



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1991

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NEW INSTALLATION DEMONSTRATES SHELL'S CONFIDENCE IN HK'S FUTURE
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SHELL'S INVESTMENT IN THE MAJOR, SOPHISTICATED NEW INSTALLATION AT TSING YI IS A VERY PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION OF THE COMPANY'S CONFIDENCE IN HONG KONG'S FUTURE, WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW INSTALLATION, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT ALSO REFLECTED THE IMPORTANCE SHELL ATTACHED TO MEETING MODERN SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS.

"THE BELOW-GROUND STORAGE HERE OF LPG IS A FIRST FOR HONG KONG," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THESE FACILITIES WOULD SERVE NOT ONLY HONG KONG, BUT ALSO SOUTHERN CHINA.

"SHELL SHARES WITH MANY OF US THE BELIEF THAT THE PEARL RIVER DELTA HAS TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC POTENTIAL, AND THAT HONG KONG HAS A VITAL ROLE IN HELPING TO REALISE THAT POTENTIAL," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID COMMENDED SHELL ON COMPLETING THIS OUTSTANDING NEW ADDITION TO HONG KONG'S ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE.

HE SAID THE REGULAR IMPORTATION, SAFE STORAGE AND EFFICIENT DISTRIBUTION OF FUEL WERE ALL ESSENTIAL TO OUR WELL-BEING.

"THE QUANTITIES INVOLVED ARE ENORMOUS. THE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ARE DEMANDING. SUBSTANTIAL CONTINGENCY RESERVES ARE ESSENTIAL," HE SAID.

"FOR THE SYSTEM TO WORK WELL IT NEEDS HEALTHY COMMERCIAL COMPETITION; CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT; AND COMPANIES PREPARED TO MAKE VERY LARGE, LONG-TERM FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS.

"HONG KONG IS FORTUNATE IN HAVING A NUMBER OF SUCH COMPANIES. SHELL IS ONE OF THEM," HE ADDED.

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AMENDMENTS TO SATELLITE TV LICENCE APPROVED
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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED MINOR AMENDMENTS TO THE SATELLITE TELEVISION UPLINK AND DOWNLINK LICENCE GRANTED TO HUTCHVISION HONG KONG LIMITED ON DECEMBER 18 LAST YEAR.

THE AMENDMENTS WILL ALLOW HUTCHVISION TO CARRY RADIO CHANNELS AS PART OF ITS SERVICE, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY (TA) AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY.

/A SPOKESMAN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID THE LICENCE AMENDMENTS WOULD ENABLE THE RECEPTION THROUGHOUT ASIA OF HIGH QUALITY SATELLITE-DELIVERED FM RADIO CHANNELS.

"CURRENTLY, HUTCHVISION WISHES TO CARRY TWO BBC WORLD SERVICE RADIO CHANNELS, COMPRISING ONE SERVICE IN ENGLISH AND ANOTHER SERVICE IN 15 ASIAN LANGUAGES, INCLUDING SOME CANTONESE," HE SAID.

"AN AMENDMENT WILL ALSO GIVE THE TA THE DISCRETION TO ALLOW AN INCREASE IN THE TIME ALLOWED FOR STATION OR PROGRAMME PROMOTION," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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THREE NEW TAC MEMBERS APPOINTED

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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED THREE NEW MEMBERS TO THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) FOR TWO YEARS FROM OCTOBER 1, 1991.

THEY ARE PROFESSOR TENNY N. LAM, MR NG SHUI-LAI AND MR CLEMENT TAO KWOK-LAU.

THE GOVERNOR HAS ALSO RE-APPOINTED MR CHUNG PUI-LAM AS A TAC MEMBER FOR ONE YEAR ALSO FROM OCTOBER 1.

PROF TENNY N. LAM, AGED 50, IS THE SECOND CHAIR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG. HE HAS SPENT OVER 25 YEARS IN TEACHING, RESEARCH AND PRACTICE IN TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING.

MR NG SHUI-LAI, AGED 44, IS THE DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG CHRISTIAN SERVICE. HE HAS BEEN SERVING ON THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, IMMIGRATION TRIBUNAL AND THE SUBVENTIONS AND LOTTERIES FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MR CLEMENT TAO KWOK-LAU, AGED 43, IS THE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CONSULTANT OF THE ASSOCIATED ADVISERS LIMITED. HE HAS SERVED ON THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY AND THE TRANSPORT TRIBUNAL AND IS CURRENTLY A MEMBER OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL.

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TAC RECOMMENDS 200 URBAN TAXI LICENCES

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THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) TODAY (TUESDAY) RECOMMENDED THE ISSUE OF 200 NEW URBAN TAXI LICENCES FOR THIS YEAR, BUT NONE FOR NEW TERRITORIES TAXI LICENCES FOR THIS YEAR.

THE TAC ALSO DECIDED TO TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE FUTURE ISSUING OF TAXI LICENCES SHORTLY.

IN MAKING THE RECOMMENDATIONS, THE TAC HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THE AVAILABILITY OF TAXI SERVICES, THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE TRADE, THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS AND THE LEVEL OF TAXI LICENCES PREMIUM.

WITH REFERENCE TO TAXI DEMAND SURVEYS CONDUCTED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, TAC MEMBERS NOTED THAT SINCE LAST YEAR, BOTH THE PERCENTAGE OF OCCUPIED TAXIS AND THE AVERAGE PASSENGER WAITING TIME HAD DROPPED, SIGNIFYING AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE AVAILABILITY OF URBAN TAXI SERVICES.

FROM THE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PERSPECTIVE, THERE WAS LITTLE JUSTIFICATION FOR ANY DRASTIC INCREASE IN URBAN TAXI LICENCES BECAUSE TAXIS ACCOUNTED FOR AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 30 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL TRAFFIC IN URBAN AREAS AND MORE THAN HALF OF THE TRAFFIC IN THE MORNING PEAK HOURS AT CERTAIN BUSY LOCATIONS.

HOWEVER, HAVING REGARD TO THE RISING PREMIUM OF URBAN TAXI LICENCES, THE TAC CONSIDERED THAT RELATIVELY MORE SHOULD BE ISSUED FOR THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH 150 LICENCES ISSUED LAST YEAR.

ON NEW TERRITORIES TAXIS, THE TAC NOTED THAT DESPITE THE FREEZE OF NT TAXI LICENCES LAST YEAR, THE NUMBER OF UNLICENSED NT TAXIS HAD REMAINED AT ABOUT 280 IN THE PAST TWO YEARS AND THESE UNLICENSED TAXIS COULD BE PUT INTO OPERATION IMMEDIATELY IF DEMAND EXISTED.

AS SURVEYS HAD SHOWN THAT THE CURRENT NUMBER OF NT TAXIS APPEARED TO BE MEETING EXISTING MARKET DEMAND, THE TAC RECOMMENDED NOT TO ISSUE ANY NT TAXI LICENCE THIS YEAR.

AT THE MEETING, THE TAC ALSO RECEIVED A REPORT ON THE FIRST-MONTH OPERATIONS OF CITYBUS' FRANCHISED BUS SERVICE BETWEEN CENTRAL AND MACDONNELL ROAD.

THE NEW SERVICE, ROUTE 12A, COMMENCED ON SEPTEMBER 11, HAD NINE DOUBLE-DECK AIR-CONDITIONED BUSES PLYING AT A FREQUENCY BETWEEN FIVE AND 10 MINUTES.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT'S SURVEYS SHOWED THAT THE QUALITY OF THE NEW SERVICE HAD BEEN REASONABLY WELL RECEIVED BY PASSENGERS.

MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT THE AVERAGE DAILY PATRONAGE ON A WORKING DAY REACHED 1,700 PASSENGERS IN EARLY OCTOBER, FOLLOWING A STEADY INCREASE SINCE MID SEPTEMBER.

/SINCE THE

SINCE THE SERVICE HAD OPERATED FOR ONLY ONE MONTH, TRAVEL PATTERNS WERE YET TO BE FIRMLY ESTABLISHED.

THE TAC WAS TOLD THAT ONCE THE TRAVEL PATTERNS WERE SETTLED DOWN, FURTHER SURVEYS WOULD BE CONDUCTED TO ASSESS HOW FAR ROUTE 12A HAD SUCCEEDED IN ATTRACTING PASSENGERS WHO USED TO TRAVEL BY TAXIS OR PRIVATE CARS.

MEMBERS ALSO DISCUSSED A WRITTEN REPRESENTATION FROM THE CONSUMER COUNCIL ABOUT THE MONITORING OF PUBLIC UTILITY AND TRANSPORT COMPANIES.

VIEWS WERE EXCHANGED ON THE ADEQUACY OF THE CHECKS AND BALANCES THAT HAD BEEN BUILT INTO THE EXISTING BUS FRANCHISING ARRANGEMENTS TO PROTECT PUBLIC INTEREST.

MEMBERS EXAMINED EXISTING CHANNELS FOR CONSUMER REPRESENTATION.

THESE INCLUDED ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS IN SCRUTINISING THE SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLANS OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATORS, ATTENDANCE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AT DISTRICT BOARDS AND OMELCO TRANSPORT PANEL MEETINGS TO RECEIVE ADVICES/SUGGESTIONS, THE CONSIDERATION OF TRANSPORT POLICIES BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND THE MANY COMPLAINTS OUTLETS ALREADY AVAILABLE, RANGING FROM THE INDEPENDENT TRANSPORT COMPLAINTS UNIT OF THE TAC, THE HOTLINES ESTABLISHED BY TRANSPORT COMPANIES AND THE MEDIA.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE TRANSPORT OPERATORS TO DEVELOP MORE INTERACTIVE CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION WITH THEIR CUSTOMERS, SUCH AS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CUSTOMER CONSULTATIVE BODIES.

MEMBERS LEARNED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION WOULD REVIEW WHETHER CONTINUED APPLICATION OF THE PROFIT CONTROL SCHEME REMAINED APPROPRIATE IN PRESENT DAY CIRCUMSTANCES BEFORE ANY NEW FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WAS ENTERED INTO WITH THE BUS COMPANIES.

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FULL WATER SUPPLY TO BE MAINTAINED

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THERE WILL BE NO WATER RESTRICTION IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE ALTHOUGH THE CURRENT WATER STORAGE LEVEL IS STILL LOW.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR K.L. WONG, FOLLOWING THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S ENDORSEMENT TO MAINTAIN FULL WATER SUPPLY FOR THE TIME BEING AT ITS MEETING THIS (TUESDAY) MORNING.

MR WONG SAID THE RAINFALL LAST WEEK HAD RESULTED IN ONLY A SMALL IMPROVEMENT IN THE STORAGE LEVEL SINCE THE WATER CATCHMENT AREAS HAD RECEIVED MUCH LESS RAIN THAN THE URBAN AREAS.

/"TO IMPROVE

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"TO IMPROVE THE STORAGE LEVEL, WE ARE APPROACHING CHINA FOR AN INCREASE IN SUPPLY FOR NEXT YEAR," MR WONG SAID.

"UNDER THE CURRENT AGREEMENT, CHINA WILL SUPPLY 500 MILLION CUBIC METRES (MCM) OF WATER BETWEEN MARCH 1, 1992 AND FEBRUARY 28, 1993.

"WE PROPOSE TO REQUEST CHINA TO SUPPLY AN ADDITIONAL 105 MCM IN THAT PERIOD.

"IF CHINA CANNOT PROVIDE THE EXTRA WATER, THEN CONSIDERATION WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO IMPOSE WATER RESTRICTIONS BEFORE THE NEXT WET SEASON," HE SAID.

"THE THREAT WILL ONLY BE REMOVED IF THERE IS EXCEPTIONALLY HEAVY RAINFALL IN THE COMING DRY SEASON," HE ADDED.

IN THE MEANTIME, HE ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO CONSERVE WATER AND AVOID WASTAGE.

AS AT 9 AM TODAY, THE STORAGE LEVEL STOOD AT 279.22 MCM OR 47.6 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY.

THIS COMPARED WITH 331.70 MCM OR 56.6 PER CENT AT THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR.

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HK TO IMPLEMENT HARMONISED SYSTEM IN FULL
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HONG KONG IS TO IMPLEMENT IN FULL THE HARMONISED SYSTEM FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATION AS FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

AS FROM THAT DATE, THE THIRD REVISION OF THE STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC R3) FOR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTING WHICH HAS BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A NEAT CORRELATION WITH THE FULL HARMONISED SYSTEM WILL ALSO BE ADOPTED.

ANNOUNCING THE DETAILS OF THE 1992 EDITION OF THE HONG KONG HARMONISED SYSTEM (HK HS) IN A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR BENJAMIN MOK, SAID THIS WOULD MAKE HONG KONG'S COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION TOTALLY COMPATIBLE WITH THOSE OF HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS ADOPTING THE FULL HS.

THIS WOULD FURTHER REDUCE THE WORK OF RECLASSIFYING GOODS IN TRADE DOCUMENTS AND FACILITATE TRADE NEGOTIATIONS, MR MOK SAID.

THE HK HS WAS BASED ON THE HARMONISED COMMODITY DESCRIPTION AND CODING SYSTEM DEVELOPED BY THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL BASED IN BRUSSELS TO FACILITATE INTERNATIONAL TRADE DOCUMENTATION.

/"THE WORLD

"THE WORLD-WIDE ADOPTION OF THE HS CAN REDUCE THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN REDESCRIBING, RECLASSIFYING AND RECODING GOODS AS THEY MOVE FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER," MR MOK SAID.

HE SAID IT ALSO FACILITATED THE COMPARISON AND ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS; AND REDUCED UNCERTAINTY IN THE NEGOTIATION AND INTERPRETATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS.

THE COMMISSIONER SAID MANY OF HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS HAD ADOPTED THE HS SINCE 1988.

HONG KONG HAD ALSO ADOPTED THE HS SINCE JANUARY 1988 FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATION PURPOSE, BUT ON A PARTIAL BASIS ONLY, HE ADDED.

HE EXPLAINED THAT PARTIAL IMPLEMENTATION WAS CONSIDERED AS A MORE PRACTICABLE APPROACH FOR HONG KONG WHICH, UNLIKE MOST OTHER COUNTRIES, HAD NO EXPERIENCE OF USING A CUSTOMS NOMENCLATURE SIMILAR TO THE HS.

BEFORE 1988, HONG KONG HAD LONG BEEN USING THE STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) SYSTEM FOR BOTH TRADE DECLARATION AND STATISTICAL REPORTING.

MR MOK EXPLAINED THAT BY ADOPTING THE HS ON A PARTIAL BASIS WITH MOST OF THE COMMODITY ITEM CODES CLOSELY CORRELATED TO THE SITC COMMODITY CODES FAMILIAR TO TRADERS, THE BURDEN OF ADAPTING TO A NEW CLASSIFICATION COULD BE REDUCED TO BOTH TRADERS AND GOVERNMENT STAFF INVOLVED IN PROCESSING THE TRADE DOCUMENTS.

"BY NOW, AFTER HAVING IMPLEMENTED THE HS ON A PARTIAL BASIS FOR FOUR YEARS, SUFFICIENT EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN GAINED BY HONG KONG IN APPLYING THE HS.

"MOREOVER, THE NEED FOR FULL ADOPTION OF THE HS IS KEENLY FELT AS MOST OF HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS HAVE IMPLEMENTED THE HS IN FULL," HE SAID.

MR MOK SAID HONG KONG HAD BEEN PREPARING FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE HARMONISED SYSTEM FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS.

A COMMITTEE HAD BEEN SET UP TO OVERSEE THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.

APART FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, THE COMMITTEE ALSO CONSISTED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE HONG KONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION AND THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES.

THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES CONSIDERED BY THE COMMITTEE, THE COMMISSIONER SAID, INCLUDED REVISING THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST, MODIFYING THE COMPUTERISED TRADE STATISTICS SYSTEM AND AMENDING THE RELEVANT LAW.

ALSO INCLUDED WAS PLANNING VARIOUS PUBLICITY AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES TO HELP IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS AND GOVERNMENT STAFF PREPARE FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM.

"WHAT REMAINS - AND THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT - IS TO INTRODUCE THE NEW CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM TO IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS SO THAT THEY CAN USE IT CORRECTLY," MR MOK SAID.

AT PRESENT, THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT ENFORCED THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATIONS WHEREAS THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DESIGNED THE COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM AND PROCESSES TRADE DATA REPORTED ON DECLARATIONS TO PRODUCE TRADE STATISTICS.

ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW SYSTEM FOR CUSTOMS DECLARATIONS, THE HEAD OF TRADE CONTROLS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, MR Y.Y. LEUNG, SAID THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST WOULD BE REVISED TO REFLECT THE FULL ADOPTION OF THE HARMONISED COMMODITY DESCRIPTION AND CODING SYSTEM, OR HS.

MR LEUNG SAID THE NEW LIST, WHICH WAS TITLED THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST (HARMONISED SYSTEM), 1992 EDITION, WOULD BE BROUGHT INTO USE ON JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR.

AS FROM THAT DATE, IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS SHOULD PROVIDE COMMODITY ITEM CODE NUMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW CLASSIFICATION LIST IN THEIR IMPORT OR EXPORT DECLARATIONS.

MR LEUNG SAID THERE WOULD ALSO BE SOME CHANGES TO THE EXISTING IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATION FORMS TO FACILITATE THE PROCESSING OF DECLARATIONS AND REDUCE INCONVENIENCE WHICH MIGHT BE CAUSED TO TRADERS WHO WOULD OTHERWISE BE CALLED UPON TO CLARIFY UNCLEAR PARTICULARS IN THE DECLARATIONS.

HE SAID THE REVISED DECLARATION FORMS WOULD BE GAZETTED SHORTLY AND BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN DECEMBER.

HE ALSO REMINDED IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS THE NEED TO LODGE ACCURATE AND COMPLETE DECLARATIONS AND OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SUBMITTING THEM WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF 14 DAYS.

"THE CO-OPERATION OF IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS IS ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN THE ACCURACY OF HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS WHICH IS ONE OF OUR MAJOR ECONOMIC INDICATORS," MR LEUNG SAID.

AN ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR H.W. FUNG, ALSO SAID DETAILED STATISTICS CLASSIFIED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW HONG KONG HARMONISED SYSTEM WOULD ALSO BE AVAILABLE ON COMPUTER PRINTOUTS AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT FOR USERS' REFERENCE.

MR FUNG SAID THE DESCRIPTIONS AND CODES OF THE HONG KONG HARMONISED SYSTEM WERE SPECIFIED IN THE 1992 EDITION OF THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST, WHICH WAS NOW ON SALE.

A CHINESE TRANSLATION OF THIS CLASSIFICATION LIST WAS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR TRADERS' REFERENCE.

HE ADDED THAT A HARMONISED SYSTEM HANDBOOK WHICH EXPLAINED THE NEW SYSTEM, DESCRIBED METHODS OF FINDING THE CORRECT CLASSIFICATION, AND CONTAINED MANY EXAMPLES AND EXERCISES HAD BEEN PREPARED.

BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE VERSIONS OF THE HANDBOOK WERE NOW AVAILABLE ON SALE.

FOR IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS WHO WERE ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH THE HARMONISED SYSTEM, A PUBLICATION TITLED "SUMMARY OF CHANGES IN THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST (HARMONISED SYSTEM)" WHICH SUMMARISED ALL THE CHANGES OF THE HONG KONG HARMONISED SYSTEM FROM THE 1988 EDITION TO THE 1992 EDITION, WAS ALSO ON SALE.

FOR USERS OF TRADE STATISTICS, A PUBLICATION TITLED "HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS CLASSIFICATION, (SITC REV 3) WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE NEXT MONTH.

MR FUNG SAID A NUMBER OF SEMINARS TO HELP IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND HOW TO USE THE NEW CLASSIFICATION LIST AND THE HS HANDBOOK HAD ALSO BEEN ORGANISED.

HE URGED IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS TO PURCHASE THE NEW CLASSIFICATION LIST AND THE HS HANDBOOK BEFORE ATTENDING THE SEMINARS.

TRADERS WHO HAD NOT YET APPLIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEMINARS MIGHT STILL OBTAIN TICKETS FOR THE SEMINARS AT THE COLLECTION OFFICES OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT.

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PRIVATE SECTOR'S CONTRIBUTION TO MEDICAL CARE RECOGNISED

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES ARE CLOSELY RELATED AS BOTH ARE COMPLEMENTING ONE ANOTHER, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S.H. LEE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

"ALTHOUGH IN COMMON UNDERSTANDING A 'HOSPITAL' DENOTES AN INSTITUTE CATERING TO THE SICK AND INJURED, ALL THE OBVIOUS EFFORTS ARE TO BRING THE PATIENT BACK TO 'HEALTH' AND TO LEAD A PRODUCTIVE LIFE," DR LEE SAID.

OFFICIATING AT THE GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF ST TERESA'S HOSPITAL AND THE OPENING OF ITS NEW EAST WING, DR LEE SAID THE PRIVATE SECTOR PLAYS A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE PROVISION OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE ADDITION OF THE NEW WING MARKED THE HOSPITAL'S ANOTHER IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT IN ITS CONTINUED CONTRIBUTION TO MEDICAL CARE IN HONG KONG.

HE POINTED OUT THAT 11.5 PER CENT OF A TOTAL OF 24,200 HOSPITAL BEDS ARE IN THE PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND THAT 70 PER CENT OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OUT-PATIENT CONSULTATIONS ARE PROVIDED BY PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS.

THE DIRECTOR WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO SEE THE CONTINUED EFFORT OF THE HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT TO UPDATE ITS FACILITIES AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE A MORE PLEASANT, CONGENIAL AND ATTRACTIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR THEIR PATIENTS.

DR LEE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THE LONG-SERVING AND DEDICATED HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS WHO HAVE PERFORMED SO EFFICIENTLY IN KEEPING AN OUTSTANDING RECORD OF TREATING THE SICK IN THE PAST 50 YEARS.

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE HOSPITAL WILL KEEP UP THE HIGH STANDARD OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG IN THE YEARS TO COME," HE SAID.

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KWAI TSING FESTIVAL STARTS ON SATURDAY

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THE KWAI TSING FESTIVAL '91, WHICH IS THE BIGGEST ANNUAL EVENT TO PROMOTE SPORTS AND ARTS ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT, WILL START ON SATURDAY (OCTOBER 26). IT WILL LAST FOR THREE MONTHS.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PAUL TANG, SAID THE FESTIVAL AIMED TO PROVIDE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS, FOSTER AMONG THEM A SENSE OF BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT, AND ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION.

"SEPARATE FESTIVALS FOR ARTS AND SPORTS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED IN KWAI TSING ANNUALLY SINCE 1986.

"LAST YEAR, THE TWO FESTIVALS WERE COMBINED INTO ONE LARGE-SCALE DISTRICT FESTIVAL FOR BETTER UTILISATION OF RESOURCES AND IT PROVED TO BE A GREAT SUCCESS," MR TANG SAID.

"THIS YEAR, APART FROM SPORTS AND ARTS ACTIVITIES, EIGHT FUN DAYS WILL BE ORGANISED IN DIFFERENT AREAS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICT.

/MOREOVER, BOTH

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"MOREOVER, BOTH OVERSEAS AND LOCAL PERFORMERS AND ATHLETES HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PARTICIPATE TO ADD MORE SPARKLE TO THE EVENT," HE ADDED.

THE FESTIVAL'S SPORTS PROGRAMME COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHUI HONG-SHEUNG, SAID 11 SPORTS ACTIVITIES WOULD BE ORGANISED, COVERING SOCCER, SWIMMING, TRACK AND FIELD, ATHLETICS, TENNIS, BADMINTON, VOLLEY BALL, AN ISLAND MARATHON RUN AND MARTIAL ARTS.

THE KWAI TSING FESTIVAL '91 IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY A CENTRAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE AND THE DISTRICT'S ARTS AND SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICE.

THE \$1.6 MILLION EVENT IS SPONSORED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL.

IT WILL START OFF WITH A WOMEN'S SOCCER MATCH ON SATURDAY BETWEEN THE CHINESE MU-LAN ASSOCIATION FROM TAIWAN AND THE KWAI TSING INVITATION TEAM AT THE KWAI CHUNG SPORTS GROUND.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED

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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON MA ON ON DECEMBER 1, 1989 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO A SENTENCE OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

MA WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF A SCHOOL GIRL HO PUI-WAH.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

HKEG

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EXCHANGE FUND BILLS TENDER RESULTS --- TUESDAY 22 OCTOBER 1991

ISSUE NUMBER	Q143
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 1,880 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 500 MN
AVERAGE ACCEPTED YIELD	4.67 PCT

/HIGHEST ACCEPTED

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HIGHEST ACCEPTED YIELD 4.72 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO 20 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD 4.76 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

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NEXT TENDER OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS --- TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER 1991

ISSUE NUMBER	Q144	H176
ISSUE DATE	30 OCT 91	30 OCT 91
MATURITY DATE	29 JAN 92	29 APR 92
TENOR	91 DAYS	182 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 500 + 100 MN	HKD 200 + 60 MN

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	21.10.91	600
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	22.10.91	-48
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+48
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.1 **0.2* 22.10.91

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

	21.10.91	22.10.91
MATURING IN 1 WEEK	4.36 PCT	4.26 PCT
1 MONTH	4.35 PCT	4.34 PCT
3 MONTHS	4.43 PCT	4.57 PCT
6 MONTHS	4.85 PCT	5.12 PCT
12 MONTHS	5.83 PCT	6.08 PCT
TOTAL TURNOVER	8,195 MN	8,150 MN

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