



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1991

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SPECIAL LICENSING SCHEME PROPOSED TO ENSURE
KNITWEAR INDUSTRY'S COMPETITIVENESS

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED A SPECIAL LICENSING SCHEME TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG'S KNITWEAR INDUSTRY CAN MAINTAIN ITS COMPETITIVE EDGE IN THE FACE OF ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS ARISING FROM A CHANGE IN U.S. ORIGIN RULES.

UNDER THE TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TOMORROW (FRIDAY), THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE WILL BE EMPOWERED TO ENABLE PRODUCTS UNDER THE SPECIAL LICENSING SCHEME TO BE LABELLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ORIGIN REQUIREMENTS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE OTHERWISE APPLICABLE IN HONG KONG.

A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT SUCH A SCHEME WOULD BE NECESSARY ONLY IN CASES WHERE THE RULES OF AN IMPORTING COUNTRY DIFFERED FROM HONG KONG RULES, WITH CONSEQUENT ADVERSE EFFECTS ON OUR INDUSTRY'S COMPETITIVENESS.

HE SAID SUCH A CASE HAD ARISEN IN THE U.S. WHICH CHANGED ITS ORIGIN RULES IN 1985 SO THAT MANDATORY ORIGIN LABELS FOR IMPORTS OF KNITWEAR MADE FROM KNIT-TO-SHAPE PARTS HAD TO REFLECT THE PLACE WHERE SUCH PARTS WERE KNITTED RATHER THAN WHERE THEY WERE MADE INTO FINISHED GARMENTS.

"UNDER HONG KONG'S ORIGIN RULES, THEN AND NOW, THE MAKING OF SUCH KNITWEAR FROM PARTS CONFERS ORIGIN," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAD NEGOTIATED LONG AND HARD WITH U.S. TRADE OFFICIALS BUT THE U.S. HAD STUCK TO ITS POSITION.

"AS A RESULT, THE HONG KONG KNITWEAR INDUSTRY HAS SINCE 1985 HAD TO KNIT RELEVANT PARTS AND MAKE THEM INTO FINISHED GARMENTS IN HONG KONG IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH BOTH U.S. AND HONG KONG RULES.

"THE DOUBLE REQUIREMENT FOR KNITTING AND MAKING UP OF SUCH KNITWEAR HAS ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE INDUSTRY'S COMPETITIVENESS IN TODAY'S U.S. MARKET, AS IT CANNOT RELOCATE EITHER PROCESS ELSEWHERE IN ORDER TO SAVE COSTS," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE BILL RESPONDED TO THE INDUSTRY'S REQUEST TO THE GOVERNMENT TO PUT IN PLACE ARRANGEMENTS TO MEET ONLY U.S. REQUIREMENTS FOR RELEVANT KNITWEAR.

"NEW ARRANGEMENTS UNDER THE BILL WOULD GIVE THE INDUSTRY THE FLEXIBILITY TO RELOCATE THE MAKING-UP PROCESS FOR CERTAIN KNITWEAR EXPORTS TO THE U.S..

"FOR ALL OTHER KNITWEAR EXPORTS, THE MAKING-UP PROCESS WOULD CONTINUE TO HAVE TO BE PERFORMED IN HONG KONG IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING ORIGIN RULES," HE SAID.

/THE SPOKESMAN

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THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF THE MAKING-UP PROCESS OUTSIDE HONG KONG WOULD PROBABLY HAVE AN EFFECT ON LOCAL EMPLOYMENT.

"IT IS NOT POSSIBLE, HOWEVER, TO PREDICT ACCURATELY WHAT THAT EFFECT WILL BE PARTICULARLY IN THE SHORT TERM.

"THIS IS BECAUSE, ON THE ONE HAND, THE INDUSTRY WILL BE IN ITS PEAK PRODUCTION PERIOD IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS WHEN THE DEMAND FOR LABOUR WILL BE MORE INTENSE, AND ON THE OTHER HAND, THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WILL NOT AFFECT EXPORTS TO THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND OTHER MARKETS," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD DISCUSSED THE SITUATION WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE INDUSTRY WHO HAD ASSURED THAT THEY WOULD DO ALL THEY COULD TO REDUCE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE WORKFORCE, AND TO ASSIST THOSE WHO MIGHT BECOME UNDEREMPLOYED OR REDUNDANT AS A RESULT OF THE CHANGE BY REDEPLOYING THEM WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE OR WITHIN THE INDUSTRY.

"THEY ARE WELL AWARE OF THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS AND WILL CONSIDER WHAT ELSE CAN BE DONE.

"THE TRADE ASSOCIATIONS WILL ALSO SET UP A SERVICE CENTRE TO HELP REDEPLOY ANY AFFECTED WORKERS, TO HANDLE HARDSHIP CASES AND TO DEAL WITH COMPLAINTS," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE TARGET DATE FOR INTRODUCING THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS WAS JULY 1. THIS WOULD GIVE TIME TO IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS ANY PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT ARISE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT WOULD DO ALL IT COULD TO ASSIST WITH THE PLACEMENT OF ANY AFFECTED WORKERS IN SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE JOBS SHOULD THE NEED ARISE.

"THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO HELP RESOLVE ANY REDEPLOYMENT AND REDUNDANCY PROBLEMS THAT MAY ARISE.

"THE CLOTHING INDUSTRY TRAINING AUTHORITY HAS BEEN CONTACTED AND WILL HELP MEET ANY DEMAND FOR RETRAINING," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HONG KONG DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF KNITWEAR TO THE U.S. IN 1990 AMOUNTED TO \$15.4 BILLION, REPRESENTING 45 PER CENT IN VALUE OF TEXTILE AND CLOTHING DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE U.S.

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT'S BEST ESTIMATE IS THAT KNITWEAR OF THE TYPE COVERED BY THE PROPOSED SCHEME CONSTITUTES ABOUT ONE QUARTER BY VOLUME OF EXPORTS OF KNITWEAR TO THE U.S.

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DUPLICATE CERTIFICATES TO COST MORE

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THE FEES CHARGED FOR THE ISSUE OF A DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AS A SOCIETY OR A DUPLICATE CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION FROM REGISTRATION AS A SOCIETY UNDER THE SOCIETIES RULES WILL BE INCREASED TO \$75 FROM THE CURRENT RATE OF \$65.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (THURSDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ADJUSTMENT WAS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ONGOING FEE REVIEW EXERCISE TO ENSURE THAT THE FEES CHARGED WERE ADEQUATE TO COVER THE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS INVOLVED.

THE SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) RULES 1991, WHICH GIVE EFFECT TO THE INCREASE IN THE FEES, WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TOMORROW, AND THE INCREASE WILL TAKE EFFECT ON THE SAME DAY.

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'HONG KONG REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1990' PUBLISHED

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THE "HONG KONG REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1990", AN ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PROVIDING AN OVERALL PICTURE OF THE EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE OF HONG KONG IN 1990 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR EARLIER YEARS, HAS BEEN PUBLISHED.

THE REVIEW PRESENTS A SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE DIRECTION AND COMPOSITION OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN 1990.

THE TOTAL VALUE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE AMOUNTED TO \$1,282 BILLION IN 1990, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 13% OVER 1989.

RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO RISE RAPIDLY AND IN 1990 THEY TOTALLED \$414 BILLION, CONSTITUTING ABOUT 65% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REVIEW ARE DOMESTIC EXPORT, RE-EXPORT AND IMPORT STATISTICS ANALYSED BY COUNTRY (AS MARKET FOR HONG KONG'S EXPORTS OR AS SUPPLIER FOR HONG KONG'S IMPORTS) AND BY COMMODITY.

FOR IMPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS, STATISTICS ANALYSED BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND END-USE CATEGORY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE. THE LATTER REFERS TO THE GROUPING OF COMMODITIES INTO BROAD CATEGORIES SUCH AS RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES, CONSUMER GOODS AND CAPITAL GOODS, WHICH IS USEFUL FOR MANY RESEARCH PURPOSES.

SEPARATE STATISTICS IN RESPECT OF AIRBORNE TRADE AND SEABORNE TRADE ARE PRESENTED TO FACILITATE ANALYSIS OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE BY DIFFERENT MODES OF TRANSPORT.

IN 1990, SEABORNE TRADE AND AIRBORNE TRADE ACCOUNTED FOR 52% AND 20% IN VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE RESPECTIVELY AND RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 12% AND 11% RESPECTIVELY AS COMPARED WITH 1989.

BREAKDOWNS OF THESE BY COUNTRY AND BY COMMODITY ARE AVAILABLE IN THE REVIEW.

APART FROM EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS IN VALUE TERMS, THE REVIEW DESCRIBES MOVEMENTS IN THE PRICES AND VOLUME OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE AS REFLECTED BY THE UNIT VALUE INDEXES AND QUANTUM INDEXES.

IN ADDITION, THE REVIEW CONTAINS A SUMMARY OF THE EXCHANGE RATES OF THE HONG KONG DOLLAR AGAINST PRINCIPAL FOREIGN CURRENCIES AND THE EFFECTIVE EXCHANGE RATE INDEX.

THE REVIEW ALSO PRESENTS TABLES SHOWING HONG KONG'S POSITION AMONGST THE WORLD'S LEADING EXPORTERS.

IN 1989, HONG KONG WAS THE WORLD'S LARGEST EXPORTER OF IMITATION JEWELLERY AND THE SECOND LARGEST EXPORTER OF CLOTHING (FOLLOWING ITALY) AND COMPLETE WATCHES (FOLLOWING SWITZERLAND).

HONG KONG RANKED THIRD IN THE EXPORTS OF TOYS AND GAMES (FOLLOWING TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA) AND PRECIOUS METAL JEWELLERY (FOLLOWING ITALY AND SWITZERLAND).

IN THE REVIEW, THERE IS A CONCISE TABLE SHOWING HONG KONG'S EXPORT AND IMPORT VALUES AS FAR BACK AS 1963, WHEREAS MOST OTHER TABLES SHOW STATISTICS FROM 1988 TO 1990.

THE REVIEW CONTAINS 13 GRAPHS AND 38 STATISTICAL TABLES. IT IS PRICED AT \$25 PER COPY AND IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT WANCHAI TOWER 1, 17TH FLOOR, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE PUBLICATION MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 4915.

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FRUITFUL ACHIEVEMENT IN INTEGRATED EDUCATION

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S INTEGRATED KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMME HAS PROVED TO BE A SUCCESS SINCE ITS COMMENCEMENT IN 1988, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR LI YUET-TING, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPEN WEEK CEREMONY OF SUEN MEI SPEECH AND HEARING CENTRE FOR THE DEAF IN MEI FOO SUN CHUEN, MR LI SAID THE PROGRAMME IS DESIGNED TO INTEGRATE MILDLY DISABLED CHILDREN INTO AN ORDINARY KINDERGARTEN TO IMPROVE AND DEVELOP THEIR COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL SKILLS WHILE LEARNING WITH ORDINARY CHILDREN.

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"ON THE OTHER HAND, IT WILL HELP ORDINARY CHILDREN TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THEIR HANDICAPPED COUNTERPARTS," HE SAID.

MR LI CALLED FOR FULL CO-OPERATION AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE PROVISION OF A SUITABLE AND OVERALL SERVICE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN.

"EDUCATION IS A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT AND ANY EFFORT AND RESOURCES CONTRIBUTED BY THE COMMUNITY WILL BE REWARDED IN FUTURE," HE SAID.

MR LI PRAISED THE SUEN MEI CENTRE FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND ITS VALUABLE SERVICE TO THE HEARING IMPAIRED CHILDREN.

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT ESSENTIAL TO FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT IS ESSENTIAL FOR THE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE) PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN TO ACHIEVE A BIGGER SUCCESS, THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR ALEXANDER FUNG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUCKY DRAW OF AN FLE QUIZ ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON FLE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, MR FUNG SAID COMMUNITY SUPPORT WAS VITAL TO PROMOTING HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONS, WHICH WAS THE MAIN GOAL OF THE CAMPAIGN.

THE QUIZ HAD ATTRACTED MORE THAN 1,000 ENTRIES, THE MAJORITY OF WHICH SCORED GOOD RESULTS.

"THE HIGH PERCENTAGE OF CORRECT ENTRIES INDICATES THAT THE PUBLIC IS QUITE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING A HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONSHIP," MR FUNG ADDED.

FIFTY ENTRIES WERE DRAWN TO WIN SPECIAL PRIZES DONATED BY LEE KUM KEE COMPANY LTD. OTHERS WILL ALSO RECEIVE A PRESENT FROM THE COMPANY.

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GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

/THE GRADING

THE GRADING WILL BE ANNOUNCED BIWEEKLY DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT E. COLI DATA OBTAINED BY THE EPD IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME. AS WITH LAST YEAR, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH WHICH HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A VERY LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.

GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "4" GRADE OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, THE REOPENING OF A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "3" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, TWO BATHING BEACHES, NAMELY CASTLE PEAK AND OLD CAFETERIA, HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

/THEY ARE

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM IN THE WATER AT THESE TWO BEACHES.

IN ADDITION, ROCKY BAY BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. THESE THREE BEACHES ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING LIST.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG AS AT TODAY ARE LISTED BELOW:

BEACH -----	LAST GRADING ----- (AS AT 11.4.91)	PRESENT GRADING ----- (AS AT 25.4.91)
HONG KONG SOUTH -----		
BIG WAVE BAY	2	2
CHUNG HOM KOK	1	1
DEEP WATER BAY	1	1
HAIRPIN	1	1
MIDDLE BAY	1	1
REPULSE BAY	1	1
SHEK O	1	2
SOUTH BAY	1	1
ST STEPHEN'S	1	1
TURTLE COVE	1	1
STANLEY MAIN	2	2
ROCKY BAY	X	X
TO TEI WAN*	1	1
TUEN MUN DISTRICT -----		
OLD CAFETERIA	X	X
NEW CAFETERIA	3	3
CASTLE PEAK	X	X
KADOORIE	3	3
BUTTERFLY	2	2
SAI KUNG DISTRICT -----		
CAMPERS	1	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	1	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	1	1
HAP MUN BAY	1	1
KIU TSUI	1	1
PAK SHA CHAU	1	1
SILVERSTRAND	3	3
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	1	1

/ISLANDS DISTRICT

ISLANDS DISTRICT

CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	2	2
DISCOVERY BAY*	1	1
HUNG SHING YEH	1	1
KWUN YAM WAN	1	1
TONG FUK	1	1
LO SO SHING	1	1
PUI O	1	2
SILVERMINE BAY	1	2
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	1	1
TUNG O*	1	1

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT

ANGLERS'	2	2
APPROACH	3	3
CASAM	2	2
GEMINI	3	3
HOI MEI WAN	3	3
LIDO	2	2
TING KAU	4	4
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	1	2

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.
* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES.

THE FOLLOWING BEACHES HAVE CHANGED GRADING ON THIS OCCASION:

SHEK O, SILVERMINE BAY, TUNG WAN ON CHEUNG CHAU AND TUNG WAN ON MA WAN, FROM "1" TO "2".

THE CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF THESE BEACHES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF EPD, MR PAUL HOLMES, ON TEL. 835 1234.

HONG KONG ISLAND CONSTITUENCIES TO HOLD UC ELECTION FORUMS

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FOUR URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION FORUMS WILL BE HELD IN THREE DISTRICTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY (APRIL 27 AND 28) FOR CANDIDATES TO INTRODUCE THEIR PLATFORMS AND ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM RESIDENTS.

DETAILS OF THE FORUMS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

DATE/TIME -----	CONSTITUENCY -----	CANDIDATES -----	VENUE -----
APRIL 27 2.30 PM	WAN CHAI	MR STEPHEN WONG MS SUSANNA YEUNG	ENTRANCE TO HOPEWELL CENTRE
APRIL 28 3 PM	SHAU KEI WAN (EASTERN DISTRICT)	MR JOSEPH LAI MR CHIU KIN-MAN MR BROOK BERNACCHI	HENG FA CHUEN MTR STATION ROOF GARDEN
APRIL 28 3 PM	NORTH POINT (EASTERN DISTRICT)	MR AU YUK-LUN MR WONG TAK-LUN MR MAN SAI-CHEONG	PROVIDENT GARDEN
APRIL 28 3 PM	SOUTHERN	MR JOSEPH CHAN MS HARLANNA YEUNG MR HO CHUN-YAN	ABERDEEN CENTRE PLAZA

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE ELECTION FORUMS.

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NEW VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE TO COME INTO OPERATION

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NEW ARRANGEMENTS FOR VEHICLE EXAMINATIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED FOLLOWING THE FULL OPERATION OF THE NEW KOWLOON BAY VEHICLE EXAMINATION CENTRE ON MAY 1, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF GOODS VEHICLES NOT EXCEEDING 16 TONNES AND THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LIGHT BUSES WOULD COMMENCE AT THE CENTRE ON MAY 1 AND MAY 15 RESPECTIVELY, A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

/THE ANNUAL

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THE ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF URBAN TAXIS PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED AT THE TO KWA WAN AND THE SO KON PO CENTRE WOULD MOVE TO THE KOWLOON BAY CENTRE FROM MAY 29 AND JUNE 12 RESPECTIVELY.

TAXIMETER CHECK FOR URBAN TAXIS WILL MOVE FROM THE SO KON PO CENTRE TO THE TO KWA WAN CENTRE FROM JUNE 12.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID MOTORISTS WHO HAD MADE APPOINTMENTS FOR A VEHICLE EXAMINATION ON OR AFTER THE RELEVANT DATES MENTIONED ABOVE WOULD BE NOTIFIED INDIVIDUALLY ABOUT THE CHANGE IN EXAMINATION CENTRE.

THE NEW KOWLOON BAY CENTRE IS LOCATED AT 8 TSUI HING STREET, KOWLOON BAY. ITS TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 751 8862.

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WALLCHARTS AND LEAFLETS TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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COPIES OF TWO USEFUL WALLCHARTS AND LEAFLETS TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ARE NOW AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

THE WALLCHARTS AND LEAFLETS, ON THE TOPICS "SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT: USE FEWER PLASTIC BAGS" AND "IT'S UP TO YOU TO USE LESS PAPER", HIGHLIGHT THE DAMAGES THAT WOULD BE DONE TO THE ENVIRONMENT IF WE NEGLECT OUR RESPONSIBILITY IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

THE WALLCHARTS AND LEAFLETS ALSO SUGGEST PRACTICAL WAYS ON HOW WE CAN USE FEWER PLASTIC BAGS AND LESS PAPER.

THE WALLCHARTS AND LEAFLETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE RECEPTION COUNTER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT ON THE 28TH FLOOR OF SOUTHOEN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI, AND AT THE MARKETING OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT ROOM G9, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, CENTRAL.

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CSD DONATES TO CHARITIES
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THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT (CSD) TODAY (THURSDAY) DONATED \$560,885 TO THE COMMUNITY CHEST AND 20 OTHER CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS.

THE COMMUNITY CHEST RECEIVED \$48,063 RAISED BY CSD STAFF FOR THE CHEST'S EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION PROGRAMME 1990/91. THE DEPARTMENT'S OVERALL PARTICIPATION RATE IN THE PROGRAMME WAS 94 PER CENT.

/THE OTHER

THE OTHER PART OF THE DONATION, \$512,822, WAS RECEIVED BY 20 CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS. THIS AMOUNT CAME FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE AUTUMN FAIR ORGANISED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S SPORTS ASSOCIATION AT STANLEY LAST NOVEMBER.

THE RECIPIENTS INCLUDED THE SOCIETY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF OFFENDERS, THE PRISONERS' FRIENDS' ASSOCIATION, INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICES, THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE SCOUTS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION, HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF THE BLIND, CARITAS LOK HEEP CLUB, DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD AND THE HONG KONG CHRISTIAN KUN SUN ASSOCIATION.

AT A CEREMONY HELD AT CSD HEADQUARTERS, THE COMMISSIONER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, MR ERIC MCCOSH, PRESENTED CHEQUES TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY CHEST, MR DENIS BRAY, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 20 ORGANISATIONS.

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ID CARD REMINDER FOR WOMEN BORN IN 1923 - 28

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) REMINDED WOMEN BORN IN 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927 AND 1928 TO APPLY FOR NEW IDENTITY CARDS BEFORE MAY 18.

"TO AVOID THE LAST-MINUTE RUSH, WOMEN OF THIS AGE GROUP WHO HAVE NOT YET APPLIED FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD SHOULD COME FORWARD WITHOUT DELAY," A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FAILURE TO APPLY FOR A NEW IDENTITY CARD WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD IS AN OFFENCE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$3,000," HE ADDED.

APPLICANTS CAN GO TO ANY ONE OF THE EIGHT NEW IDENTITY CARD ISSUE OFFICES TO REPLACE THEIR IDENTITY CARDS.

THE OFFICE HOURS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE FROM 9 AM TO 5 PM, MONDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FROM 9 AM TO 1 PM ON SATURDAY. ALL OFFICES CLOSE ON SUNDAY AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

APPLICANTS MAY MAKE USE OF THE PHONE-IN SERVICE TO ARRANGE FOR AN APPOINTMENT BY CALLING THE OFFICES OF THEIR CHOICE.

THE ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF THE ISSUE OFFICES ARE:

HONG KONG : BASEMENT, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI
TEL. NO. 574 7070

EAST KOWLOON : AMOY PLAZA, SECOND FLOOR,
77 NGAU TAU KOK ROAD, NGAU TAU KOK
TEL. NO. 755 3669

WEST KOWLOON : CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, SECOND FLOOR,
393 CANTON ROAD, YAU MA TEI
TEL. NO. 723 2424

TSUEN WAN : EAST ASIA COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
29-37 TSUEN FU STREET
TEL. NO. 498 0117

SHA TIN : SHOP 8A, SECOND FLOOR,
CHANWAY SHOPPING CENTRE,
11-17 SHA TIN CENTRE STREET
TEL. NO. 605 9108

YUEN LONG : HOP YICK CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR,
31 HOP YICK ROAD
TEL. NO. 477 1543

TUEN MUN : CHI LOK COMMERCIAL CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR,
CHI LOK FA YUEN
TEL. NO. 458 0646

SHEUNG SHUI : TSUEN WO TAI LAU, GROUND FLOOR,
82-84 SAN FUNG AVENUE, SHEK WU HUI
TEL. NO. 672 7191

THEY MAY ALSO MAKE USE OF THE 24-HOUR RECORDED MESSAGE SERVICE BY DIALLING 824 0303 TO ENQUIRE ABOUT DETAILS OF THE DOCUMENTS TO BRING ALONG.

THE SPOKESMAN REITERATED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS.

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CANDIDATES FOR HEUNG YEE KUK ELECTION ANNOUNCED

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THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THE LIST OF CANDIDATES WHO WILL TAKE PART IN THE ELECTION OF SPECIAL COUNCILLORS FOR THE 28TH TERM OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK, AS FOLLOWS:

TAI PO ELECTORAL DISTRICT

MR WONG MUK-LIN, STEPHEN
MR MAK NAM
MR MOK KAM-KWAI
MR WAN AH-FAT
MR TO SHEK
MR WONG KAM-SANG
MR LEE WAI

/SOUTHERN ELECTORAL

SOUTHERN ELECTORAL DISTRICT

MR HO PING-CHIU
MR CHEUNG FU
MR LAW KAM-FAI
MR LUNG KWOK-FAI
MR LEUNG CHOY-FUK
MR LAM SAI-CHEUNG
MR YUEN WAI
MR FU YUEN-HUNG
MR LO CHUEN-SANG
MR LAI KWAI-FONG

YUEN LONG ELECTORAL DISTRICT

MS LI YORK-LAN
MR TANG NAM-SHING
MR TANG PAK-HUNG
MR TANG HOP-WAN
MR TANG WAI-MING
MR MAN CHIU-PUI
MR KAN FONG

AS THERE ARE ONLY SEVEN CANDIDATES NOMINATED FOR THE SEVEN SEATS IN EACH OF THE TAI PO AND YUEN LONG ELECTORAL DISTRICT, THE SPECIAL COUNCILLORS OF THESE TWO DISTRICTS WILL BE RETURNED UNOPPOSED.

AN ELECTION WILL BE HELD FOR THE SOUTHERN ELECTORAL DISTRICT ON MAY 2 WITH 10 CANDIDATES VYING FOR THE SEVEN SEATS.

THE ELECTION WILL BE CONDUCTED BY SECRET BALLOT AT THE HEUNG YEE KUK OFFICE.

THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ADOLF HSU, WILL BE THE RETURNING OFFICER.

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FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SUMMER YOUTH ACTIVITIES

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VOLUNTARY AGENCIES IN WONG TAI SIN ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FROM THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME (SYP) CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR HOLDING ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNGSTERS THIS SUMMER.

INTERESTED ORGANISATIONS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE'S SOUTH SUB-OFFICE AT THE GROUND FLOOR OF SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BEFORE MAY 6, A COMMITTEE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

/"HOWEVER, APPLICATIONS

THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 1991

- 14 -

"HOWEVER, APPLICATIONS FROM AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS CORPORATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED," HE ADDED.

A BRIEFING SESSION ON THE APPLICATION PROCEDURES WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY (APRIL 30), BEGINNING AT 2.30 PM IN ROOM 410 OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

THOSE INTERESTED ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. ENQUIRIES AND RESERVATIONS CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 322 2261.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SYP AIMED AT ENCOURAGING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO HOLD RECREATIONAL, SPORTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES ON THE THEME OF "SHARE THE FUN, SERVE THE COMMUNITY" FOR YOUTH.

"IT IS HOPED THAT YOUNGSTERS WILL DEVELOP A SENSE OF COMMITMENT AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE COMMUNITY AND SHARE CHEERS AND FUN THROUGH THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITIES," HE ADDED.

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ACTION ON ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN SHAM SHUI PO
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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN SHAM SHUI PO SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURE IS EXTENDED OUTSIDE FLAT K, SECOND FLOOR, KA WUI BUILDING, 1-11 FUK WING STREET.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 14 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (THURSDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS GRANTED.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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HKEF

	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	24.4.91	480
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	25.4.91	+49
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-49
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.6 *+0.2*	25.4.91	

/HONG KONG

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
91-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEI

ISSUE NUMBER -----	MATURING ON -----	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION -----	
Q115	10.7.91	360	+120
Q116	17.7.91	350	+130
Q117	24.7.91	353.5	+126.5
Q105	1.5.91	660	-180
Q106	8.5.91	593.5	-113.5
Q107	15.5.91	521	-41
Q108	22.5.91	420	+60
Q109	29.5.91	450	+30
Q110	5.6.91	300	+180
Q111	12.6.91	440	+40
Q112	19.6.91	640	-160
Q113	26.6.91	560	-80
Q114	3.7.91	460	+20

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
182-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEJ

ISSUE NUMBER -----	MATURING ON -----	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION -----	
H001	1.5.91	170	+90
H002	15.5.91	227.5	+32.5
H003	29.5.91	240	+20
H004	12.6.91	250	+10
H005	26.6.91	230	+30
H101	10.7.91	133	+127
H156	24.7.91	150	+110
H157	7.8.91	189.5	+70.5
H158	21.8.91	160	+100
H159	4.9.91	130	+130
H160	18.9.91	200	+60
H161	2.10.91	-10	+270
H162	17.10.91	110	+150

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
364-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEK

ISSUE NUMBER -----	MATURING ON -----	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION -----	
Y187	26.2.92	170	+90
Y188	25.3.92	190	+70
Y189	22.4.92	200	+60

AVERAGE DAILY TRANSFER FOR WEEK ENDING 19.4.91 WAS 3,922 MN