



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1990

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TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1990

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DECADE OF CHALLENGE FOR FEDERATION OF HK INDUSTRIES: GOVERNOR

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THE 1990s WILL BE A DECADE OF FURTHER ECONOMIC CHALLENGES FOR THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES AND THE FEDERATION WILL CONTINUE TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN SHAPING THE FUTURE PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER, SIR DAVID SAID THE FEDERATION, WITH A SOLID 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE BEHIND IT, WAS WELL PLACED TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES.

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT THE 30 YEARS SINCE THE FEDERATION WAS SET UP HAD SEEN BREATH-TAKING DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

"FROM PRODUCING RELATIVELY SIMPLE, LOW-VALUE GOODS, WE HAVE MOVED ON TO THE MANUFACTURE OF A WIDE RANGE OF SOPHISTICATED CONSUMER PRODUCTS.

"TO PRODUCE THESE HIGH VALUE-ADDED GOODS COMPETITIVELY, MANY OF OUR LABOUR INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES - WHERE THE PRODUCTS DO NOT HAVE TO HAVE HONG KONG ORIGIN - HAVE MOVED ACROSS THE BORDER TO GUANGDONG, WHERE THERE IS CHEAPER LAND AND CHEAPER LABOUR," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE NOTED THAT A NEW ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP HAD IN THE PROCESS BEEN FORGED WITH GUANGDONG. BOTH GUANGDONG AND HONG KONG HAD BENEFITTED FROM IT.

"BUT WE CANNOT SIMPLY RELY ON LABOUR ACROSS THE BORDER. WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE SUFFICIENT LABOUR WITHIN HONG KONG. OTHERWISE WE WILL PUT ARTIFICIAL CONSTRAINTS ON OUR OWN GROWTH," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THIS COULD BE DONE, AND WOULD BE DONE, WITHOUT DAMAGING THE INTERESTS OF OUR OWN HARD WORKING LABOUR FORCE.

"NOT TO TAKE ACTION NOW, IN A MODEST WAY, WOULD ITSELF DAMAGE THE INTERESTS OF EVERYBODY IN HONG KONG.

"WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT HONG KONG CAN CONTINUE TO PROSPER AND EXPAND," HE SAID.

NOTING THAT IN 1988, FOR THE FIRST TIME, OVER HALF OF THE LABOUR FORCE WAS EMPLOYED IN SERVICE INDUSTRIES, SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS GLAD TO SEE THAT THE FEDERATION HAD RESPONDED TO THESE DEVELOPMENTS WITH PRAGMATISM AND FORESIGHT.

SIR DAVID SAID THE FEDERATION HAD MANAGED TO REMAIN IN THE FOREFRONT OF CHANGE, POINTING OUT THAT IN 1970 IT HAD ALLOWED ITS MEMBERSHIP TO EXPAND BEYOND TRADITIONAL MANUFACTURING COMPANIES TO INCLUDE UTILITY COMPANIES AND PACKAGING COMPANIES.

/SIR DAVID

SIR DAVID SAID HE KNEW THE FEDERATION WAS NOW THINKING OF BROADENING ITS MEMBERSHIP EVEN FURTHER, TO REFLECT THE GROWING INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN "TRADITIONAL" MANUFACTURING AND THE SUPPORTING SERVICE INDUSTRIES UPON WHICH HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURERS MUST INCREASINGLY RELY.

"THIS MUST BE RIGHT. WHILE HONG KONG REMAINS A MAJOR INDUSTRIAL BASE, IT IS ALSO FAST BECOMING THE SERVICE CENTRE FOR THE SOUTH CHINA REGION AND BEYOND," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THE FARSIGHTEDNESS OF THE FEDERATION HAD BEEN WELL DEMONSTRATED IN ANOTHER AREA - THE HONG KONG Q-MARK SCHEME, WHICH HAD BEEN RUNNING FOR 12 YEARS.

"THE 1990s ARE GOING TO SEE A GROWING DEMAND FOR HIGHER QUALITY.

"WE ARE FACED WITH EVER INCREASING COMPETITION FROM LOWER-COST ECONOMIES IN THE REGION, AND GROWING DEMAND IN OUR MAJOR EXPORT MARKETS FOR EVER-HIGHER STANDARDS.

"OUR MANUFACTURERS WILL RETAIN THEIR COMPETITIVENESS ONLY BY MOVING DECISIVELY INTO HIGHER VALUE-ADDED PRODUCTS," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOW RUNNING A QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS AND THE PROGRAMME'S SUCCESS WOULD REQUIRE THE FULL SUPPORT OF ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE FEDERATION.

SIR DAVID SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED THAT THE FEDERATION RECOGNISED SO EARLY ON THE IMPORTANCE OF QUALITY ASSURANCE, AND HAD SINCE IMPRESSED THIS UPON ITS MEMBERS THROUGH ITS OWN Q-MARK SCHEME.

"THE PROCESS OF CERTIFYING THAT OUR PRODUCTS MEET INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS WILL ALSO BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT IN THE 1990s.

"THE Q-MARK SCHEME HAS HELPED TO SPREAD THE MESSAGE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CERTIFICATION MARKING AMONG OUR MANUFACTURERS," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID WE WERE NOW PREPARED FOR PRODUCT CERTIFICATION ON A LARGER SCALE AND THE KEY AIM OF THE RECENTLY LAUNCHED QUALITY AWARENESS CAMPAIGN WAS TO HAVE THE "HONG KONG SEAL OF QUALITY", AWARDED BY THE HONG KONG QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY, WIDELY AND INSTANTLY RECOGNISED, BOTH HERE AND OVERSEAS.

SIR DAVID PAID TRIBUTE TO THE FEDERATION FOR GIVING THE GOVERNMENT USEFUL ADVICE ON A WHOLE RANGE OF ISSUES AFFECTING HONG KONG INDUSTRY THROUGHOUT ITS FIRST 30 YEARS.

"YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND ON THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE HELPED THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE NEEDS OF OUR INDUSTRIES IN OUR OWN PLANNING AND, WHERE POSSIBLE, TO RESPOND TO THOSE NEEDS," HE SAID.

/SIR DAVID

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SIR DAVID WELCOMED THE VISIT TO HONG KONG BY THE MAYOR OF SHANGHAI, MR ZHU RONGJI, WHO ATTENDED THE DINNER.

HE SAID THERE HAD LONG BEEN CLOSE TIES BETWEEN SHANGHAI AND HONG KONG AND HE HOPED AND BELIEVED THAT THE MAYOR'S VISIT WOULD STRENGTHEN THESE ECONOMIC LINKS.

"ALL OF US HERE WISH SHANGHAI EVERY SUCCESS IN ITS OWN EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENT PLANS.

"I AM SURE THERE WILL BE MANY IN HONG KONG WHO WILL BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THOSE PLANS," SIR DAVID SAID.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

A COPY OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH WILL BE SENT BY FACSIMILE AND A COPY CAN ALSO BE COLLECTED FROM THE GIS DUTY OFFICER.

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LIMITED IMPORT OF LABOUR WON'T HARM WORKFORCE: GOVERNOR
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A LIMITED AMOUNT OF LABOUR CAN BE IMPORTED UNDER CAREFULLY CONTROLLED CONDITIONS WITHOUT CAUSING ANY HARM TO HONG KONG'S WORKFORCE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TONIGHT (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER ATTENDING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, SIR DAVID SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE PROSPERITY OF HONG KONG AS A WHOLE WAS KEPT UP AND MAINTAINED.

"AT THE MOMENT WE ARE SHORT OF LABOUR IN A WHOLE NUMBER OF DIFFERENT SPHERES, IF WE DON'T HAVE ADEQUATE LABOUR WE RESTRAIN THE GROWTH OF THE ECONOMY AND EVERYBODY SUFFERS," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE A WORKFORCE THAT IS VERY HARD-WORKING AND DESERVES TO BENEFIT FROM THE PROSPERITY OF THE COMMUNITY," HE ADDED.

"WHEN WE IMPORT LABOUR WE WILL MAKE SURE THEY ARE NOT BROUGHT IN AT A CHEAP LEVEL, THAT THE WAGES WILL BE THE EQUIVALENT OF WAGES HERE AND THAT WON'T DO ANYTHING TO FORCE DOWN LOCAL WAGES," SIR DAVID SAID.

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HK'S EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR APRIL RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN APRIL 1990, AT \$97,907 MILLION, GREW BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1989, ACCORDING TO THE DETAILED FIGURES ON THE VALUE OF TRADE IN APRIL 1990 RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 6 PER CENT TO \$16,407 MILLION, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 10 PER CENT TO \$30,861 MILLION. THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT TO \$47,267 MILLION. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT TO \$50,640 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY TO APRIL 1990, AT \$360,197 MILLION, INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT TO \$62,867 MILLION, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 10 PER CENT TO \$114,009 MILLION.

THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT TO \$176,876 MILLION. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT TO \$183,321 MILLION.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING APRIL 1990 WITH APRIL 1989, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MOST OF THE MAJOR MARKETS DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS.

SIGNIFICANT DECREASE WAS RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA AND CANADA, BY 30 PER CENT, 26 PER CENT AND 21 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN, THE USA, CHINA AND THE NETHERLANDS ALSO DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 8 PER CENT, 6 PER CENT, 4 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, A SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH OF 55 PER CENT WAS RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN. THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE ALSO INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN DECREASED BY 24 PER CENT, 16 PER CENT, 16 PER CENT, AND 11 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE USA, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE NETHERLANDS AND CHINA ALSO DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS, BY 5 PER CENT, 4 PER CENT, 3 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, A SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN AND SINGAPORE, BY 58 PER CENT AND 15 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

/TABLE 2

TABLE 2 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, AN INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS REGISTERED FOR TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY \$407 MILLION OR 73 PER CENT); TEXTILES (BY \$176 MILLION OR 4 PER CENT); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$122 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT); AND OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$114 MILLION OR 3 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$699 MILLION OR 12 PER CENT), AND CLOTHING (BY \$291 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING APRIL 1990 WITH APRIL 1989, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM SWITZERLAND, SINGAPORE AND CHINA INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY BY 28 PER CENT, 19 PER CENT AND 17 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. THOSE FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM, ITALY, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND TAIWAN ALSO INCREASED, BY 5 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT, 4 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE TERMS.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THE USA AND JAPAN DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT, 2 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, JAPAN, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND TAIWAN DECREASED BY 10 PER CENT, 10 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT, 3 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, IMPORTS FROM CHINA, THE USA, SWITZERLAND, ITALY AND SINGAPORE INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 14 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$2,401 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$2,033 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1,314 MILLION OR 11 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY \$658 MILLION OR 3 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS REGISTERED FOR IRON AND STEEL (BY \$1,204 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT) AND NON-FERROUS METALS (BY \$813 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, TAIWAN, THE USA AND SINGAPORE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN APRIL 1990 OVER APRIL 1989, BY 54 PER CENT, 28 PER CENT, 25 PER CENT, 25 PER CENT AND 22 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. THOSE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CANADA ALSO INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 15 PER CENT AND 10 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, CHINA AND JAPAN DECREASED BY 11 PER CENT, 8 PER CENT AND 7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF 1989, RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, CANADA AND THE USA INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS, BY 49 PER CENT, 32 PER CENT, 27 PER CENT AND 27 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. INCREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN AND JAPAN, BY 19 PER CENT, 19 PER CENT, 18 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THOSE TO CHINA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 10 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 6 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WAS REGISTERED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$3,571 MILLION OR 37 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$2,624 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1,751 MILLION OR 23 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY \$687 MILLION OR 5 PER CENT). HOWEVER, A DECREASE IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WAS RECORDED FOR TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$940 MILLION OR 48 PER CENT), AND MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY \$762 MILLION OR 24 PER CENT).

ALL TRADE STATISTICS DESCRIBED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON. A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN APRIL 1990 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY JULY 1990.

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE PUBLISHED IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS. THE APRIL 1990 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN APRIL 1990 WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SALE AROUND JUNE 15 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$27 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 823 4915).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	APR 90 OVER APR 89 (%)	JAN-APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 90 OVER JAN-APR 89 (%)
USA	4,917	-6	18,496	-5
CHINA	3,651	-4	12,939	-1
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,102	*	4,575	-4
JAPAN	868	-8	3,456	-11
UK	828	-30	3,388	-24
SINGAPORE	505	6	2,007	15
TAIWAN	554	55	1,831	58
CANADA	335	-21	1,572	-16
NETHERLANDS	353	-3	1,445	-3
AUSTRALIA	252	-26	1,113	-16

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	APR 90 OVER APR 89 (%)	JAN-APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 90 OVER JAN-APR 89 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,470	-4	18,421	-2
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	2,092	-8	7,889	-5

/PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS

PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,372	-13	5,558	-5
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,402	-4	5,165	4
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,372	-12	5,050	-12
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	1,374	-3	4,677	-6

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	APR 90 OVER APR 89 (%)	JAN-APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 90 OVER JAN-APR 89 (%)
CHINA	17,897	17	63,905	14
JAPAN	7,951	-1	29,186	-7
USA	4,013	-2	16,706	12
TAIWAN	4,636	2	16,170	-1
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	2,481	-4	8,161	-10
SINGAPORE	1,919	19	7,034	1
UK	1,200	5	4,306	-3
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,267	4	4,103	-10
ITALY	994	5	3,488	7
SWITZERLAND	1,055	28	3,373	9

TABLE 4: IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	APR 90 OVER APR 89 (%)	JAN-APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 90 OVER JAN-APR 89 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6,937	5	22,970	3
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	5,215	4	18,331	-1
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	3,950	22	14,273	20
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,751	14	13,538	11
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	3,431	17	12,155	20
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	2,516	-3	9,317	-5

/TABLE 5

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	APR 90 OVER APR 89 (%)	JAN-APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 90 OVER JAN-APR 89 (%)
CHINA	8,490	-8	30,968	-10
USA	6,265	25	23,034	27
JAPAN	1,690	-7	6,999	4
TAIWAN	1,780	25	6,321	18
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,400	54	5,392	49
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,164	-11	4,235	-5
SINGAPORE	1,087	22	3,960	19
UK	782	15	2,822	19
CANADA	457	10	1,825	27
FRANCE	504	28	1,758	32

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	APR 90 OVER APR 89 (%)	JAN-APR 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-APR 90 OVER JAN-APR 89 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	3,709	*	13,235	5
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	3,771	29	13,172	37
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	3,218	30	12,614	26

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ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	3,082	1	11,273	3
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	2,740	27	9,418	23
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS	1,255	36	4,449	32

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

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FINAL METROPLAN REPORT TO BE PRODUCED BY YEAR'S END
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THE FINAL METROPLAN REPORT, WHICH IS LIKELY TO BE A HYBRID OF THE EARLIER INITIAL OPTIONS, IS TO BE PRODUCED TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR.

THIS WAS STATED BY GOVERNMENT PLANNERS TO THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MR CHENG HON-KWAN, AT A SPECIAL MEETING YESTERDAY (MONDAY).

THE MEETING WAS HELD TO DISCUSS MAJOR POINTS ARISING FROM THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION EXERCISE ON THE METROPLAN WHICH ENDED LAST MONTH.

THE ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERED THAT THERE ARE ELEMENTS IN ALL THREE INITIAL OPTIONS THAT MERIT BEING TAKEN FORWARD TO THE NEXT STAGE OF PLAN FORMULATION.

DURING THE MEETING, GOVERNMENT PLANNERS BRIEFED COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON VARIOUS POINTS WHICH INCLUDED:

- * THE LIKELY AVAILABILITY OF RESOURCES TO IMPLEMENT METROPLAN PROPOSALS;
- * THE EXTENT TO WHICH NEW TOWN PLANNING STANDARDS SHOULD BE APPLIED TO METRO;

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- * THE EXTENT TO WHICH COMMERCIAL OFFICE DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE DECENTRALISED;
- * THE ROLE TO BE PLAYED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR;
- * THE SCALE AND TYPE OF PROPOSED URBAN DENSITY CONTROLS;
- * THE PHASING OF PROPOSED WORKS AND PROJECTS; AND
- * THE AGENCIES THROUGH WHICH METROPLAN CONCEPTS ARE TO BE IMPLEMENTED.

COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD AND SUGGESTIONS RAISED IN THE SPECIAL MEETING ARE BEING ACTIVELY CONSIDERED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

THE FINAL REPORT WILL CONTAIN THE SELECTED STRATEGY AND WILL BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC.

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PHOTO CONTEST TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH MESSAGE
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ENTHUSIASTS IN PHOTOGRAPHY ARE BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN A PHOTO CONTEST TO HELP DISSEMINATE THE MESSAGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE COMPETITION TODAY (TUESDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISER, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SAID THE CONTEST AIMS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE EFFECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ON HEALTH THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION.

COINCIDING WITH THE THEME OF THIS YEAR'S WORLD HEALTH DAY, "OUR PLANET, OUR HEALTH", THE CONTEST ALSO APPEALS TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE TO PARTAKE IN THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH.

THE ENTRIES SHOULD SHOW ORIGINALITY AND SHOULD BE ABLE TO ILLUSTRATE THE THEME OF THE CONTEST, "OUR PLANET, OUR HEALTH AND THINK GLOBALLY, ACT LOCALLY".

EACH ENTRY SHOULD MEASURE 20.3 CM BY 25.4 CM AND SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED WITH A SUBTITLE OF NOT MORE THAN 15 WORDS.

PUBLISHED OR TO BE PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS OR SLIDES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A TROPHY, A CAMERA AND \$2,000 IN CASH. THE FIRST AND SECOND RUNNERS-UP WILL EACH RECEIVE A CASH PRIZE OF \$1,500 AND \$1,000 RESPECTIVELY.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ENTRIES IS AUGUST 24.

PRINTED INFORMATIVE MATERIALS ON THE CONTEST ARE AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- * CENTRAL HEALTH EDUCATION UNIT, SOUTHORN CENTRE, SEVENTH FLOOR, HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI;
- * YUNG FUNG SHEE HEALTH EDUCATION CENTRE, CHA KWO LING ROAD, KWUN TONG;
- * SHA TIN HEALTH EDUCATION CENTRE, LEK YUEN HEALTH CENTRE, SHA TIN;
- * HOOVER COLOUR PHOTO SERVICE LIMITED, STANLEY STREET, CENTRAL AND OI MAN COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, OI MAN ESTATE; AND
- * SHRIRO (HK) LIMITED NIKON CAMERA SHOWROOM, HUTCHISON HOUSE, CENTRAL.

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED BY TELEPHONING 835 1820, 727 8227 OR 697 3211 EXT. 213.

THE CONTEST IS SPONSORED BY DOWIN INVESTMENT LIMITED (ORIENTAL PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPER SOLE AGENT) AND SHRIRO (HK) LIMITED (NIKON CAMERA SOLE AGENT).

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FIRST FLOATING HOLIDAY REMINDER

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT THE FIRST FLOATING HOLIDAY FOR THIS YEAR FALLS ON JUNE 18, THE MONDAY FOLLOWING THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT IF EMPLOYERS HAVE NOT ALREADY FIXED THE DATES FOR THE FLOATING HOLIDAYS FOR THIS YEAR AND THEIR EMPLOYEES HAVE NOT REQUESTED THE HOLIDAYS BE ADDED TO THEIR PAID ANNUAL LEAVE, EMPLOYEES SHALL BE GRANTED THE FIRST FLOATING HOLIDAY ON THE ABOVE DATE AND THE SECOND FLOATING HOLIDAY ON AUGUST 27, THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST.

UNDER THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, ALL EMPLOYEES ARE ENTITLED TO BE PAID FOR THAT HOLIDAY IF THEY HAVE WORKED CONTINUOUSLY FOR THREE MONTHS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO AN EMPLOYEE'S EARNING 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 COST OF LIVING ALLOWANCES.

WHERE THE EARNINGS VARY FROM DAY TO DAY, THE HOLIDAY PAY SHOULD BE THE AVERAGE DAILY EARNING DURING EVERY COMPLETE WAGE PERIOD, WHICH COULD BE BETWEEN 28 DAYS AND 31 DAYS PRECEDING THE HOLIDAY.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT STATUTORY HOLIDAYS MAY BE MADE TO ANY BRANCH OFFICE OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 1990

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EASTERN DB TO DISCUSS UC FIVE-YEAR PROJECTS

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EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE URBAN COUNCIL'S CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS IN THE COMING FIVE YEARS AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (JUNE 14).

THE LARGE-SCALE PROJECTS UNDER PLANNING INCLUDE THE QUARRY BAY PARK, AN OPEN SPACE RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AN INDOOR GAMES HALL ON THE SAI WAN HO RECLAMATION, THE ELECTRIC ROAD COMPLEX AND THE REPROVISIONING OF CHAI WAN TEMPORARY MARKET.

THE BOARD WILL ALSO DISCUSS A WORK REPORT BY THE DISTRICT BUILDING MANAGEMENT CO-ORDINATION TEAM.

ANOTHER AGENDA ITEM IS THE RESUMPTION OF TWO PRIVATE STREETS -- CHURCH LANE AND FINNIE STREET.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EASTERN DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (JUNE 14) IN THE DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM, FIRST FLOOR, 880-886 KING'S ROAD, STARTING AT 2.30 PM.

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DB TO DISCUSS UC WORKS PROGRAMME

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THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE URBAN COUNCIL'S FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME FOR THE DISTRICT AT ITS MEETING ON THURSDAY (JUNE 14).

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD WILL BE TABLED.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD MEETING TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY (JUNE 14) AT THE SHEK KIP MEI COMMUNITY HALL, BLOCK 42, SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE, NAM CHEONG STREET. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 2 PM.

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