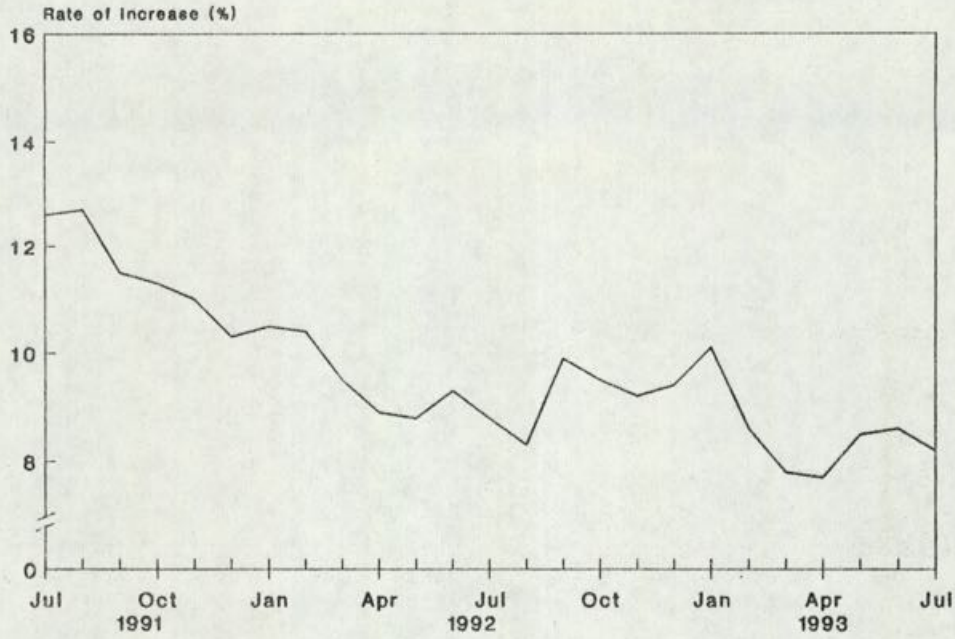
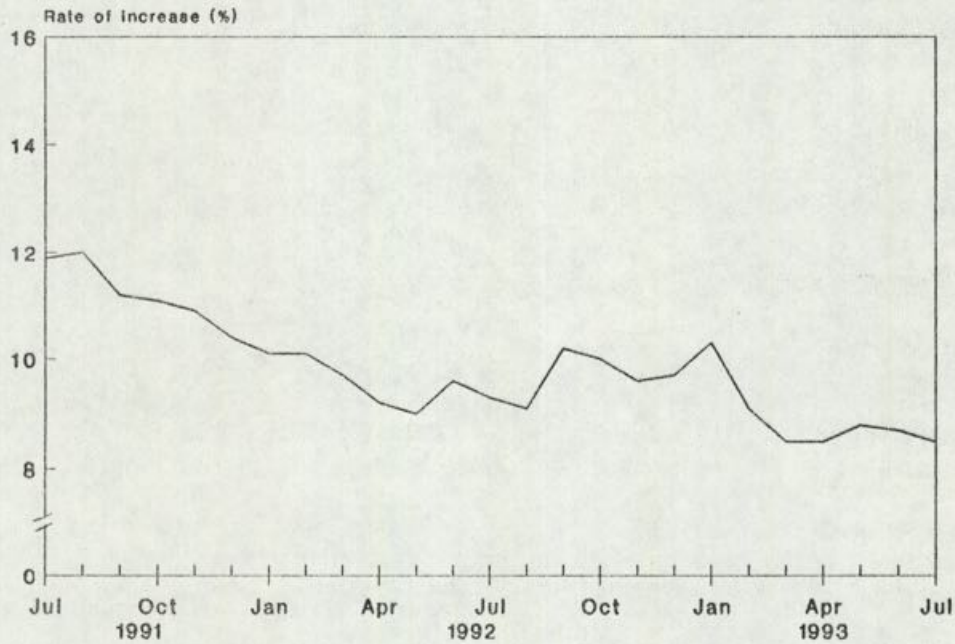


Chart 2 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in CPI(B)



/Chart 3

Chart 3 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in Hang Seng CPI

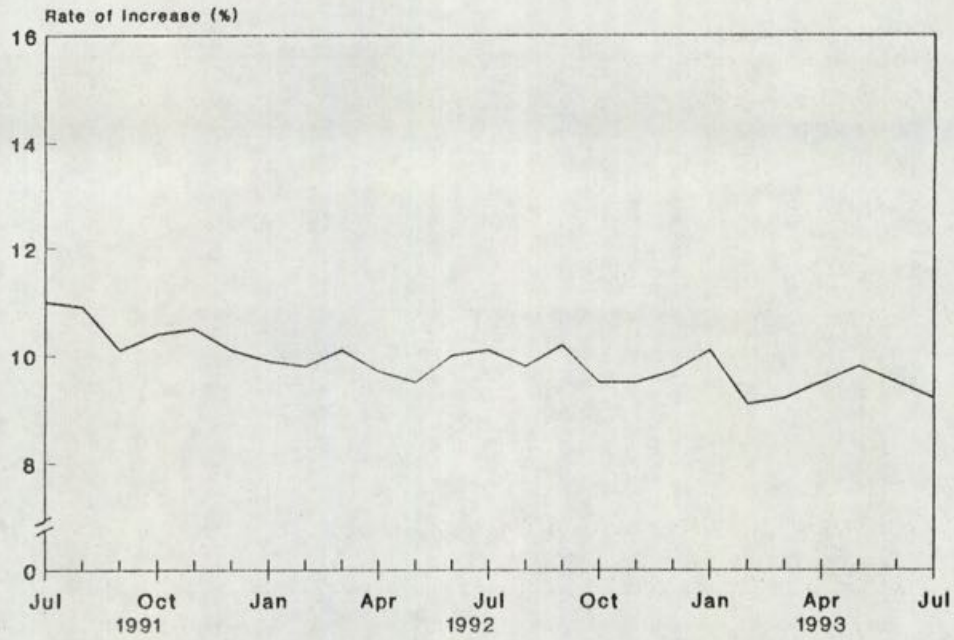
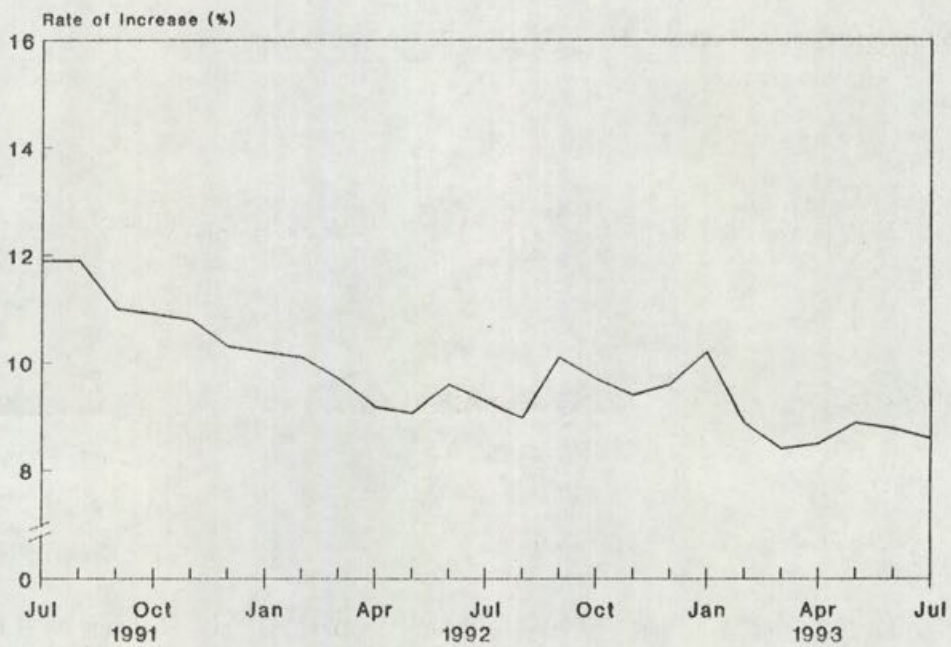


Chart 4 Year-on-year Rates of Increase in Composite CPI



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ROBERT PEIRCE TAKES UP POLITICAL ADVISER POST

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MR ROBERT PEIRCE TODAY (MONDAY) TOOK UP HIS POST AS THE NEW POLITICAL ADVISER.

MR PEIRCE, 38, WHO IS MARRIED WITH TWO CHILDREN, IS NO STRANGER TO HONG KONG.

HE STUDIED CHINESE (PUTONGHUA) HERE IN THE LATE 1970S AND WAS DEPUTY POLITICAL ADVISER IN THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT FROM 1986 TO 1988.

HE SERVED AS SECOND AND LATER FIRST SECRETARY AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN PEKING FROM 1980 TO 1983, AND AS ASSISTANT PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY FROM 1988 UNTIL HE TOOK UP HIS LAST POST, AS FIRST SECRETARY IN UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK, IN 1990.

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SEVEN CONSENTS GIVEN TO PRE-SALE OF UNCOMPLETED FLATS

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THE LEGAL ADVISORY AND CONVEYANCING OFFICE OF THE LANDS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED DETAILS OF CONSENTS GIVEN IN THE SECOND QUARTER TO THE FORWARD SALE OF UNITS IN UNCOMPLETED DEVELOPMENTS.

SEVEN CONSENTS INVOLVING 400 UNITS ON THE HONG KONG ISLAND AND OVER 3,100 UNITS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE GRANTED BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE.

THE CONSENTS WERE GIVEN IN RESPECT OF APPLICATIONS UNDER THE LAND AUTHORITY'S CONSENT SCHEME CONTAINED IN LEASE CONDITIONS. THE SCHEME ALLOWS DEVELOPERS TO SELL FLATS BEFORE BUILDING WORKS ARE COMPLETED.

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/LANDS DEPARTMENT

LANDS DEPARTMENT
LEGAL ADVISORY & CONVEYANCING OFFICE

Details of Consent given by the Director of Lands
to forward sales of flats/units
in uncompleted developments given in April - June 1993

<u>District</u>	<u>Lot No. & Address</u>	<u>Name of Development</u>	<u>Developer</u>	<u>Date of Consent</u>	<u>Estimated Date of Completion of Development</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>No. of Units (excluding Car Parking Spaces)*</u>
Hong Kong	Inland Lot No. 7210 (North Point, Hong Kong)	Healthy Village, Phases I & II	Hong Kong Housing Society	23.6.1993	30.9.1993	99	400
Tsuen Wan	Tsuen Wan Town Lot No. 323 (Yau Kam Tau, Tsuen Wan)	Hanley Villa	Hebo Limited	5.5.1993	26.8.1993	113	516
Tsuen Wan	DD 387 Lot No. 212 (Tsing Lung Tau, Tsuen wan)	Sea Crest Villa Phase 2	Cheer Kong Limited	28.5.1993	15.3.1995	656	124
Sha Tin	Sha Tin Town Lot No. 378 (Area 37A, Sha Tin)	Lake View Garden	Tasudi Investments Limited	8.4.93	31.5.94	418	121
North	Fanling Sheung Shui Town Lot No. 69 (Area 18, Lui Wo- Market Fanling)	Wing Fook Centre (residential)	Winfoong Development Limited	3.6.1993	16.2.1994	258	1680
North	- do -	Wing Fook Centre (Non-residential)	- do -	- do -	- do -	-do-	1 Kindergarten & shop units
Sai Kung	Tseung Kwan O Town Lot No. 19 (Po Hong Road, Tseung Kwan O)	Finery Park	Camleigh Investment Ltd., Millap Ltd. Shung King Development Co. Ltd.	11.5.1993	30.6.1995	779	688 and (commercial units)

Number of days between the date of consent and the estimated completion date of development.

* The nature (where available) of non-residential units are shown in brackets.

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THREE NEW MEMBERS APPOINTED TO LAW REFORM COMMISSION

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF THREE NEW MEMBERS TO THE COMMISSION: MR JUSTIN WONG, MR GAGE MCAFFEE AND PROFESSOR YASH GHAI.

THEY ARE ALL APPOINTED FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS.

MR WONG IS KNOWN IN HONG KONG FOR HIS PUBLIC SERVICE. CURRENTLY, HE IS A SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, A MEMBER OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE AND THE POLICE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE, AND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL.

MR GAGE MCAFFEE IS AN AMERICAN LAWYER WHO HAS LIVED AND WORKED IN HONG KONG FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

HE WAS AN ADVISER TO THE HONG KONG BASIC LAW CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE, A FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND HAS SERVED ON THE HONG KONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AS WELL AS A NUMBER OF CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS.

PROFESSOR YASH GHAI OF THE FACULTY OF LAW, AT HONG KONG UNIVERSITY BRINGS TO THE COMMISSION A DISTINGUISHED ACADEMIC RECORD.

MR MATHEWS WELCOMED THEIR APPOINTMENTS AND SAID THEIR BREADTH OF EXPERIENCE AND VARIED BACKGROUNDS WOULD BE A VALUED ADDITION TO THE COMMISSION.

MR MATHEWS ALSO ANNOUNCED THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MRS MIRIAM LAU FOR A SECOND THREE-YEAR TERM.

MR MATHEWS SAID HE WAS PLEASED THAT MRS LAU HAD ACCEPTED ANOTHER TERM, SAYING THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT TO THE COMMISSION FOR THERE TO BE CONTINUITY OF MEMBERSHIP.

MR WONG, MR MCAFFEE AND PROFESSOR GHAI REPLACE MS CHRISTINE LOH, MR GRAHAM CHENG AND JUDGE TED TYLER WHO ARE RETIRING FROM THE COMMISSION.

MS LOH AND MR CHENG HAVE SERVED ON THE COMMISSION FOR NINE YEARS - THE LONGEST PERIOD OF SERVICE OF ANY MEMBER. JUDGE TYLER HAS BEEN A MEMBER FOR SIX YEARS.

MR MATHEWS EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION OF THE DEDICATION AND HARD WORK OF THE RETIRING MEMBERS.

MR MATHEWS SAID THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION HAD RESULTED IN A NUMBER OF BENEFICIAL CHANGES TO THE LAWS OF HONG KONG.

MEMBERS BRING TO THE COMMISSION THE EXPERTISE GAINED IN A VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS AND HELP FORMULATE PROPOSALS WHICH REFLECT THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY.

/"THERE IS

"THERE IS STILL A GREAT DEAL OF WORK TO BE DONE IN THE FUTURE," SAID MR MATHEWS.

AFTER THE RECENT CHANGES IN APPOINTMENTS, THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION NOW COMPRISES 12 APPOINTED MEMBERS INCLUDING PROFESSOR H C KUAN, MRS MIRIAM LAU, MR JUSTICE MORTIMER, MR LESLIE L SUNG, PROFESSOR DEREK ROEBUCK, MR ROBERT RIBEIRO, QC, MR ALASDAIR G MORRISON, MR PETER F RHODES, MR ANDREW LIAO, QC, MR JUSTEIN WONG, MR GAGE MCAFFEE, AND PROFESSOR YASH GHAI.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, THE CHIEF JUSTICE, AND THE LAW DRAFTSMAN ARE EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.

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S6 CENTRAL ALLOCATION RESULTS RELEASE TOMORROW

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STUDENTS WHO HAVE REGISTERED FOR CENTRAL ALLOCATION OF THE REMAINING SECONDARY 6 VACANCIES ARE REMINDED THAT A LIST OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL BE DISPLAYED AT THE FOLLOWING FIVE REGISTRATION CENTRES FROM 9 AM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

* HONG KONG REGION

TANG SHIU KIN VICTORIA TECHNICAL SCHOOL
OI KWAN ROAD, WAN CHAI

* KOWLOON REGION

HOMANTIN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
8 PERTH STREET, HO MAN TIN

KOWLOON TECHNICAL SCHOOL
332 CHEUNG SHA WAN ROAD, SHAM SHUI PO

* NEW TERRITORIES REGION

TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
70 HOI PA STREET, TSUEN WAN

SHA TIN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOL
11-17 MAN LAI ROAD, SHA TIN

STUDENTS SHOULD RETURN TO THE SAME CENTRE WHERE THEY APPLIED FOR CENTRAL ALLOCATION TO SEE THE RESULT, AN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE SAID SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS SHOULD TAKE THEIR ALLOCATION SLIPS TO THE CHOSEN SCHOOL FOR REGISTRATION BEFORE 3.30 PM TOMORROW.

/"THERE WILL

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"THERE WILL BE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THOSE STUDENTS STILL UNABLE TO SECURE A S6 PLACE AS SOME OF THOSE WHO HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL DURING THE FIVE-STAGE PROCEDURE MAY DECIDE NOT TO TAKE UP THE PLACES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A LIST OF THESE VACANCIES SUBMITTED BY SCHOOL WILL BE DISPLAYED AND UPDATED WEEKLY AT ALL DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICES UP TO THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO THESE SCHOOLS DIRECT BUT ADMISSION WOULD BE ENTIRELY AT THE DISCRETION OF THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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COMPULSORY INSPECTION OF 1987 PRIVATE CARS

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PRIVATE CARS MANUFACTURED IN 1987 OR BEFORE, WHICH REQUIRE A LICENCE STARTING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 1994, MUST PASS A ROADWORTHINESS TEST BEFORE RE-LICENSING, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY).

UNDER THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 2, 1986, ALL PRIVATE CARS WHICH ARE SIX YEARS OLD OR OVER MUST FIRST PASS A VEHICLE TEST AND OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF ROADWORTHINESS FROM A GOVERNMENT-DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRE BEFORE THEIR LICENCES CAN BE RE-NEWED, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THERE ARE 24 DESIGNATED CAR TESTING CENTRES IN THE TERRITORY AND APPOINTMENTS FOR INSPECTION CAN BE MADE FOUR MONTHS BEFORE THE EXPIRY DATE OF THE VEHICLE LICENCE.

"THE CERTIFICATE IS ONLY VALID FOR RE-LICENSING WITHIN THE FOUR MONTHS IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DATE OF ISSUE," HE ADDED.

THE INSPECTION FEE FOR A PRIVATE CAR IS \$310, WHILE A RE-CHECK FEE OF \$100 IS CHARGED WHEN DEFECTS FOUND IN THE ORIGINAL INSPECTION ARE RECTIFIED AND EXAMINED WITHIN 14 DAYS OF INITIAL EXAMINATION.

SHOULD A CAR OWNER DISAGREE WITH THE RESULT OF A TEST, HE CAN APPEAL TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR AN INDEPENDENT EXAMINATION.

"TO AVOID UNNECESSARY INCONVENIENCE, CAR OWNERS SHOULD HAVE THEIR CARS CHECKED AND REPAIRED BEFORE SENDING THEIR CARS FOR EXAMINATION AT A CAR TESTING CENTRE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 829 5466.

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MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1993

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WATER CUTS IN MONG KOK AND KOWLOON EAST

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN MONG KOK WILL GO OFF FROM 11 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WASTE DETECTION WORK ON WATERMAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL THE PREMISES AT PRINCE EDWARD ROAD WEST, TONG MI ROAD, MONG KOK ROAD, SHANGHAI STREET, LAI CHI KOK ROAD, CANTON ROAD, BUTE STREET AND RECLAMATION STREET.

MEANWHILE, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME AREAS IN KOWLOON EAST WILL BE CUT OFF FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 26) TO 10 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORK ON WATERMAINS.

THE AFFECTED AREA INCLUDE LAM TIN ESTATE, HONG TIN COURT, HONG WAH COURT, HING TIN ESTATE, SAU MAU PING ESTATE, UNITED CHRISTIAN HOSPITAL, HONG NING ROAD TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, CHEUNG WO COURT, SHUN TIN ESTATE, SHUN ON ESTATE, SHUN LEE ESTATE, SHUN LEE TSUEN TEMPORARY HOUSING AREA, CHOI WAN ESTATE, LOK WAH ESTATE AND SHUN CHI COURT.

ALSO INCLUDED WILL BE ALL THE PREMISES AT KUNG LOK ROAD, HONG LEE ROAD AND HIU KWONG STREET.

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FLOATING HOLIDAY FOR EMPLOYEES

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THIS YEAR'S SECOND FLOATING HOLIDAY FALLS ON AUGUST 30, THE LAST MONDAY OF THE MONTH.

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, ALL EMPLOYEES SHALL BE GRANTED THEIR SECOND FLOATING HOLIDAY ON THIS DATE IF THE EMPLOYER HAS NOT ALREADY FIXED A DATE FOR THAT HOLIDAY OR IF THE EMPLOYEE HAS NOT REQUESTED IT TO BE ADDED TO HIS PAID ANNUAL LEAVE.

IN ADDITION, AN EMPLOYEE IS ENTITLED TO BE PAID FOR THAT HOLIDAY IF HE HAS WORKED FOR HIS EMPLOYER CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS ON A NORMAL WORKING DAY AND SHOULD INCLUDE BASIC WAGES AS WELL AS ALLOWANCES THAT CAN BE EXPRESSED IN MONEY TERMS SUCH AS MEALS AND COSTS OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, THE HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNINGS DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD OF 28 TO 31 DAYS PRECEDING THE MONTH.

IF AN EMPLOYEE IS REQUIRED TO WORK ON A STATUTORY HOLIDAY, HE MUST BE GIVEN AN ALTERNATIVE DAY OF WITHIN 60 DAYS BEFORE OR AFTER THAT DAY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS CAN BE MADE ON TEL 717 1771.

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SEMINAR ON SAFETY IN SHIP-BUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING
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A SEMINAR TO PROMOTE SAFETY AT WORK IN THE SHIP-BUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING INDUSTRY WILL BE HELD THIS FRIDAY (AUGUST 27) STARTING AT 2.30 PM AT LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE.

ORGANISED BY THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION, THE SEMINAR IS DESIGNED FOR EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS IN THE INDUSTRY TO HELP THEM REALISE THE POTENTIAL HAZARDS AND THEIR DUTIES IN PREVENTING INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS.

DURING THE SEMINAR, THERE WILL BE TALKS ON THE POTENTIAL HAZARDS, SUCH AS FALLING FROM HEIGHT, INJURING BY MOVING PARTS OF MACHINERY AND IN WELDING PROCESSES, AND NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT SUCH INJURIES.

PARTICIPANTS WILL ALSO BE BRIEFED ON LEGISLATIONS ON SHIP-BUILDING AND SHIP-REPAIRING INDUSTRY, THE STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES WITH REGARD TO THE GENERAL DUTIES PROVISIONS, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF SETTING UP OF SAFETY COMMITTEES.

A DISCUSSION SESSION IS ARRANGED SO THAT PARTICIPANTS WILL BE ABLE TO EXCHANGE THEIR VIEWS AND EXPERIENCES.

THE SEMINAR WILL BE CONDUCTED IN CANTONESE AND ADMISSION IS FREE.

THERE WILL BE ABOUT 50 PLACES AND ENROLMENT IS ON A FIRST-COME-FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

ENQUIRIES AND RESERVATION CAN BE MADE ON TEL 852 3564.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE
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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 79 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 462.745 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 500.337 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 85.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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MONDAY, AUGUST 23, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,560
REVERSAL OF LAF	+440
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-145
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,855
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 112.2 *+0.0* 23.8.93	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.78 PCT	15 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.32	3.55
1 MONTH	2.80 PCT	18 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.51	3.72
3 MONTHS	2.82 PCT	21 MONTHS	2505	4.75	99.57	4.05
6 MONTHS	3.06 PCT	24 MONTHS	2508	4.625	100.82	4.23
12 MONTHS	3.33 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 12,315 MN

CLOSED 23 AUGUST 1993

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