DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1994

CONTENTS **PAGE NO.**

INFRASTRUCTURE MEETING POSITIVE AND SUCCESSFUL: GOVERNOR 1

GOVERNOR'S MEDIA SESSION BEFORE U.S. TRIP 2

HONG KONG WANTS FREE TRADE DECLARATION 7

CAMPAIGN ON CONSTRUCTION SITE SAFETY COMPLETED 8

HEALTH AMBASSADORS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE 9

FAMILY AIDE SERVICE TO EXPAND 10

FINE AND DRY OCTOBER 11

LUCKY CAR MARKS SOLD FOR CHARITY 14

FIRING PRACTICE IN DECEMBER 15

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS 16

INFRASTRUCTURE MEETING POSITIVE AND SUCCESSFUL: GOVERNOR

* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING HE WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED BY THE POSITIVE CONTENT OF THE MEETING HELD EARLIER THIS WEEK IN PEKING BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINESE OFFICIALS ON INFRASTRUCTURE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES LOBBY BEFORE HIS OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE WEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES, MR PATTEN SAID:" I THINK THAT WAS A VERY, VERY SUCCESSFUL MEETING AND I HOPE THAT VERY SOON WE WILL BE ABLE TO WRAP UP ISSUES LIKE THE REMIT OF THE NEW PROPOSED COMMITTEE AND GET DOWN TO THE BUSINESS OF TALKING ABOUT CROSS-BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE, ABOUT TALKING ON ROAD AND RAIL AND SO ON, WITH OUR CHINESE COLLEAGUES."

ELABORATING ON THE PROPOSED COMMITTEE, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT WAS NOT A COMMITTEE OR A WORKING GROUP WHICH WOULD IN ANY WAY DETRACT FROM HONG KONG'S LEGITIMATE AUTONOMY.

"ITS INTENTION IS TO SPEED UP DECISION-MAKING RATHER THAN TO SLOW DECISION-MAKING DOWN, THOUGH IT'S NOT ITSELF A DECISION—MAKING BODY," MR PATTEN SAID.

"BUT I THINK IT'S A VERY WELCOME DEVELOPMENT AND MAY, FOR EXAMPLE, ENSURE THAT WE DON'T FACE A SITUATION IN WHICH BRIDGES START TURNING UP IN HONG KONG WITHOUT US KNOWING MUCH ABOUT THEM."

ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT HAD ACTUALLY AGREED THAT THE COMMITTEE BE SET UP, THE GOVERNOR SAID:".WE'VE GOT NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT A COMMITTEE LIKE THIS WOULD BE WHOLLY DESIRABLE, BUT I THINK WE NEED PROBABLY ANOTHER MEETING TO AGREE FINALLY ON THE NUTS AND BOLTS. BUT WE ARE VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE APPROACH AND ARE DELIGHTED THAT THE CHINESE SIDE HAVE BEEN SO POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE AS WELL."

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER HE WOULD VETO THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL BILL SHOULD LEGCO AMEND IT, MR PATTEN SAID:" WE INTEND, IF WE CAN, TO PERSUADE THE COMMUNITY AND PERSUADE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF OUR WISDOM IN PUTTING FORWARD THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ON THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, AND I HOPE WE SUCCEED, I THINK IT'S IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT WE SHOULD."

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WISHED TO GET THE BILL THROUGH DURING THIS SESSION.

"THE PROBLEM OF THE TIMETABLE IS IMPLACABLE. UNLESS WE HAVE THE COURT UP AND RUNNING BY THE MIDDLE OF 1996, WE WILL FACE A LEGAL VACUUM AT THE TOP OF OUR LEGAL STRUCTURE BECAUSE THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL TAKE ABOUT A YEAR TO CONSIDER CASES, WHICH MEANS THAT FROM ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF 1996 THEY WOULD FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO HANDLE HONG KONG CASES, SO WE'VE GOT TO GET THE COURT UP AND RUNNING BEFORE THEN," HE ADDED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/2 .....

GOVERNOR'S MEDIA SESSION BEFORE U.S. TRIP
* * * * *

THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPT OF THE MEDIA SESSION OF THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THIS (SATURDAY) MORNING AT THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES LOBBY BEFORE HIS TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES:

GOVERNOR: GOOD MORNING, I'M SAVING YOU THE USUAL JOURNEY OUT TO THE AIRPORT. I'M MAKING MY FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE WEST COAST OF THE UNITED STATES OVER THE NEXT WEEK. I'M VISITING LOS ANGELES, SAN FRANCISCO AND SEATTLE. IT'S THE FIRST VISIT BY A GOVERNOR TO LOS ANGELES SINCE 1989 AND THE FIRST VISIT TO SAN FRANCISCO AND SEATTLE SINCE 1986. SO I THINK IT IS HIGH TIME THAT WE ENSURED THAT HONG KONG'S BOOMING ECONOMY AND ALL THAT WE ARE DOING HERE TO SECURE OUR FUTURE WERE KNOWN TO SOME OF THOSE WITH WHOM WE HAVE SUCH A GOOD ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIP.

THE UNITED STATES, AS I THINK YOU KNOW, IS OUR SECOND LARGEST TRADING PARTNER AFTER CHINA. OUR TOTAL TRADE WITH THE US IS WORTH ABOUT FORTY-ONE BILLION UNITED STATES DOLLARS, AND ABOUT A FIFTH OF THAT TRADE IS WITH CALIFORNIA, SO YOU CAN SEE THAT THAT ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP - WHICH I REGULARLY SEE HERE: VISITORS FROM CALIFORNIA LIKE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BANK OF AMERICA - THAT RELATIONSHIP IS AN IMPORTANT ONE FOR US AND ONE THAT WE WANT TO STRENGTHEN.

I WILL BE MAKING FOUR MAJOR SPEECHES AND A NUMBER OF OTHER SPEECHES. I'M MEETING A LOT OF BUSINESS AND STATE AND CITY LEADERS AND WILL LOOK FORWARD IN PARTICULAR TO MY MEETING WITH GOVERNOR PETE WILSON FOLLOWING HIS RE-ELECTION LAST WEEK. I SAW HIM A FEW MONTHS AGO HERE IN HONG KONG WHEN HE WAS ACCOMPANYING A BUSINESS DELEGATION AND IT WILL BE A GREAT PLEASURE TO MEET HIM ONCE MORE.

I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT I'LL BE ABLE TO BUILD ON THE SUCCESSFUL VISIT WHICH THE CHIEF SECRETARY HAS MADE TO THE UNITED STATES THIS YEAR. SHE HAD A VERY SUCCESSFUL VISIT, AS YOU WILL RECALL, TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON TO LOBBY ABOUT MFN, IN APRIL, AND HAD ANOTHER VERY SUCCESSFUL PROMOTIONAL VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES LAST MONTH, GOING TO CHICAGO AND NEW YORK AND ATLANTA, AND I HOPE THAT WE'LL DO AS WELL ON THE WEST COAST AS SHE DID ON THAT PARTICULAR VISIT. I'M BACK NEXT WEEKEND. NO QUESTIONS?

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, THE CHIEF SECRETARY IS CALLING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY TO SPEAK UP TO RETAIN HONG KONG'S SUCCESSFUL FACTORS, AND IS IT QUITE DISTURBING FOR THE TIME BEING IF THOSE FACTORS ARE ERODED?

GOVERNOR: I THINK WHAT THE CHIEF SECRETARY SAID ON THAT SUBJECT WAS IMMENSELY SENSIBLE AND I THINK THERE ARE MANY MEMBERS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WHO SHARE THAT VIEW.

QUESTION: IS A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY IN 1997 - THE HONG KONG ADMINISTRATION HAS FORESEEN IT TO BE ERODING?

/GOVERNOR: .....

GOVERNOR: A HIGH DEGREE OF AUTONOMY, OF COURSE, DEPENDS ON THE ATTITUDE AND POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OFFICIALS IN PEKING, AND IT ALSO DEPENDS ON THE WILL AND COMMITMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF HONG KONG. ANY OTHERS?

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, YOU'VE ALWAYS SAID THAT IT WAS YOUR INTENTION TO LEAVE HERE ON 30TH JUNE 1997, BUT OF COURSE IT'S NOT COMPLETELY IN YOUR POWER (INAUDIBLE) AND THE PRIME MINISTER (INAUDIBLE)

GOVERNOR: THE ALMIGHTY.

QUESTION: YES, THE ALMIGHTY.

GOVERNOR: AND THE PRIME MINISTER. IN THAT ORDER.

QUESTION: IF IT WERE DECIDED BY THE ALMIGHTY OR BY A PRIME MINISTER THAT FOR WHATEVER REASON IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE ANOTHER GOVERNOR - WHATEVER THE REASON WAS - OF COURSE IT WOULD BE SEEN BY MANY PEOPLE IN HONG KONG AS QUITE DESTABALISING IF YOU WERE TAKEN OUT. THE ONLY THING THAT YOU MIGHT DO TO SHOW THAT YOU DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS SUCH A GOOD IDEA WOULD BE TO REFUSE TO TAKE A POLITICAL JOB WHEN YOU WENT BACK TO LONDON. NOW IF YOU WERE REPLACED, DO YOU THINK THAT YOU COULD MAKE IT CLEAR NOW THAT IT WOULD AT LEAST NOT BE TO YOUR POLITICAL DETRIMENT TO BE TAKEN OUT OR TO GO BACK OR REMOVED?

GOVERNOR: I'VE BEEN ASKED MUCH THE SAME QUESTION --

QUESTION: FIVE THOUSAND TIMES.

GOVERNOR: -- EVER SINCE I FIRST ARRIVED IN HONG KONG AND MY CONFIDENT PREDICTION IS THAT I'LL BE ASKED THE SAME QUESTION UNTIL ABOUT TEN-TO-TWELVE MIDNIGHT ON THE 30TH JUNE 1997, AND I THINK THAT MAYBE IN ORDER TO SAVE US ALL TIME, IN FUTURE IF ONE OF YOU WANTS TO ASK THE QUESTION, IF YOU SAY: "USUAL QUESTION", I'LL SAY "USUAL ANSWER". BUT LET ME ANSWER ONCE AGAIN. I WAS ASKED TO DO THIS JOB FOR FIVE YEARS. IN DOING THIS JOB I AM DISCHARGING THE POLICY OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE UNITED KINGDOM AS FAITHFULLY AND COMPETENTLY AS I CAN AND I AM ALSO SEEKING TO DISCHARGE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AS EXEMPLIFIED IN THE JOINT DECLARATION. I INTEND TO GO ON DOING THAT UNTIL THAT FAMOUS MIDNIGHT ON THE 30TH JUNE 1997.

NOW I HAVE OCCASIONALLY IN THE PAST ADDED "GOD WILLING" WHICH IS NOT SOME SORT OF MANUSCRIPT FOOTNOTE TO SECURE ME A RELEASE FROM THIS COMMITMENT, IT'S MERELY AN EXPRESSION OF DEVOTIONAL REVERENCE AND A RECOGNITION THAT THINGS ARE NOT ALWAYS IN ONES OWN HANDS.

I CAN'T CONCEIVE OF A MORE INTERESTING AND IMPORTANT JOB, WHETHER YOU DEFINE THAT POLITICALLY OR DIPLOMATICALLY OR MORALLY, THAN THE JOB THAT I AM TRYING TO DO HERE. AND I CANNOT CONCEIVE - I REPEAT WHAT I HAVE SAID BEFORE - OF ANY CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH I WILL NOT BE CONTINUING IN THE JOB UNTIL THE LAST TRUMPET.

/QUESTION: .....

QUESTION: HOW DO YOU FORESEE THE PROSPECT OF SPEEDING UP JLG WORK .....

GOVERNOR: WELL I WANT STRAIGHTAWAY, AS I HAVE DONE ALREADY, TO WELCOME THE NEW HEAD OF THE CHINESE JLG TEAM. HE IS VERY FAMILIAR WITH SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WITH WHICH HE WILL BE WRESTLING. HE IS A MAN OF GREAT DIPLOMATIC EXPERIENCE AND CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN WORKING WITH HONG KONG'S PROBLEMS AND ALL OF US UNRESERVEDLY WISH HIM WELL AND HOPE THAT HE ENJOYS LIVING IN THIS EXTRAORDINARY EXCITING COMMUNITY. WE CAN'T GUARANTEE HIM THIS WEATHER THE WHOLE YEAR ROUND BUT AT LEAST HE HAS ARRIVED WHEN IT'S AS BEAUTIFUL AS THIS.

WE DO HAVE ON THE TABLE, WHICH AMBASSADOR DAVIES PUT AT THE LAST JLG MEETING, A SERIES OF PROPOSALS FOR SPEEDING UP THE WORK OF THE JLG AND I WAS VERY PLEASED THAT THE NEW CHINESE AMBASSADOR REFERRED TO THE NECESSITY OF DOING THAT, AND I HOPE THAT ONE OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE NEXT JLG MEETING IN LONDON WILL BE TO AGREE ON WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN, BOTH SIDES, GET THROUGH THE JLG AGENDA MORE RAPIDLY.

I THINK THAT IT'S GOING TO BE THE CASE AS WE GET CLOSER TO 1997 THAT THE CHINESE SIDE WILL WANT TO PUT MORE ISSUES ON THE JLG AGENDA WHICH HAVE SPECIFIC RELEVANCE TO THE SOVEREIGNTY TRANSFER, TO THE TRANSITION, AND THAT'S TOTALLY UNDERSTANDABLE AND VERY WELCOME AND I TRIED TO ADDRESS SOME OF THOSE POINTS IN MY SPEECH TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST OCTOBER.

THERE ARE OTHER ISSUES WHICH SOMETIMES ARE DEALT WITH IN THE JLG AND SOMETIMES NOT, WHERE WE DO REQUIRE BETTER UNDERSTANDING. I WAS EXTREMELY PLEASED BY THE POSITIVE CONTENT OF THE MEETING THAT WE HAD EARLIER THIS WEEK IN PEKING ON INFRASTRUCTURE. I THINK THAT WAS A VERY, VERY SUCCESSFUL MEETING AND I HOPE THAT VERY SOON WE WILL BE ABLE TO WRAP UP ISSUES LIKE THE REMIT OF THE NEW PROPOSED COMMITTEE AND GET DOWN TO THE BUSINESS OF TALKING ABOUT CROSS-BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE, ABOUT TALKING ON ROAD AND RAIL AND SO ON, WITH OUR CHINESE COLLEAGUES. I THINK IN OUR EXPERIENCE, OR IN OUR ESTIMATION, THAT MEETING EARLIER THIS WEEK WAS A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE OF HOW TO DO BUSINESS AND I HOPE WE'LL BE ABLE TO GO ON LIKE THAT.

IT'S NOT - AS THE CHIEF SECRETARY WAS SAYING YESTERDAY - IT'S NOT A COMMITTEE OR A WORKING GROUP WHICH WILL IN ANY WAY DETRACT FROM HONG KONG'S LEGITIMATE AUTONOMY. ITS INTENTION IS TO SPEED UP DECISION MAKING RATHER THAN TO SLOW DECISION MAKING DOWN, THOUGH IT'S NOT ITSELF A DECISION MAKING BODY. BUT I THINK IT'S A VERY WELCOME DEVELOPMENT AND MAY, FOR EXAMPLE, ENSURE THAT WE DON'T FACE A SITUATION IN WHICH BRIDGES START TURNING UP IN HONG KONG WITHOUT US KNOWING MUCH ABOUT THEM.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, HAS THE GOVERNMENT ACTUALLY AGREED THAT THE COMMITTEE BE SET UP?

GOVERNOR: OH, WE'VE GOT NO DOUBT AT ALL THAT A COMMITTEE LIKE THIS WOULD BE WHOLLY DESIRABLE, BUT I THINK WE NEED PROBABLY ANOTHER MEETING TO AGREE FINALLY ON THE NUTS AND BOLTS. BUT WE ARE VERY POSITIVE ABOUT THE APPROACH AND ARE DELIGHTED THAT THE CHINESE SIDE HAVE BEEN SO POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE AS WELL.

/QUESTION: .....

QUESTION: MR PATTEN, DO YOU THINK THAT INACCURATE REPORTS YESTERDAY IN THE PRO-BEIJING PAPERS ABOUT THE STONECUTTERS NAVAL BASE IS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO MAKE TROUBLE AGAINST THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT?

GOVERNOR: TO USE SPORTING METAPHORS, IT SEEMED TO BE SOMETHING OF AN OWN GOAL, BUT IT WAS A REPORT IN THE NEWSPAPER RATHER THAN SOMETHING SAID BY OFFICIALS AND I'M SURE THE NEWSPAPER IS ENTIRELY INDEPENDENT WHEN IT PURSUES MATTERS LIKE THIS. I THINK THAT THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS HAS MADE THE POSITION ABUNDANTLY PLAIN, HE'S SET IT OUT VERY CLEARLY AND I DON'T THINK I WANT TO ADD TO WHAT HE SAID.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS ON THE CEREMONIAL TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY BECAUSE DIRECTOR LU PING HAS SAID THAT ITS THEIR OWN VIEW THAT IT WILL BE A QUITE SIMPLE CEREMONY - JUST LOWER DOWN THE BRITISH FLAG IN HONG KONG AND HOIST UP THE PRC FLAG - AND WHAT IS YOUR VIEW, BECAUSE YOU PUT FORWARD IN YOUR PROPOSAL, IN YOUR ADDRESS, AND SAID IT WILL BE IN A DIGNIFIED WAY?

GOVERNOR: YES, I THINK THAT IT WOULD BE SURPRISING IF DIRECTOR LU PING DIDN'T WANT IT TO BE DIGNIFIED AS WELL.

QUESTION: SO WHAT KIND OF CEREMONY ARE YOU THINKING OF?

GOVERNOR: WHAT WE'RE THINKING ABOUT IS A SIMPLE AND DIGNIFIED CEREMONY AND WE'LL VERY MUCH LOOK FORWARD TO DISCUSSING THAT WITH DIRECTOR LU PING AND WITH THE CHINESE TEAM AND THE JLG, AND WITH ANYBODY ELSE.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, STANDARD QUESTION PART TWO, VARIATION THREE -YOU'VE JUST GOT TO INDULGE ME, I'M GOING TO BE SIXTY-TWO ON MONDAY - JUST A LITTLE BIRTHDAY PRESENT - DO YOU AGREE THAT IF YOU WERE TAKEN OUT OF HERE, GOD WILLING OR WHATEVER IT IS, THAT IT WOULD BE VERY POLITICALLY DESTABALISING FOR HONG KONG BECAUSE YOU HAVE SAID THAT YOU YOURSELF HAVE NO INTENTION OF GOING, BUT WOULD YOU MAKE CLEAR TO ANYONE WHO HAPPENED TO SUGGEST TO YOU THAT FOR WHATEVER REASON IT MIGHT BE A GOOD THING FOR YOU, OR IF NECESSARY, DO YOU THINK THAT YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE PLAIN THAT IT WOULD BE REGARDED HERE AS A DISHONOURABLE ACT?

GOVERNOR: YES. AND THAT'S AN AFFIRMATIVE YES, RATHER THAN A NEGATIVE YES. THAT'S A HUNDRED AND ONE PER CENT YES. THAT IS A COMPLETE TOTAL UNMITIGATED YES. AND I THINK THERE WOULD BE OTHER PEOPLE WHO WOULD MAKE THAT POINT AS WELL.

QUESTION: VERY GOOD SO FAR.

GOVERNOR: LET ME ADD - NOT A QUALIFICATION - NOT A QUALIFICATION - THERE ARE IMPORTANT ISSUES INVOLVING BOTH HONESTY AND HONOUR, BOTH MINE AND THE GOVERNMENT'S, AND I THINK THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT.

ANYTHING ELSE? OR CAN I GO - GO AND PACK MY BAG. THAT'LL BE THE DAY.

/QUESTION: .....

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE)

GOVERNOR: WELL FIRST OF ALL, THE HIGH COURT HAS BEEN DEALING WITH ISSUES WHICH TOOK PLACE TWO YEARS AFTER I CEASED TO BE THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT. SECOND, WHEN I WAS QUESTIONED ON THIS ISSUE BY THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE I SAID THAT WHILE I WAS MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT THERE WAS NO LINK BETWEEN ARMS AND AID - AND THERE WASN'T - AND THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS SELECT COMMITTEE CONFIRMED THAT.

QUESTION: AND WHAT REACTION DO YOU HAVE TO DOUGLAS HURD'S (INAUDIBLE) THAT THERE WAS A LINK BETWEEN THE TWO.

GOVERNOR: THAT IS NOT, WITH RESPECT, THE ISSUE. AND WHAT DOUGLAS HURD HAS BEEN TALKING ABOUT IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS IS A HIGH COURT JUDGMENT ABOUT SOMETHING THAT TOOK PLACE TWO YEARS AFTER I WAS MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT.

QUESTION: IF LEGCO REJECT THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL - THE DRAFT BILL, DO YOU THINK IT'S A MATTER FOR THE PROVISIONAL LEGISLATURE TO MAKE A DECISION?

GOVERNOR: IF LEGCO REJECT LEGISLATION ON A COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, DECISIONS WILL HAVE TO BE TAKEN AFTER 1997. IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT. OK?

QUESTION: DOES THAT MEAN THAT IF LEGCO AMENDS THE BILL, WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO VETO THE BILL?

GOVERNOR: STANDARD QUESTION NUMBER TWO. STANDARD ANSWER NUMBER TWO. IT'S DIFFICULT ENOUGH GOVERNING HONG KONG WITHOUT MAKING IT MORE DIFFICULT BY INVITING ME TO REPLY TO HYPOTHETICAL SITUATIONS. WE INTEND, IF WE CAN, TO PERSUADE THE COMMUNITY AND PERSUADE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF OUR WISDOM IN PUTTING FORWARD THE LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ON THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL, AND I HOPE WE SUCCEED, I THINK IT'S IN THE INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY THAT WE SHOULD. OK?

QUESTION: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE GOVERNMENT WON'T MAKE A SECOND ATTEMPT TO TABLE THE BILL IF IT'S TO BE REJECTED?

GOVERNOR: SORRY?

QUESTION: THERE WON'T BE A SECOND ATTEMPT TO TABLE THE BILL BEFORE 1997?

GOVERNOR: WELL, WE WISH TO GET THE BILL THROUGH DURING THIS SESSION. THE PROBLEM OF THE TIMETABLE IS IMPLACABLE. UNLESS WE HAVE THE BILL UP AND RUNNING -- SORRY, UNLESS WE HAVE THE COURT UP AND RUNNING BY THE MIDDLE OF 1996, WE WILL FACE A LEGAL VACUUM AT THE TOP OF OUR LEGAL STRUCTURE BECAUSE THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL TAKE ABOUT A YEAR TO CONSIDER CASES, WHICH MEANS THAT FROM ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF 1996 THEY WOULD FIND IT VERY DIFFICULT TO HANDLE HONG KONG CASES, SO WE'VE GOT TO GET THE COURT UP AND RUNNING BEFORE THEN. THANK YOU VERY MUCH INDEED.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HONG KONG WANTS FREE TRADE DECLARATION

* * * * *

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, EXPRESSED HONG KONG'S HOPE FOR A FREE TRADE DECLARATION FROM THE ASIA-PACIFIC ECONOMIC COOPERATION (APEC) ECONOMIC LEADERS AT THEIR MEETING TO BE HELD IN BOGOR, INDONESIA ON NOVEMBER 15 (TUESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE SIXTH APEC MINISTERIAL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 11 AND 12 IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA.

"OUR HOPE," HE SAID, "IS THAT THERE WILL ISSUE FROM BOGOR A STRONG DECLARATION OF APEC'S COLLECTIVE COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING FREE TRADE IN APEC BY A SPECIFIC AND CREDIBLE DATE.

"A DECISIVE DECLARATION GIVES APEC CENTRE STAGE. THE INITIATIVE FOR LEADING GLOBAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT LIBERALISATION LIES WITH US, WITH ECONOMIES WHICH ARE ALL GROWING AND WHICH ARE INCREASINGLY EXTERNALLY ORIENTED. IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT, IN MY VIEW, THAT WE RETAIN THE INITIATIVE."

LOOKING BEYOND BOGOR, MR CHAU STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING UP THE MOMENTUM OF TRADE LIBERALISATION. "APEC SHOULD FOCUS ON A PRACTICAL PACKAGE OF THINGS WHICH ARE MORE IMMEDIATELY ACHIEVABLE AND DELIVERABLE," SAID MR CHAU.

MR CHAU SUGGESTED FOUR REASONS FOR THIS: "FIRST, WE NEED TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE REST OF THE WORLD THAT WE ARE SERIOUS. SECONDLY, WE NEED TO GIVE OURSELVES GREATER CREDIBILITY WITH OUR BUSINESS CONSTITUENCIES. THIRDLY, WE NEED TO BUILD UP A MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE. FOURTHLY, WE NEED TO ALLOW OURSELVES SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF APEC'S ECONOMIC DIVERSITY.

"I AM PLEASED, THEREFORE THAT APEC HAS SET PRIORITIES FOR ITS TRADE FACILITATION WORK AND HOPE THAT SUCH WORK WILL BRING IMMEDIATE AND TANGIBLE BENEFITS TO OUR BUSINESSMEN," HE ADDED.

MR CHAU ALSO URGED APEC MEMBERS TO REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM AND THEIR DETERMINATION TO SET UP THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION ON JANUARY 1, 1995.

BESIDES TRADE AND INVESTMENT ISSUES, THE APEC MINISTERIAL MEETING ALSO DISCUSSED ECONOMIC TREND AND ISSUES, THE SECOND REPORT OF THE EMINENT PERSONS GROUP, THE REPORT OF THE PACIFIC BUSINESS REPORT, HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, CO-OPERATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AND OTHER WORK PROGRAMMES AND ORGANISATIONAL ISSUES OF APEC.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG DELEGATION INCLUDE THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR TONY MILLER; THE GOVERNMENT ECONOMIST, MR K Y TANG; DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR A R CLARK; AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR DOMINIC LAW.

APEC IS AN INFORMAL FORUM FOR HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT DIALOGUE ON TRADE AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, AND COMPRISES 18 MEMBERS. BESIDES HONG KONG, OTHER MEMBERS ARE: AUSTRALIA, BRUNEI DARUSSALAM, CANADA, CHILE (WHICH BECAME A MEMBER AT THE MINISTERIAL MEETING), CHINA, INDONESIA, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, MEXICO, NEW ZEALAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA, THE PHILIPPINES, SINGAPORE, CHINESE TAIPEI, THAILAND AND THE U.S.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/8 .....

CAMPAIGN ON CONSTRUCTION SITE SAFETY COMPLETED

* * * * *

THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A CAMPAIGN ON CONSTRUCTION SITES TO REMIND EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE NEED FOR CONSTANT IMPROVEMENT OF SITE SAFETY IN A BID TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

DURING THE TWO-PHASE SPECIAL TASK FORCE CAMPAIGN MOUNTED BETWEEN MARCH AND JUNE, AND BETWEEN AUGUST AND OCTOBER, FACTORY INSPECTORS MADE A TOTAL OF 1,295 INSPECTIONS TO 585 CONSTRUCTION SITES, LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR CHAN TAT-KING, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

"THESE INSPECTIONS WERE MADE IN ADDITION TO THE NORMAL DAY-TO-DAY ROUTINE INSPECTIONS BECAUSE EXPERIENCE FROM PREVIOUS SIMILAR EXERCISES HAS PROVED THAT THE OPERATION IS VERY EFFECTIVE PARTICULARLY IN THE HOT AND RAINY SEASON.

"TO TIE IN WITH THE CAMPAIGN, THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE ALSO ISSUED SAFETY ADVICE ON NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN BY CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS ON APPROACH OF, DURING AND AFTER BAD OR UNSTABLE WEATHER," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN DISCLOSED THAT DURING THE CAMPAIGN, FACTORY INSPECTORS CONCENTRATED ON HIGH-RISK AREAS SUCH AS SCAFFOLDS, CAISSON WORK, AND PLACES THAT MIGHT CAUSE FALLS OF PERSONS.

"WE ALSO CHECKED ON THE SAFE USE OF LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEARS, TO SEE WHETHER THE CONTRACTOR HAD COMPLIED WITH THEIR STATUTORY DUTIES IN THE PROVISION OF TRAINING AND SUPERVISION ON THE USE OF PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT SUCH AS SAFETY BELTS AND SAFETY HELMETS.

"WE ALSO CHECKED WHETHER WORKERS HAD FULFILLED THEIR RESPONSIBILITY IN CO-OPERATING WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS IN COMPLYING WITH THE LAW ON SAFETY AND HEALTH.

"APART FROM THE HIGH-RISK AREAS, ATTENTION WAS PAID ON HOUSEKEEPING ON THE SITES, THE IMPROVEMENT OF WHICH WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT IN AVOIDING ACCIDENTS GENERALLY," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN SAID DURING THE CAMPAIGN, FACTORY INSPECTORS HAD TAKEN PROSECUTION ACTION AGAINST 285 SITES FOR SERIOUS BREACHES OF SAFETY REGULATIONS, RESULTING IN THE ISSUING OF 541 SUMMONSES.

AMONG THE SUMMONSES, 304 WERE OFFENCES RELATED TO FALL FROM A HEIGHT AND SCAFFOLD SAFETY, 72 RELATED TO THE SAFE USE OF MACHINERY INCLUDING WOODWORKING MACHINES, LIFTING APPLIANCES AND LIFTING GEARS, AND 41 ON ELECTRICAL SAFETY.

ANOTHER 111 SUMMONSES WERE TAKEN OUT AGAINST CONTRACTORS FOR FAILING TO ENSURE WORKERS WEAR SAFETY HELMETS, FIVE SUMMONSES FOR FAILING TO ENSURE WORKERS WEAR EYE-PROTECTORS, ONE FOR FAILURE TO PROVIDE EYE-PROTECTORS TO WORKERS, ONE FOR FAILURE TO PREVENT FALLING MATERIALS AND ONE ON POOR SITE HOUSEKEEPING.

/THERE ARE .....

THERE ARE ALSO FIVE SUMMONSES AGAINST WORKERS FOR NOT WEARING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTOR.

HE POINTED OUT THAT PAST EXPERIENCE AND EVIDENCES COLLECTED IN THE CAMPAIGN SHOWED THAT SITE CONTRACTORS WERE PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE IN THEIR ABILITY OR DETERMINATION TO EXERCISE STRICTER SUPERVISION OVER THEIR EMPLOYEES IN ADHERING TO THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS.

"IN MOST CASES, CONTRACTORS STOPPED AT JUST PROVIDING THE REQUISITE EQUIPMENT AND MEASURES BUT IGNORED THE NEED TO SUPERVISE THE PROPER USE OF SUCH PROVISIONS, NOT TO MENTION MAINTAINING THEM IN GOOD WORKING ORDER," MR CHAN SAID.

UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS ORDINANCE AND CONSTRUCTION SITES (SAFETY) REGULATIONS, IT IS THE DUTY OF THE EMPLOYERS TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF WORKERS BY PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING A SAFE WORKING PLACE, HE REITERATED.

WORKERS MUST ALSO CO-OPERATE WITH EMPLOYERS AND USE THE REQUIRED SAFETY EQUIPMENT TO AVOID BEING INJURED, HE ADDED.

"OUR INSPECTORS WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP A CLOSE WATCH ON THE SITUATION AND WILL MOUNT MORE OPERATIONS, IF NECESSARY, TO SEE TO IT THE SAFETY LAW IS BEING OBSERVED," HE SAID.

"ENFORCEMENT ACTION IS LIKELY TO BE INTENSIFIED WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S RECENT DETERMINATION TO RID PERSISTENT OFFENDERS OF THE SAFETY LAW OF BIDDING FOR PUBLIC CONTRACTS.

"CONTRACTORS WITH BAD SAFETY PERFORMANCE AS REFLECTED BY POOR ACCIDENT OR PROSECUTION RECORDS WILL SOON FIND IT DIFFICULT TO SURVIVE IN THIS COMPETING WORLD," MR CHAN SAID.

"UNSCRUPULOUS CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS WHO CHOOSE TO TURN A BLIND EYE TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW WILL BE PROSECUTED WITHOUT HESITATION," HE SAID.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HEALTH AMBASSADORS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

* * * * *

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE IS THE BEST PREVENTION AGAINST TOP KILLER DISEASES AMONG URBAN DWELLERS, THE CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, DR DAVID FANG, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

SPEAKING AT A HEALTH AMBASSADOR GRADUATION CEREMONY, HE SAID COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION PROGRAMMES, BASED ON TRAINING UP MOTIVATED MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, HAD BEEN SET UP IN MANY PARTS OF THE WORLD AND PROVED TO BE AN EFFECTIVE HEALTH PROMOTION MODEL.

DR FANG SAID THE KNOWLEDGE OF HEALTH THAT HEALTH AMBASSADORS ACQUIRED WOULD BENEFIT NOT ONLY THE TRAINEES, BUT ALSO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

/HE CALLED .....

HE CALLED ON THE AMBASSADORS TO LIVE UP TO THEIR MISSION TO CONVEY HEALTH MESSAGES TO PEOPLE THEY KNOW.

DR FANG SAID WOMEN AMBASSADORS SHOULD DRIVE HOME THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE. HE HOPED THAT STUDENT AMBASSADORS WOULD PASS ON THE HEALTHY LIFESTYLE KNOWLEDGE TO THEIR CLASSMATES.

A TOTAL OF 420 HEALTH AMBASSADORS GRADUATED TODAY AFTER SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THEIR TRAINING COURSES RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS TRAINED 380 STUDENT HEALTH AMBASSADORS FROM ABOUT 80 SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND 40 WOMEN HEALTH AMBASSADORS AGED BETWEEN 30 AND 50.

THE HEALTH AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME IS AN INNOVATIVE STEP OVER THE CONVENTIONAL RELIANCE ON HEALTH ACTIVITIES RENDERED BY HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS.

THE CONCEPT IS TO DRAW COMMUNITY SUPPORT TO AND PARTICIPATION IN SPREADING HEALTH MESSAGES

THE PROGRAMME WILL BE PERMANENT AND IS CHARACTERISED BY A MULTI-STRATA STRUCTURE AND CONTINUOUS LEARNING OF SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE IN RELATION TO HEALTH PROMOTION IN THE COMMUNITY.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL ORGANISE ADVANCED COURSES FOR THOSE AMBASSADORS WHO ARE INTERESTED TO LEARN MORE.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FAMILY AIDE SERVICE TO EXPAND

* * * * *

THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT IS TO EXPAND FAMILY AIDE SERVICE TO HELP ITS CLIENTS DEVELOP ADEQUATE ABILITY IN SELF-CARE AND HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

THE NUMBER OF FAMILY AIDE WORKERS WILL BE INCREASED FROM 20 AT PRESENT TO 52 IN 1996/97 BY PHASES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY).

"THE BASIC OBJECTIVE OF THE SERVICE IS TO GIVE GUIDANCE TO CLIENTS WHO ARE RECEIVING OUR CASEWORK COUNSELLING SERVICE BY IMPARTING TO THEM BASIC SKILLS IN HOME-MAKING AND CHILD CARE THROUGH A SYSTEMATIC TRAINING PROGRAMME.

"THE ULTIMATE AIM IS TO HELP THEM DEVELOP ADEQUATE SELF-MANAGEMENT IN HOUSEHOLD MATTERS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TRAINING COVERS HOUSEKEEPING, CLEANING, LAUNDRY, CARING FOR CHILDREN AND OTHER PERSONS IN NEED, PREPARATION OF MEALS, SHOPPING AND BUDGETTING.

/THE SPOKESMAN .....

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE FOLLOWING FOUR CATEGORIES OF CLIENTS WERE CONSIDERED TO BE IN NEED OF FAMILY AIDE SERVICE:

* PARENTS WHO ARE INADEQUATE IN MANAGING THE HOUSEHOLD TASKS OR IN TAKING CARE OF THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN;

* DISABLED OR MENTALLY ILL PARENTS WHO ARE INADEQUATE IN MANAGING HOUSEHOLD TASKS OR IN TAKING CARE OF THEIR YOUNG CHILDREN;

* ANY FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS TO MANAGE HOUSEHOLD TASKS OR TAKE CARE OF YOUNG CHILDREN OWING TO THE OCCURRENCE OF FAMILY CRISIS SUCH AS DESERTION, IMPRISONMENT, HOSPITALISATION, DIVORCE OR DEATH OF PARENTS; AND

* ANY FAMILIES OR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE CONSIDERED TO BE IN NEED OF FAMILY AIDE SERVICE BY SOCIAL WORKERS.

AT PRESENT, FAMILY AIDE SERVICE IS PROVIDED BY ALL FAMILY SERVICES CENTRES OF THE DEPARTMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS THROUGH A REFERRAL SYSTEM FROM VARIOUS CASEWORK SERVICES UNITS, INCLUDING THE CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES UNIT, THE CHILD CUSTODY SERVICES UNIT, PROBATION OFFICES, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK UNITS AND MEDICAL SOCIAL SERVICES UNITS.

IN ADDITION, THE DEPARTMENT HAS REVISED THE FAMILY AIDE SERVICE USER'S GUIDE TO PROVIDE AN UP-TO-DATE GUIDELINE TO CASEWORKERS TO IDENTIFY WHO ARE IN NEED OF FAMILY AIDE SERVICE. COPIES OF THE GUIDE HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO ALL CASEWORK SERVICES UNITS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN FAMILY AIDE SERVICE ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OR CALL THE DEPARTMENT'S HOTLINE 343 2255.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FINE AND DRY OCTOBER

* * * * *

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A PERSISTENT NORTHEAST MONSOON, LAST MONTH WAS GENERALLY FINE AND DRY, A ROYAL OBSERVATORY REPORT STATED TODAY (SATURDAY).

WITH MONTHLY RAINFALL OF ONLY 2.2 MILLIMETRES, IT WAS THE EIGHTH DRIEST OCTOBER SINCE RECORDS BEGAN IN 1884.

THE TOTAL RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1 AMOUNTED TO 2,602.8 MILLIMETRES, 21 PER CENT ABOVE THE NORMAL OF 2,151.9 MILLIMETRES FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

THE MEAN CLOUD AMOUNT FOR THE MONTH WAS ONLY 36 PER CENT, 20 PER CENT BELOW THE OCTOBER NORMAL.

/A BROAD .....

A BROAD RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE DOMINATED OVER SOUTHERN CHINA AND THE WEATHER IN HONG KONG WAS FINE AND WARM ON THE FIRST FIVE DAYS OF THE MONTH.

HOWEVER, A FRESH EASTERLY AIRSTREAM REACHED THE COAST OF GUANGDONG ON THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 6 AND BROUGHT CLOUDY WEATHER AND SOME RAIN PATCHES.

TEMPERATURES WERE GENERALLY ON THE RISE FROM OCTOBER 7 TO 9. AS TYPHOON SETH TRAVERSED THE EAST CHINA SEA, ITS PERIPHERAL NORTHERLY FLOW BROUGHT HOT AND DRY CONTINENTAL AIR TO THE TERRITORY ON OCTOBER 10 AND 11. THE MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY DROPPED TO 63 PER CENT ON THESE TWO DAYS.

SUNNY WEATHER WITH MODERATE TO FRESH EASTERLY WINDS PREVAILED FROM OCTOBER 12 TO 17. THE MONTH'S HIGHEST TEMPERATURES OF 31.1 DEGREES WAS REACHED IN A FINE AFTERNOON ON OCTOBER 17.

A COLD FRONT OVER GUANGDONG ADVANCED SOUTHWARDS ON OCTOBER 18 AND REACHED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST THE NEXT DAY.

LOCAL WINDS STRENGTHENED FROM THE NORTH ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 19.

A BLOCK OF WOOD WAS BLOWN OFF A HIGH-RISE BUILDING AT WONG TAI SIN ON OCTOBER 20 HITTING AND INJURING TWO PEDESTRIANS.

A BEEHIVE WAS TOSSED BY WINDS FROM A TREE IN SHA TIN ON THE SAME DAY. TEN PEOPLE WERE STUNG BY BEES ESCAPING FROM THE DAMAGED HIVE.

WITH THE ADVECTION OF COOL AND DRY CONTINENTAL AIR BEHIND THE COLD FRONT, THERE WAS A SIGNIFICANT DROP IN BOTH TEMPERATURES AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY.

IT WAS PARTICULARLY DRY ON OCTOBER 21 WITH A MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF ONLY 37 PER CENT. TEMPERATURES FELL TO THE MONTH'S LOWEST OF 16.5 DEGREES ON OCTOBER 22.

THE PERSISTENCE OF A HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM OVER CHINA SUSTAINED THE NORTHEAST MONSOON. A SPELL OF COOL, FINE AND DRY WEATHER LASTED TILL THE END OF THE MONTH.

THERE WERE ALTOGETHER SEVEN TROPICAL CYCLONES OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN OCTOBER.

DETAILS OF THE ISSUANCE/HOISTING AND CANCELLATION/LOWERING OF VARIOUS WARNINGS/SIGNALS IN THE MONTH ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 1.1. MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL OF OCTOBER ARE TABULATED IN TABLE 1.2.

/TABLE 1.1 .....

TABLE 1.1 WARNINGS AND SIGNALS IN OCTOBER 1994

WARNINGS / SIGNALS	EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME
STRONG MONSOON WARNING	OCT 19 7.15 PM - OCT 22 7.30 PM
FIRE DANGER WARNINGS	
YELLOW	OCT 1 6 AM - OCT 2 MIDNIGHT
YELLOW	OCT 9 6 AM - OCT 9 11 PM
RED	OCT 11 7.40 AM - OCT 11 6 PM
RED	OCT 13 MIDNIGHT - OCT 13 11 PM
YELLOW	OCT 16 MIDNIGHT - OCT 16 6 PM
RED	OCT 20 6.05 AM - OCT 27 7.45 AM
YELLOW	OCT 29 MIDNIGHT - OCT 30 6.15 AM
RED	OCT 30 6.15 AM - OCT 30 11 PM

TABLE 1.2 FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL - OCTOBER 1994

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	267.7 HOURS ; 72.7 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	16.75 MJ/SQUARE METRE ; 1.29 MJ/SQUARE METRE ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	2.2 MM ; 142.6 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN CLOUD AMOUNT	36 PER CENT ; 20 PER CENT BELOW NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	67 PER CENT ; 6 PER CENT BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	27.5 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.4 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	24.9 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.3 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	22.9 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 0.2 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	18.1 DEGREES CELSIUS ; 1.7 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	135.4 MM ; 16.8 MM BELOW NORMAL

REMARKS: ALL MEASUREMENTS WERE MADE AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY EXCEPT SUNSHINE, SOLAR RADIATION AND EVAPORATION WHICH WERE RECORDED AT KING'S PARK.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/14 .....

LUCKY CAR MARKS SOLD FOR CHARITY

* * * * *

NINETY-NINE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS WERE SOLD IN AN AUCTION TODAY (SATURDAY) FOR A TOTAL OF $2,333,000 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY AFTER EXPENSES ARE DEDUCTED.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION MARK GC3 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF $210,000.

ANOTHER REGISTRATION MARK GC2 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF $175,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS $1,000 EACH FOR GE625, GD1017, GE466, GD1014, GE3992, GE1611, GD1016, GE8907 AND BN257.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF THE MORNING-SESSION AUCTION:

	$		$		$		$
GD1003	2,000	GA128	75,000	GD3338	26,000	GE328	100,000
GE625	1,000	GD1006	5,000	GD1009	3,000	GD1012	6,000
*AS1001	40,000	*XX25	WITHDRAWN	*GC2	175,000	*AC89	90,000
AY1777	8,000	BC1215	2,000	GE3336	16,000	CP3819	10,000
GE2108	6,000	GD8362	8,000	GE1128	13,000	CC6621	6,000
GD1017	1,000	GD1011	3,000	GC9998	15,000	FY3278	9,000
GE770	6,000	GD6218	4,000	GD1014	1,000	GE1116	4,000
*DD66	140,000	*AP27	72,000	*AL8338	50,000	*FA1100	16,000
GE466	1,000	CM9902	4,000	GE329	25,000	GE115	5,000
CS4376	WITHDRAWN	GE8288	32,000	AU1933	20,000	GE702	4,000
GE3992	1,000	GE629	4,000	*EB5656	6,000	FZ7628	WITHDRAWN
GE1611	1,000	GD1016	1,000	BB869	30,000	*BE5225	10,000
GE513	WITHDRAWN	AS129	18,000				

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF THE AFTERNOON-SESSION AUCTION:

	$		$		$		$
GE895	2,000	GE168	105,000	GC3338	21,000	GB7351	6,000
GD1008	13,000	GE348	23,000	GD6233	WITHDRAWN	GE208	12,000
*FF66	110,000	*AP600	35,000	*GC3	210,000	*BB27	49,000
GE8907	1,000	GE8388	20,000	GE3228	14,000	GE1113	9,000
CF6686	21,000	AC812	28,000	AS2988	19,000	GE2833	6,000
GE1800	26,000	GA8930	WITHDRAWN	GB2328	15,000	HK3339	170,000
GE1168	13,000	AP6686	18,000	GE220	38,000	BT885	6,000
*CK87	40,000	*FD2345	9,000	*AL2882	21,000	*GE3993	8,000
GE827	10,000	GE3168	18,000	GB1328	15,000	GD7888	12,000
CD6686	10,000	GE356	6,000	GD1018	6,000	GE280	21,000
GE1892	WITHDRAWN	BS1962	6,000	*GD626	18,000	EF1011	15,000
BB719	12,000	GE699	9,000	BB5111	10,000	*EA9090	13,000
GE6629	2,000	BN257	1,000				

THERE WERE NO BIDDERS FOR CS4376, XX25, FZ7628, GE513, GA8930, GD6233 AND GE1892. XX25 WAS WITHDRAWN AND THE REST WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE ORIGINAL APPLICANTS.

* SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)

/SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS .....

SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLE REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 246TH AND 247TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF MONEY REALISED SO FAR TO $355,014,905.

- - - - 0 - - - -

FIRING PRACTICE IN DECEMBER

* * * * *

FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 10 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

FOLLOWING ARE THE DATES AND TIMES FOR THE FIRING PRACTICE:

DATE	TIME
DECEMBER 5 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
DECEMBER 6 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
DECEMBER 7 (WEDNESDAY)	6 AM - 11.59 PM
DECEMBER 8 (THURSDAY)	00.01 AM - 11.59 PM
DECEMBER 9 (FRIDAY)	00.01 AM - 11.59 PM
DECEMBER 10 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 11 PM
DECEMBER 14 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
DECEMBER 15 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
DECEMBER 16 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
DECEMBER 21 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM

- - - - 0 - - - -

/16 .....

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE ($ MILLION)
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,471	0930	+400
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,051	1000	+400
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+400
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+400	1130	+400
LAF TODAY	-820	1500	
		1600	

LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER TWI 121.1 *+0.1* 12.11.94

- - - - 0 - - - -