



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT IS WAY OF LIFE: GOVERNOR

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THE FREEDOM WHICH HONG KONG PEOPLE ENJOY TO COME AND GO FROM THE TERRITORY REMAINS ONE OF THE CORNERSTONES OF OUR WAY OF LIFE, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE (ISS) INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, SIR DAVID SAID: "IN STATISTICAL TERMS, IMMIGRATION FROM CHINA ALONE CONTINUES TO ACCOUNT FOR OVER ONE-THIRD OF OUR ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH."

HE NOTED THAT A VIGOROUSLY CHANGING AND MIGRATORY SOCIETY LIKE HONG KONG PRODUCED UNUSUAL PROBLEMS.

"TO COPE WITH THESE HONG KONG HAS EVOLVED ITS OWN SYSTEM OF WELFARE SERVICES THROUGH CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTORS," SIR DAVID SAID.

SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE ISS WAS A UNIQUE ORGANISATION, DEDICATED TO REACHING OUT WORLD-WIDE FROM ITS BASE IN GENEVA TO HELP FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS IN NEED, PARTICULARLY TO HELP THEM DEAL WITH SOCIAL PROBLEMS WHICH WERE ASSOCIATED WITH MIGRATION OR WHICH TRANSCEND NATIONAL BOUNDARIES.

"MIGRATION-RELATED PROBLEMS ARE IN NO WAY NEW TO HONG KONG. FOR MUCH OF OUR HISTORY WE HAVE BEEN A MIGRANT SOCIETY.

"INDEED, UNTIL THE MID-1960'S, THE MAJORITY OF HONG KONG POPULATION WERE BORN OUTSIDE HONG KONG. IT WAS AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND THAT THE HONG KONG BRANCH OF THE ISS CAME INTO BEING IN 1958," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT HONG KONG WAS THEN IN TREMENDOUS NEED OF WELFARE SERVICES IN ORDER TO HELP A POPULATION WHICH HAD NEARLY TRIPLED IN THE PREVIOUS 10 YEARS THROUGH A CONTINUING IMMIGRANT INFUX.

"LIFE WAS VERY HARD FOR MANY. THERE WERE IN PARTICULAR MANY ABANDONED CHILDREN, AND THE ISS PIONEERED WORK WITH OVERSEAS ADOPTION IN ORDER TO FIND HOMES FOR MANY OF THESE.

"SINCE THEN, HONG KONG AND ITS PEOPLE HAVE COME A LONG WAY, AND OUR SOCIAL SYSTEM HAS DRAMATICALLY IMPROVED.

"BUT, AS A PROSPEROUS AND THRIVING INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR BUSINESS AND TRADE, WE INEVITABLY RETAIN MANY OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF AN OPEN AND MIGRATORY SOCIETY.

"THE PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION BORN OUTSIDE HONG KONG REMAINS REMARKABLY HIGH AT AROUND 40 PER CENT," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE ISS AND MANY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES COULD, AND DID, RIGHTLY PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN INTEGRATING NEW MIGRANTS INTO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY THROUGH THE PROVISION OF A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF SERVICES.

/"ONE PARTICULAR .....

"ONE PARTICULAR AREA WHERE THE AGENCIES PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IS IN HELPING THE GOVERNMENT TO COPE WITH THE CONTINUING INFLUX OF VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

"THEY MANAGE A RANGE OF ESSENTIAL SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES IN THE CAMPS, WHICH BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES ARE KEEN TO ENCOURAGE," HE ADDED.

"ISS MAKES A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION IN RUNNING A MAJOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR BOTH ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN MOST OF OUR CAMPS.

"THROUGH THIS WORK ISS STAFF HAVE WON ENORMOUS RESPECT FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM AND DEDICATION.

"I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THOSE INVOLVED FOR WHAT THEY DO," SIR DAVID ADDED.

ON THE GOVERNMENT'S PART, SIR DAVID SAID TO ENSURE THAT OUR SOCIAL POLICIES AND STANDARDS CONTINUE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF HONG KONG INTO THE 1990'S AND BEYOND, THE GOVERNMENT HAD LAUNCHED A MAJOR REVIEW OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SUBVENTED SECTOR.

HE POINTED OUT THAT A WHITE PAPER SETTING OUT THE WAY FORWARD WOULD BE PUBLISHED AND ADDITIONAL FINANCE HAD BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO REDUCE CASELOADS IN FAMILY SERVICE CENTRES AND SOCIAL SECURITY FIELD UNITS.

"BUT THERE ARE LIMITS TO WHAT THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID THE CAUSES OF MIGRATION REMAINED MANY AND COMPLEX, ALTHOUGH THE TREMENDOUS STRAIN THAT MIGRATION IMPOSED ON THE FAMILY AND PARTICULARLY ON CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WAS CLEAR TO ALL.

"HENCE THE VALUE OF THE WORK OF ISS AND OTHER NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS IN THIS SPECIAL FIELD, PROVIDING NEW IMMIGRANTS WITH A RANGE OF POST-MIGRATION SERVICES SUCH AS MIGRATION COUNSELLING, ORIENTATION TUTORIAL GROUPS AND LANGUAGE CLASSES.

"THIS IS AN IMPORTANT TASK IN BUILDING IN HONG KONG AN INTEGRATED COMMUNITY THAT CAN NEVERTHELESS RETAIN ITS COSMOPOLITAN AND COLOURFUL DIVERSITY," SIR DAVID SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE THEME OF THE SYMPOSIUM "CHILDREN AND MIGRATION: A NEW CHALLENGE FOR WORLD-WIDE SOCIAL SERVICES" WAS A FITTING ONE.

"MOST APT TOO THAT THIS SYMPOSIUM COMES AT THE END OF THE ISS'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING EVER HELD IN HONG KONG, A CITY WHOSE ACHIEVEMENTS HAVE BEEN BASED SO MUCH UPON THE TALENTS AND ENDEAVOURS OF SUCCESSIVE WAVES OF IMMIGRANTS," SIR DAVID SAID.

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GOVT WILLING TO LISTEN TO VIEWS ON BILL OF RIGHTS: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE VERY WILLING TO LISTEN TO ANY VIEWS THAT CHINA MIGHT HAVE ON THE BILL OF RIGHTS, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ASKED BY REPORTERS TO COMMENT ON CHINA'S REACTION TO THE BILL OF RIGHTS AFTER THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SERVICE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, SIR DAVID SAID THAT THERE WAS NOW A LONG PERIOD OF CONSULTATION ON THE BILL OF RIGHTS IN WHICH ANYBODY COULD PUT FORWARD THEIR VIEWS.

"IF THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAVE VIEWS ON IT, ON THE DETAILS OF IT, THEN OF COURSE WE WILL BE VERY WILLING TO LISTEN TO THEM.

"WE WANT TO BRING IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS AND WE THINK IT IS ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH WHAT IS IN THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW. BOTH OF THOSE DOCUMENTS PROVIDE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS TO BE APPLIED TO HONG KONG AND THAT'S WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO DO," HE SAID.

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15TH MEETING OF SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP

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FOLLOWING IS THE COMMUNIQUE OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP:

THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT LIAISON GROUP HELD ITS 15TH MEETING IN PEKING FROM APRIL 24 TO 27, 1990.

THE TWO SIDES HAD A FRANK EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DECLARATION RELATING TO NATIONALITY ISSUES AND ON THE CONVERGENCE OF CIVIL RIGHTS LAW BEFORE AND AFTER 1997.

ON THE BASIS OF THE WORK OF ITS STANDING SUB-GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP REACHED AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON HONG KONG'S CONTINUED PARTICIPATION AFTER 1997 IN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION SATELLITE ORGANISATION AND THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME SATELLITE ORGANISATION.

THE TWO SIDES HAD A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COURT OF FINAL APPEAL IN HONG KONG, AND AGREED THAT EXPERTS WOULD MEET BEFORE JLG XVI TO DISCUSS RELEVANT DETAILS.

THE TWO SIDES DISCUSSED QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE LOCALISATION OF LEGISLATION ON CRIMINAL ASPECTS OF ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION AND REACHED AGREEMENT ON MOST POINTS.

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THE TWO SIDES HAD A FURTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE DETAILS OF FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SURRENDER OF FUGITIVE OFFENDERS BETWEEN HONG KONG AND RELEVANT COUNTRIES.

THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP DECIDED THAT ITS NEXT MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LONDON FROM SEPTEMBER 25 TO 28.

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PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH RELEASED

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IN MARCH 1990, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SHOWED ONLY A SMALL DECLINE COMPARED WITH MARCH 1989, WHILE THE YEAR-ON-YEAR GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS ACCELERATED FROM THOSE IN THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS. IMPORTS CONTINUED TO SHOW A MODERATE INCREASE.

THESE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN MARCH 1990 WAS \$16,512 MILLION, \$111 MILLION OR 0.7 PER CENT LESS THAN IN MARCH 1989, WHILE THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY \$4,260 MILLION OR 16.1 PER CENT TO \$30,743 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS), AT \$47,255 MILLION IN MARCH 1990, WAS THUS \$4,149 MILLION OR 9.6 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1989.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS GREW BY 5.6 PER CENT OR \$2,693 MILLION FROM A YEAR EARLIER, TO \$51,117 MILLION IN MARCH 1990.

AS THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WAS LARGER THAN THAT OF TOTAL EXPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$3,862 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 7.6 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN MARCH 1990.

THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$5,318 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 11.0 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN MARCH 1989.

PUTTING THESE FIGURES IN PERSPECTIVE, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990 WAS \$129,609 MILLION, MADE UP OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF \$46,460 MILLION AND RE-EXPORTS OF \$83,149 MILLION.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR, TOTAL EXPORTS GREW BY \$6,560 MILLION OR 5.3 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS, WITH DOMESTIC EXPORTS FALLING BY \$1,467 MILLION OR 3.1 PER CENT AND RE-EXPORTS RISING BY \$8,027 MILLION OR 10.7 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, IMPORTS ROSE BY \$2,650 MILLION OR BY 2.0 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS, TO \$132,681 MILLION.

/A VISIBLE .....

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$3,072 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 2.3 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990. THIS COMPARES WITH A DEFICIT OF \$6,982 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 5.4 PER CENT OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1989.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE PERFORMANCE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WAS STILL SLUGGISH, THE RATE OF DECLINE HAD MODERATED IN MARCH.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE GROWTH RATE OF RE-EXPORTS PICKED UP SIGNIFICANTLY. THIS WAS SUPPORTED BY RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN, WHICH CONTINUED TO RISE MARKEDLY WHILE RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE STILL ON THE DECLINE.

RETAINED IMPORTS, HOWEVER, REMAINED WEAK IN MARCH COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL TRADE FIGURES FOR MARCH 1990.

MERCHANDISE:	DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$16,512 MILLION	
	RE-EXPORTS	:	\$30,743 MILLION	
	TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$47,255 MILLION	
	IMPORTS	:	\$51,117 MILLION	
	TRADE BALANCE	:	\$ 3,862 MILLION	[IN DEFICIT]

COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	JAN 90	JAN 89	INCREASE	
	TO MAR 90 HK\$ MN.	TO MAR 89 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	46,460	47,927	-1,467	-3.1
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(35.8%)	(38.9%)		
RE-EXPORTS	83,149	75,122	8,027	10.7
TOTAL EXPORTS	129,609	123,049	6,560	5.3
IMPORTS	132,681	130,031	2,650	2.0
TRADE BALANCE	-3,072	-6,982	3,910	

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	MARCH	MARCH	INCREASE	
	1990 HK\$ MN.	1989 HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	16,512	16,623	-111	-0.7
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(34.9%)	(38.6%)		
RE-EXPORTS	30,743	26,483	4,260	16.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	47,255	43,106	4,149	9.6
IMPORTS	51,117	48,424	2,693	5.6
TRADE BALANCE	-3,862	-5,318	1,456	

/LAST MONTH .....

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LAST MONTH	MARCH 1990	FEBRUARY 1990	INCREASE	
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS (% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	16,512 (34.9%)	13,311 (35.3%)	3,201	24.0
RE-EXPORTS	30,743	24,446	6,297	25.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	47,255	37,757	9,498	25.2
IMPORTS	51,117	40,473	10,644	26.3
TRADE BALANCE	-3,862	-2,716	-1,146	

  

LAST 12 MONTHS	APR 89 TO MAR 90	APR 88 TO MAR 89	INCREASE	
	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	HK\$ MN.	%
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	222,637	221,422	1,215	0.5
RE-EXPORTS	354,433	297,658	56,775	19.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	577,070	519,080	57,990	11.2
IMPORTS	565,431	529,962	35,469	6.7
TRADE BALANCE	11,639	-10,882	22,521	

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## CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR MARCH PUBLISHED

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1990.

THE CPI(A) WAS 10.0 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1989. THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF INCREASE WERE 9.8 PER CENT IN JANUARY AND 8.4 PER CENT IN FEBRUARY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE CPI(B) WAS 9.6 PER CENT HIGHER, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 9.5 PER CENT IN JANUARY AND 8.3 PER CENT IN FEBRUARY.

DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THE YEAR, PRICE CHANGES TEND TO BE AFFECTED CONSIDERABLY BY THE TIMING OF THE CHINESE NEW YEAR. MOREOVER, THE BASE OF COMPARISON IN MARCH 1989 WAS PARTICULARLY LOW. THUS IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO COMPARE THE PRICE MOVEMENTS OF THESE MONTHS ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.

FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990, THE CPI(A) INCREASED BY 9.4 PER CENT OVER THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1989. THIS RATE OF INCREASE IS SLOWER THAN THOSE RECORDED IN THE THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS OF 1989 AT 10.1 PER CENT AND 9.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

/AS REGARDS .....

AS REGARDS THE CPI(B), THE INCREASE IN THE FIRST QUARTER WAS 9.1 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 9.8 PER CENT AND 9.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE THIRD AND FOURTH QUARTERS OF LAST YEAR.

ON THE YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON, THE FASTER RATES OF INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) IN MARCH 1990 WERE RECORDED FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO, SERVICES, FOODSTUFFS, AND TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES AT 16.7 PER CENT, 13.6 PER CENT, 11.9 PER CENT AND 10.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES FOR THE SAME COMPONENTS IN THE CPI(B) WERE 16.5 PER CENT, 13.2 PER CENT, 12.1 PER CENT AND 10.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

WHILE THE INCREASE IN ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO WAS PARTLY DUE TO HIGHER DUTY RATES, THE INCREASE IN THE SERVICES COMPONENT WAS MOSTLY DUE TO HIGHER SCHOOL FEES AND HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT.

AS FOR THE FOODSTUFFS COMPONENT, THE INCREASE WAS LARGELY DUE TO HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME AND HIGHER PRICES FOR FRESH VEGETABLES. THE INCREASE IN TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES WAS PARTLY DUE TO INCREASE IN BUS FARES.

THESE FOUR COMPONENTS TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR FOUR-FIFTHS OF THE OVERALL INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) AND OVER THREE QUARTERS OF THE INCREASE IN THE CPI(B).

COMPARING MARCH 1990 WITH FEBRUARY 1990, THE CPI(A) INCREASED BY 1.1 PER CENT AND THE CPI(B), BY 1.0 PER CENT.

THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1990 WERE 10.0 PER CENT AND 9.6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1989.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED MARCH 1990, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) BOTH INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 0.9 PER CENT PER MONTH.

THE CPI(A) AND THE CPI(B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1984/85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

THE CPI(A) REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$2,000 AND \$6,499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME AND THE CPI(B) BETWEEN \$6,500 AND \$9,999 A MONTH.

CHANGES IN THE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1990 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AS COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1990 AND MARCH 1989, ARE GIVEN BELOW.

(OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 AVERAGE = 100)

SECTION	CPI(A)			CPI(B)		
	INDEX FOR MAR. 90	% CHANGE OVER FEB. 90	% CHANGE OVER MAR. 89	INDEX FOR MAR. 90	% CHANGE OVER FEB. 90	% CHANGE OVER MAR. 89
FOODSTUFFS	141.0	+1.1	+11.9	142.4	+1.0	+12.1
HOUSING	126.9	+0.3	+ 7.3	122.2	+0.3	+ 6.8
FUEL AND LIGHT	102.5	+1.7	+ 7.1	102.6	+1.8	+ 6.6
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	153.5	+6.3	+16.7	154.2	+6.1	+16.5
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	137.3	+0.3	+ 6.2	138.8	+0.5	+ 5.7
DURABLE GOODS	123.3	+0.4	+ 1.8	122.5	+0.9	+ 1.7
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	137.5	+0.1	+ 5.0	137.7	+0.4	+ 5.4
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	144.7	+3.0	+10.4	143.9	+2.9	+10.4
SERVICES	153.9	+0.5	+13.6	153.7	+0.5	+13.2
ALL ITEMS	137.9	+1.1	+10.0	137.1	+1.0	+ 9.6

COMPARING MARCH 1990 WITH FEBRUARY 1990, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 1.1 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.0 PER CENT IN CPI(B). THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO INCREASES IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND FRESH FRUIT AND IN THE AVERAGE CHARGE FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE DECREASE IN THE AVERAGE RETAIL PRICE OF LIVE POULTRY.

THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT INCREASED BY 1.7 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.8 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF THE UPWARD FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT FOR ELECTRICITY.

THE INDEX FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION) INCREASED BY 6.3 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 6.1 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES OF CIGARETTES, BEER AND FOREIGN-STYLE WINES DUE TO INCREASED DUTIES.

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THE INDEX FOR TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES INCREASED BY 3.0 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 2.9 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF AN INCREASE IN BUS FARES, HIGHER FEES FOR DRIVING AND VEHICLE LICENCES AS WELL AS HIGHER PRICES OF GASOLINE DUE TO INCREASED DUTIES.

FIGURES HEREIN REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TAKEN TO MORE THAN ONE DECIMAL PLACE.

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR MARCH 1990, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$5 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

FOR ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDEXES, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON 823 5089.

THE HANG SENG CPI WAS UP BY 1.2 PER CENT OVER FEBRUARY 1990 AND UP BY 10.9 PER CENT OVER MARCH 1989. THE HANG SENG CPI IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF THE 10 PER CENT OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG THAT SPENT \$10,000-24,999 A MONTH DURING THE 1984-85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THIS INDEX ARE INCLUDED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

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#### FOURTH QUARTER SHIPPING, PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS RELEASED

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IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989, 4,606 SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 27.7 MILLION NET REGISTERED TONS (NRT) ARRIVED HONG KONG, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 311 (OR 7 PER CENT) IN NUMBER AND OF 1.4 MILLION NRT (OR 5 PER CENT) IN CAPACITY OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988.

THIS IS RELEASED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1989" PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO DISCHARGED IN HONG KONG FROM INCOMING SHIPS (ESTIMATED FROM A SAMPLE OF MANIFEST CONSIGNMENTS) DECREASED BY 3 PER CENT.

/WHEN ANALYSED .....

WHEN ANALYSED BY SHIP TYPE, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF OIL TANKERS (+234) AND CONTAINER VESSELS (+150), WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF ROLL-ON/ROLL-OFF VESSELS (-38), SEMI-CONTAINER VESSELS (-30) AND CONVENTIONAL CARGO VESSELS (-25).

WHEN ANALYSED BY FLAG OF VESSELS, MAJOR INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE NUMBER OF SHIPS REGISTERED IN CHINA (+213), PANAMA (+80), LIBERIA (+36) AND SINGAPORE (+22), WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THOSE REGISTERED IN JAPAN (-29), TAIWAN (-28) AND THE PHILIPPINES (-16).

THE NUMBER OF INCOMING SHIPS WITH A CAPACITY OF LESS THAN 10,000 DEADWEIGHT TONS INCREASED BY 242 WHILST THE NUMBER OF THOSE WITH A LARGER CAPACITY INCREASED BY 69.

IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989, THERE WERE 4,608 OUTGOING SHIPS WITH A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 27.9 MILLION NRT, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 348 (OR 8 PER CENT) IN NUMBER AND OF 1.9 MILLION NRT (OR 8 PER CENT) IN CAPACITY OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS (ESTIMATED FROM A SAMPLE OF MANIFEST CONSIGNMENTS) ROSE BY 11 PER CENT. ABOUT 68 PER CENT OF THE DEPARTING SHIPS STAYED IN HONG KONG FOR LESS THAN TWO DAYS.

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, 85 PER CENT IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS IMPORTS AND 15 PER CENT WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

OF THE CARGO LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, 62 PER CENT WAS EXPORTS (INCLUDING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS) AND 38 PER CENT WAS TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF LOADING FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS IN TONNAGE TERMS WERE SINGAPORE (20 PER CENT), JAPAN (14 PER CENT), CHINA (13 PER CENT), SOUTH AFRICA (13 PER CENT), TAIWAN (9 PER CENT) AND THE USA (6 PER CENT); WHILE THE MAJOR COUNTRIES OF DISCHARGE FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS WERE THE USA (21 PER CENT), CHINA (18 PER CENT), TAIWAN (11 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (5 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (5 PER CENT).

TRANSHIPMENT CARGO WAS MAINLY LOADED IN CHINA (34 PER CENT) AND THE USA (16 PER CENT), AND WAS MAINLY DISCHARGED IN CHINA (19 PER CENT) AND THE USA (13 PER CENT).

COMPARING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 WITH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE (+41 PER CENT), CHINA (+20 PER CENT), INDONESIA (+19 PER CENT) AND THE USA (+14 PER CENT); WHILE MAJOR DECREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM AUSTRALIA (-33 PER CENT), SOUTH AFRICA (-21 PER CENT) AND TAIWAN (-14 PER CENT).

AS A WHOLE, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE IMPORTS DROPPED BY 3 PER CENT.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, MAJOR INCREASES IN CARGO TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS OF CORK AND WOOD MANUFACTURES, EXCLUDING FURNITURE (+47 PER CENT), PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+45 PER CENT) AND ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS (+27 PER CENT), WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE IMPORTS OF IRON AND STEEL (-44 PER CENT), COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (-20 PER CENT), INORGANIC CHEMICALS (-19 PER CENT) AND CEMENT AND CEMENT CLINKER (-16 PER CENT).

COMPARING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 WITH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988, THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF SEABORNE EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS PLUS RE-EXPORTS) INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT.

MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO WEST GERMANY (+46 PER CENT), THE USA (+31 PER CENT), CHINA (+29 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (+20 PER CENT); WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM (-13 PER CENT) AND SOUTH KOREA (-10 PER CENT).

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, MAJOR INCREASES IN TONNAGE WERE NOTED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS OF PETROLEUM, PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AND RELATED MATERIALS (+75 PER CENT), VEGETABLES AND FRUIT (+29 PER CENT), GARMENTS OF MIXED MATERIALS OR OTHER MATERIALS, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED (+27 PER CENT) AND TOYS (+22 PER CENT); WHILE MAJOR DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS OF PULP AND WASTE PAPER (-10 PER CENT) AND CLAY AND KAOLIN (-8 PER CENT).

OF THE CARGO DISCHARGED FROM INCOMING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE IMPORTS AND INWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 36 PER CENT IN TERMS OF TONNAGE WAS CONTAINERISED CARGO. OF THOSE LOADED ONTO OUTGOING SHIPS, INCLUDING SEABORNE EXPORTS AND OUTWARD TRANSHIPMENT, 76 PER CENT WAS CONTAINERISED CARGO.

IN TERMS OF TONNAGE, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 31 PER CENT OF SEABORNE IMPORTS. IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR A LARGE PROPORTION OF SEABORNE IMPORTS FROM THE NETHERLANDS (82 PER CENT), THE USA (75 PER CENT), WEST GERMANY (72 PER CENT), TAIWAN (70 PER CENT) AND SOUTH KOREA (61 PER CENT).

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERISED SEABORNE IMPORTS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 ROSE BY 8 PER CENT OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988.

AMONG THE PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR, IN TONNAGE TERMS, 98 PER CENT OF SEABORNE IMPORTS OF ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, 94 PER CENT OF OTHER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC APPLIANCES AND PARTS, 92 PER CENT OF PAPER, PAPERBOARD AND ARTICLES OF PAPER PULP, OF PAPER OR OF PAPERBOARD AND 84 PER CENT OF TEXTILES OF MIXED MATERIALS OR OTHER MATERIALS, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED.

FOR SEABORNE EXPORTS, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR 69 PER CENT IN TERMS OF TONNAGE. IN PARTICULAR, CONTAINERISED CARGO ACCOUNTED FOR ALL OR A VERY LARGE PROPORTION OF SEABORNE EXPORTS TO WEST GERMANY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE NETHERLANDS, THE USA AND AUSTRALIA.

THE TOTAL TONNAGE OF CONTAINERISED SEABORNE EXPORTS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 ROSE BY 14 PER CENT OVER THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988.

A VERY LARGE PROPORTION OF SEABORNE EXPORTS OF SOME PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES WERE CONTAINERISED. THESE INCLUDED TOYS, COTTON GARMENTS, FOOTWEAR, PLASTIC MANUFACTURES, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED, COTTON TEXTILES, GARMENTS OF MIXED MATERIALS OR OTHER MATERIALS, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES, NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED.

SHIPPING STATISTICS ARE COMPILED PRIMARILY FROM GENERAL DECLARATIONS SUBMITTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT BY SHIPMASTERS OR AUTHORISED SHIPPING AGENTS AND COVER ALL OCEAN-GOING VESSELS ENTERING AND LEAVING HONG KONG, EXCLUDING YACHTS AND PLEASURE CRAFT.

PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS ARE COMPILED FROM OCEAN CARGO MANIFESTS SUPPLIED BY SHIPPING COMPANIES OR AGENTS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

BECAUSE OF RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS, A SAMPLE OF ALL CONSIGNMENTS LISTED IN THE MANIFESTS IS USED FOR COMPILING PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS. THE SAMPLING METHOD IS DESCRIBED IN THE EXPLANATORY NOTES OF THE REPORT.

MORE DETAILS ON SHIPPING, PORT AND CARGO STATISTICS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 ARE CONTAINED IN THE "HONG KONG SHIPPING STATISTICS REPORT OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1989", WHICH IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$23 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON STATISTICS PROVIDED IN THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE SHIPPING STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 823 4887.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1990

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AG RETURNS TO HK AFTER ATTENDING CONFERENCES

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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, MR JEREMY MATHEWS, RETURNED TO HONG KONG THIS EVENING HAVING ATTENDED THE COMMONWEALTH LAW CONFERENCE IN AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND, LAST WEEK AND THE MEETING OF COMMONWEALTH LAW MINISTERS IN CHRISTCHURCH THIS WEEK.

DURING THE COMMONWEALTH LAW CONFERENCE, MR MATHEWS SPOKE ON THE DRAFT BILL OF RIGHTS, AS WELL AS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN HONG KONG'S ARBITRATION LAW AND ON LAW REFORM MATTERS. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST SHOWN IN THE BILL OF RIGHTS.

DURING THE LAW MINISTERS MEETING, MANY DELEGATES WERE INTERESTED IN HONG KONG'S LAWS ON THE FREEZING AND SEIZURE OF DRUG ASSETS AND IMPRESSED BY HONG KONG'S CONSIDERABLE SUCCESS IN THIS FIELD.

THERE WAS ALSO A LOT OF INTEREST IN THE BILINGUAL LAW PROGRAMME, AND PARTICULARLY IN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT'S SOPHISTICATED COMPUTER USED IN DRAFTING.

"THESE MEETINGS ARE VERY VALUABLE, NOT ONLY FOR THE SUBJECTS DISCUSSED AND THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY DISTINGUISHED JUDGES, LAWYERS AND ACADEMICS, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY THEY PRESENT TO MEET A WIDE RANGE OF COMMONWEALTH LAWYERS AND JUDGES AND TO EXCHANGE THOUGHTS ON THE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS FACING LAWYERS TODAY AND THEIR SOLUTIONS.

"THESE MEETINGS UNDERLINE THE FACT THAT HONG KONG IS A COMMON LAW JURISDICTION AND IS PART OF THE COMMON LAW WORLD," MR MATHEWS SAID.

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DROP IN NUMBER OF NEW TB CASES

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THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUOUS DROP IN THE NUMBER OF NEW TUBERCULOSIS CASES OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS IN HONG KONG.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION, DR S.H. LEE, SAID THIS AT THE ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TODAY (FRIDAY).

HE SAID THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 6,704 NEW TUBERCULOSIS CASES LAST YEAR WITH A NOTIFICATION RATE OF 116.4 PER 100,000 POPULATION, COMPARED WITH 7,021 CASES AND A NOTIFICATION RATE OF 123.6 IN 1988.

/THE FIGURES .....

THE FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS YEARS WERE: 7,269 CASES AND A RATE OF 129.5 PER 100,000 POPULATION IN 1987, 7,432 AND 134.3 IN 1986, 7,545 AND 138.3 IN 1985 AND 7,843 AND 145 IN 1984.

DR LEE SAID A TOTAL OF 403 TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS WERE REPORTED LAST YEAR, GIVING A RATE OF SEVEN PER 100,000 POPULATION.

THIS SHOWED A SLIGHT INCREASE WHEN COMPARED WITH 388 DEATHS AND A RATE OF 6.8 PER 100,000 POPULATION IN 1988.

DURING THE PAST YEAR, HE SAID, 226 VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WERE FOUND TO HAVE ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS REQUIRING TREATMENT AS A RESULT OF EXAMINATION OF SYMPTOM-MOTIVATED INDIVIDUALS.

"ALL BOAT PEOPLE AGED 14 AND BELOW WERE GIVEN DIRECT BCG VACCINATION AS SOON AS THEY ARRIVED," DR LEE SAID.

"ALL OTHER PREVENTIVE AND CONTROL MEASURES WERE MAINTAINED TO PREVENT THE POSSIBLE SPREAD OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES FROM THE VBP TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY," HE ADDED.

DESPITE THE DECLINING ANNUAL RATE OF NOTIFICATION, DR LEE SAID TUBERCULOSIS REMAINED A PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM IN HONG KONG.

LAST YEAR, TWO TUBERCULOSIS EXPERTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM - PROFESSOR WALLACE FOX AND PROFESSOR STEWART KILPATRICK - AT THE INVITATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REVIEWED THE PRESENT STATE OF TUBERCULOSIS AND ITS MANAGEMENT IN HONG KONG AND ADVISED ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS AND CHEST SERVICE.

ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THEIR REPORT, DR LEE SAID, WAS THE SETTING UP OF A TUBERCULOSIS RESEARCH CENTRE.

HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE ASSOCIATION, WHICH HAS BEEN PLAYING A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS, WOULD RENDER ITS ASSISTANCE TO THIS END.

ON LUNG CANCER DEATHS, DR LEE SAID, THE FIGURE FOR LAST YEAR WENT UP TO 2,592 FROM 2,354 IN 1988, GIVING A MORTALITY RATE OF 45 AND 41.4 PER 100,000 POPULATION RESPECTIVELY.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE GOVERNMENT, VOLUNTEER AGENCIES AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC MUST CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO COMBAT CIGARETTE SMOKING.

TURNING TO OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASES, DR LEE SAID, 152 CASES OF SILICOSIS AND ONE CASE OF ASBESTOSIS WERE REPORTED AND COMPENSATED LAST YEAR.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PNEUMOCONIOSIS CASES COMPENSATED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE PNEUMOCONIOSIS COMPENSATION ORDINANCE IN JANUARY 1981 STOOD AT 3,511.

DR LEE POINTED OUT THAT THE CONSTRUCTION AND QUARRY INDUSTRIES WERE STILL THE TWO MAIN INDUSTRIES WITH HIGH RISK FOR WORKERS TO CONTRACT THE DISEASE.

ON HEART DISEASE, DR LEE SAID, IT CLAIMED A TOTAL OF 4,836 LIVES LAST YEAR, 237 MORE THAN IN 1988.

HE PRAISED THE WORK DONE BY THE CARDIAC, MEDICAL AND SURGICAL TEAMS AT THE GRANTHAM HOSPITAL.

LAST YEAR, HE ADDED, A TOTAL OF 824 CARDIAC OPERATIONS WERE PERFORMED WITH HIGH SUCCESS RATE.

IN CONCLUSION, DR LEE, WHO IS THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, THANKED THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HONG KONG TUBERCULOSIS, CHEST AND HEART DISEASES ASSOCIATION AND STAFF FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

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'HONG KONG REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1989' PUBLISHED

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A REVIEW DEPICTING HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE PERFORMANCE IN 1989 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR EARLIER YEARS HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PUBLICATION, WHICH IS ENTITLED 'THE HONG KONG REVIEW OF OVERSEAS TRADE IN 1989', PRESENTS A SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF THE SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE DIRECTION AND COMPOSITION OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN 1989.

THE TOTAL VALUE OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE AMOUNTED TO \$1,133 BILLION IN 1989, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 14 PER CENT OVER 1988. RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO RISE RAPIDLY AND IN 1989 THEY TOTALLED \$346 BILLION, CONSTITUTING ABOUT 61 PER CENT 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 COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND END-USE CATEGORY ARE ALSO AVAILABLE. THE LATTER REFERS TO THE GROUPING OF COMMODITIES INTO BROAD CATEGORIES LIKE 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 1989, SEABORNE TRADE AND AIRBORNE TRADE ACCOUNTED FOR 52 PER CENT AND 21 PER CENT IN VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE RESPECTIVELY AND BOTH RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 12 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH 1988. 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 1988, HONG KONG WAS THE WORLD'S LARGEST EXPORTER OF IMITATION JEWELLERY AND THE SECOND LARGEST EXPORTERS OF COMPLETE WATCHES (FOLLOWING SWITZERLAND) AND TOYS AND GAMES (FOLLOWING TAIWAN). HONG KONG RANKED THIRD IN THE EXPORTS OF CLOTHING (FOLLOWING ITALY 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 1962, WHEREAS MOST OTHER TABLES SHOW STATISTICS FROM 1987 TO 1989.

THE REVIEW CONTAINS 13 GRAPHS AND 38 STATISTICAL TABLES.

IT IS PRICED AT HK\$20 PER COPY AND IS NOW ON SALE AT (I) THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE OF THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND (II) THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT THE WANCHAI TOWER 1, 17TH FLOOR, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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

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#### AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION ON CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS INTRODUCED AMENDMENTS TO LEGISLATION ON CERTIFICATION OF ORIGIN WHICH WILL COME INTO EFFECT ON TUESDAY, MAY 1.

THE COMMENCEMENT NOTICE OF THE PROTECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1990, THE EXPORT (CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN AND COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCE CERTIFICATES) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1990 AND THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (FEES) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) REGULATIONS 1990 ARE PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY)

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THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MRS REGINA IP, SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE AMENDING LEGISLATION WAS TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE THE PRESENT CERTIFICATION LEGISLATION.

THE PROTECTION OF NON-GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN ORDINANCE WAS ENACTED IN 1967 AND THE EXPORT (CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN AND COMMONWEALTH PREFERENCE CERTIFICATES) REGULATIONS WERE ENACTED IN 1961.

"THE CERTIFICATION LEGISLATION NEEDS AMENDMENT IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGES TO HONG KONG'S ORIGIN CERTIFICATION SYSTEM," MRS IP SAID. "THE OPPORTUNITY HAS BEEN TAKEN TO INTRODUCE AMENDMENTS WHICH WILL ENABLE MORE EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT ACTION TO BE TAKEN."

SHE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING KEY INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN AND RECORDS TO BE KEPT BY APPLICANTS FOR CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN HAD BEEN INTRODUCED.

ALSO, PENALTIES FOR CERTIFICATION OFFENCES WOULD BE INCREASED TO BRING THEM INTO LINE WITH PENALTIES PROVIDED FOR UNDER THE IMPORT AND EXPORT ORDINANCE.

"THE PENALTIES FOR MOST OFFENCES SPECIFIED IN THE LEGISLATION ARE TO BE RAISED FROM THE PRESENT LEVEL OF EITHER \$50,000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT OR \$100,000 AND ONE YEAR'S IMPRISONMENT TO \$500,000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT," MRS IP SAID.

IN ADDITION, NEW OFFENCES WERE INCLUDED IN THE AMENDING LEGISLATION, SHE SAID.

THEY INCLUDED AN OFFENCE RELATING TO ORGANISATIONS DISHONESTLY REPRESENTING THEMSELVES TO BE GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CERTIFICATE-ISSUING AUTHORITIES.

ANOTHER NEW OFFENCE RELATED TO ISSUING OR UTTERING A DOCUMENT LIKELY TO MISLEAD ANOTHER PERSON INTO BELIEVING THAT THE DOCUMENT WAS A CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CERTIFICATE-ISSUING AUTHORITIES.

"THE INCLUSION OF THESE OFFENCES WILL STRENGTHEN PROTECTION OF CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT-APPROVED CERTIFICATION ORGANISATIONS," MRS IP SAID.

SHE SAID THERE WAS ALSO A NEW OFFENCE OF OMITTING, WITH INTENT TO DECEIVE, ANY MATERIAL PARTICULARS IN APPLICATIONS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN, IN ORDER TO AVOID UNDERMINING THE INTEGRITY OF HONG KONG'S CERTIFICATION SYSTEM.

"THE AMENDED LEGISLATION WILL CONTINUE TO BE ENFORCED BY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT," MRS IP SAID.

FURTHER DETAILS OF THE AMENDING LEGISLATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED TO THE TRADE BY WAY OF A CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN CIRCULAR.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1990

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LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO SET UP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPT GAZETTED  
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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE SETTING UP OF A NEW INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (ESTABLISHMENT) BILL 1990 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID SETTING UP THE NEW DEPARTMENT WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO HONG KONG'S TRADING PARTNERS AND THE COMMERCIAL WORLD THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO PROTECT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS.

"IT WILL ALSO HELP ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND DESIGN IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE BILL PROPOSES TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY WHO WILL HEAD THE NEW DEPARTMENT AND TAKE OVER THE FUNCTIONS OF REGISTRAR OF PATENTS AND REGISTRAR OF TRADE MARKS FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEW DEPARTMENT WOULD BECOME THE FOCAL POINT OF ACTION FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION REGIME WHICH, IN DUE COURSE, SHOULD INCLUDE NEW LEGISLATION ON COPYRIGHT AND PATENTS; THE INTRODUCTION OF A REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR SERVICE MARKS; AND THE STRENGTHENING OF PROTECTION FOR INTEGRATED CIRCUITS AND INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS.

"THE NEW DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROMOTION OF PUBLIC AWARENESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION," HE SAID.

THE BILL CONTAINS PROVISIONS TO ENSURE CONTINUITY OF WORK ON THE TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT TO THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT.

"IT IS OUR AIM TO FORMALLY ESTABLISH THE NEW DEPARTMENT ON JULY 2," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL IS EXPECTED TO INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 9.

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EXPORT LICENSING CONTROL ON CHEMICAL

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A PRINCIPAL TRADE OFFICER OF THE TRADE DEPARTMENT, MR FRED LEUNG, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT, WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 30, TRIS-ETHANOLAMINE, A CHEMICAL CAPABLE OF BEING USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF TOXICOLOGICAL AGENTS FOR MILITARY USE, WILL BE BROUGHT UNDER EXPORT LICENSING CONTROL.

THE CONTROL ON TRIS-ETHANOLAMINE IS IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING EXPORT LICENSING CONTROL ON 14 OTHER CHEMICALS WHICH STARTED IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

DETAILS ARE SET OUT IN THE IMPORT AND EXPORT (GENERAL) REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT OF SECOND SCHEDULE) (NO. 2) ORDER 1990 WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

MR LEUNG SAID THE CHANGE WAS PART OF CONTINUING EFFORTS BY THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS.

"CONTROL ON THE EXPORT OF A NUMBER OF CHEMICALS IS BASICALLY A PREVENTIVE MEASURE. AT PRESENT, THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT TRADE THROUGH HONG KONG HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROBLEM OF PROLIFERATION," MR LEUNG SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT IS INFORMING THE TRADE, BY CIRCULAR LETTER, OF DETAILS OF THE ARRANGEMENT. ENQUIRIES MAY BE MADE WITH THE TRADE LICENSING (NON-TEXTILES) BRANCH, TRADE DEPARTMENT, OCEAN CENTRE, 13TH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON (TELEPHONE NUMBERS 737 2504 OR 737 2516).

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BERTHING FACILITIES AT CHINA FERRY TERMINAL TO BE MAXIMISED

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO MAXIMISE UTILISATION OF BERTHING FACILITIES AT THE CHINA FERRY TERMINAL IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

AUTHORISATION HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF 70 METRES OF NEW BREAKWATER AND 95 METRES OF EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING ONE AND TO DEMOLISH 107 METRES OF AN EXISTING BREAKWATER WITHIN AN AREA OF APPROXIMATELY 2.2 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED.

THE EXTENT OF THE AFFECTED AREA IS DESCRIBED IN THE GAZETTE PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 26, 1991.

THE GAZETTE NOTICE, TOGETHER WITH THE RELATED PLANS, CAN BE SEEN AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND AT THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, 490-492 NATHAN ROAD, GROUND FLOOR, HOP FAT COMMERCIAL CENTRE, KOWLOON.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 1990

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1991 GENERAL HOLIDAYS LIST PUBLISHED

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THE FOLLOWING LIST OF GENERAL HOLIDAYS FOR 1991 WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY):

EVERY SUNDAY		
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY IN JANUARY	TUESDAY	JANUARY 1
THE DAY PRECEDING LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY	THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 14
LUNAR NEW YEAR'S DAY	FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 15
THE SECOND DAY OF LUNAR NEW YEAR	SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 16
GOOD FRIDAY	FRIDAY	MARCH 29
THE DAY FOLLOWING GOOD FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MARCH 30
EASTER MONDAY	MONDAY	APRIL 1
CHING MING FESTIVAL	FRIDAY	APRIL 5
THE BIRTHDAY OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN	SATURDAY	JUNE 15
THE MONDAY FOLLOWING THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY	MONDAY	JUNE 17
ADDITIONAL GENERAL HOLIDAY FOR TUEN NG FESTIVAL	TUESDAY	JUNE 18
THE SATURDAY PRECEDING THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST	SATURDAY	AUGUST 24
LIBERATION DAY, BEING THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST	MONDAY	AUGUST 26
THE DAY FOLLOWING THE CHINESE MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL	MONDAY	SEPTEMBER 23
CHUNG YEUNG FESTIVAL	WEDNESDAY	OCTOBER 16
CHRISTMAS DAY	WEDNESDAY	DECEMBER 25
THE FIRST WEEK-DAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY	THURSDAY	DECEMBER 26

"THE GOVERNOR HAS, UNDER THE HOLIDAYS ORDINANCE, APPOINTED TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 1991 AS AN ADDITIONAL GENERAL HOLIDAY FOR THE TUEN NG FESTIVAL WHICH FALLS ON SUNDAY, JUNE 16, 1991," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

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NEW FIRE STATION IN TUEN MUN

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SUB-DIVISIONAL FIRE STATION IN TUEN MUN.

THE STATION, TO BE LOCATED AT AREA 40, PILLAR POINT, WILL CONSIST OF A FOUR-STOREY BLOCK, A FOUR-BAY APPLIANCE ROOM AND A DRILL YARD.

FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED ALSO INCLUDE OFFICES, A DUTY/SERVICE ROOM, BARRACKS, A CANTEEN/RECREATION ROOM, A STORE/EQUIPMENT ROOM, A REFILLING STATION, AN UNDERGROUND OIL FUEL TANK CHAMBER, AND SERVICES MAIN AND CABLE DUCTS.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IS SCHEDULED TO START THIS JULY AND BE COMPLETED IN JULY NEXT YEAR.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON MAY 18.

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LAYOUT OF NEW ROADS IN DIAMOND HILL TO BE AMENDED

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO AMEND THE AUTHORISED LAYOUT OF A SERVICE ROAD AND AN ACCESS TO AN APPROACH RAMP TO THE TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL IN THE DIAMOND HILL AREA.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS INCLUDE:

- \* SHIFTING OF THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED SERVICE ROAD RUNNING PARALLEL TO LUNG CHEUNG ROAD NEAR LUNG POON COURT BY ABOUT SIX METRES NORTHWARDS;
- \* AMENDMENT TO THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED ALIGNMENT OF AN ACCESS TO RAMP X WITH THE INCORPORATION OF A DIRECT LINK FROM LUNG POON STREET;
- \* CONSTRUCTION OF A TEMPORARY FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS LUNG CHEUNG ROAD DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE REPROVISIONED ENTRANCE TO DIAMOND HILL MTR STATION;
- \* CLOSURE OF THE COMBINED ENTRANCE TO THE MTR DIAMOND HILL STATION AND THE SUBWAY ACROSS LUNG CHEUNG ROAD NEAR LUNG POON COURT; AND
- \* ASSOCIATED REVISION TO THE ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOOTPATH ALIGNMENTS AND LIMITS OF WORKS AREA.

A NOTICE OF THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- \* CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL ENQUIRY SUB-OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, MAIN ENTRANCE LOBBY, HONG KONG;
- \* KOWLOON EAST DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, YAU MA TEI CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH FLOOR, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON; AND
- \* WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, KING FUK STREET, SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON.

ANY PERSON WHO OBJECTS TO THE PROPOSAL MUST WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG BY JUNE 19 THIS YEAR.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN MAY  
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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 24 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

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

FOLLOWING ARE THE DATES AND TIMES THAT FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE:

DATE	TIME
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MAY 1 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 2 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 3 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
MAY 4 (FRIDAY)	12.01 AM - 11.59 PM
MAY 7 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 8 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 9 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 10 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 11 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 14 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 15 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 16 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 17 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 18 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 19 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 21 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 22 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 23 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 24 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 25 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
MAY 26 (SATURDAY)	12.01 AM - 5 PM
MAY 29 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
MAY 30 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
MAY 31 (THURSDAY)	12.01 AM - 5 PM

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APPLICATIONS FOR FLAG DAYS IN 1991 INVITED  
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ORGANISATIONS WISHING TO HOLD FLAG DAYS IN 1991 TO RAISE FUNDS TO FINANCE SERVICES WHICH THEY PROVIDE ARE INVITED TO APPLY TO THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT NOW. ABOUT 30 FLAG DAYS WILL BE ALLOCATED IN 1991.

AN SWD SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT APPLICANTS MUST BE BONA FIDE NON-PROFIT-MAKING ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 88 OF THE INLAND REVENUE ORDINANCE.

ALL APPLICANTS WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE SUBVENTIONS AND LOTTERIES FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE MERITS OF THE SERVICE OR SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR WHICH FUND-RAISING THROUGH A FLAG DAY WAS PROPOSED, THE APPLICANT ORGANISATION'S FINANCIAL NEEDS, AND THE ORGANISATION'S ABILITY TO EXECUTE SUCH FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES.

EXPLAINING THE ALLOCATION CRITERIA, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT EACH APPLICATION WOULD BE CONSIDERED BASICALLY IN THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS:

- \* AN ASSESSMENT OF THE MANAGEMENT CAPABILITY OF THE APPLICANT ORGANISATION. THIS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE PUBLIC COLLECTION OF MONEY IS INVOLVED;
- \* THE NATURE OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE ORGANISATION, AND THE DEMAND FOR SUCH FROM THE COMMUNITY;
- \* THE FINANCIAL NEED OF THE ORGANISATION BASED ON ITS ANNUAL BUDGET, OPERATING SURPLUS/DEFICITS, AVAILABILITY OF OTHER FUNDING RESOURCES, AND PLANNED PROJECTS; AND
- \* THE ORGANISATION'S ABILITY TO ORGANISE FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES AND TO MAXIMISE THE BENEFITS OF A FLAG DAY.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT EXPENSES IN CONNECTION WITH A FLAG DAY SHOULD NOT EXCEED 10 PER CENT OF THE GROSS RECEIPTS, AND THAT SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS NEED TO OBSERVE THE CONDITIONS FOR HOLDING FLAG DAYS LAID DOWN BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

APPLICATION FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WORLD TRADE CENTRE, 280 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG, FROM TUESDAY (MAY 1) IN PERSON OR IN WRITING.

THE COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM, TOGETHER WITH A COPY OF THE ORGANISATION'S LATEST ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF AUDITED ACCOUNTS, MUST REACH THE DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE JUNE 9 THIS YEAR. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS WILL BE INFORMED BY SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

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EDUCATION CAMPAIGN FOR AIR-CONDITIONER USERS

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A TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGN AIMED AT EDUCATING AIR-CONDITIONER USERS TO KEEP THEIR UNITS IN GOOD ORDER SO AS TO AVOID CAUSING NUISANCE TO OTHERS, WILL BE LAUNCHED ON TUESDAY, MAY 1.

THE CAMPAIGN, ENTITLED "GET YOUR AIR-CONDITIONERS READY FOR THE SUMMER", IS RUN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE URBAN COUNCIL AND REGIONAL COUNCIL. IT WILL LAST THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF MAY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THAT ALTHOUGH AIR CONDITIONING UNITS BROUGHT COMFORT TO LIFE, THEY MIGHT, AT SOME TIME, CAUSE NUISANCE TO NEIGHBOURS AS A RESULT OF WATER DRIPPING AND EMISSION OF EXCESSIVE HEAT OR NOISE.

"COMPLAINTS AGAINST THESE KINDS OF NUISANCE ARE PARTICULARLY COMMON DURING THE HOT SUMMER MONTHS," HE ADDED. "HOWEVER, THEY CAN BE AVOIDED BY TAKING PROPER PRECAUTIONS."

DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, A 24-HOUR TELEPHONE HOTLINE, 723 0013, WILL PROVIDE ADVICE IN CANTONESE ON HOW SUCH NUISANCE COULD BE PREVENTED.

A TELEVISION API (ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST) WILL ALSO BE SCREENED TO AROUSE PUBLIC AWARENESS.

FURTHERMORE, EDUCATIONAL LITERATURE SUCH AS ADVISORY LETTERS, POSTERS AND LEAFLETS, WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS AND LARGE PRIVATE HOUSING PROJECTS, OWNERS' INCORPORATION, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND SUPPLIERS OF AIR-CONDITIONERS.

PUBLICITY LEAFLETS ARE ALSO OBTAINABLE FROM THE DISTRICT OFFICES (ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE) OF THE URBAN SERVICES AND REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENTS AS WELL AS DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION.

TO AVOID CAUSING NUISANCE TO AND COMPLAINTS BY NEIGHBOURS, THE SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO AIR-CONDITIONER USERS TO TAKE THE FOLLOWING MEASURES:

- \* CHOOSE A SUITABLE AND LESS NOISY TYPE OF AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT APART FROM CONSIDERING ITS THERMAL CAPACITY WHEN MAKING A PURCHASE;
- \* CHOOSE A SUITABLE POSITION WHICH SHOULD BE FARTHEST POSSIBLE FROM THE NEIGHBOURING RESIDENCE FOR THE INSTALLATION OF THE AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT;
- \* IN CASE WATER DRIPS FROM THE AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT, DO PROVIDE UNDERNEATH A COLLECTING BASIN WHICH SHOULD BE FITTED WITH A RUBBER HOSE TO CONVEY THE DRIP TO PROPER DRAINAGE; AND

/\* AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS .....

\* AIR-CONDITIONING UNITS SHOULD BE REGULARLY MAINTAINED.

UNDER THE LAW, LETTING AN AIR-CONDITIONING UNIT DRIP OR EMIT EXCESSIVE HEAT IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO CAUSE NUISANCE IS AN OFFENCE AND IS LIABLE TO A FINE OF UP TO \$10,000.

THERE ARE ALSO PROVISIONS IN THE NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE ON THE CONTROL OF NOISE NUISANCE CAUSED BY AIR-CONDITIONERS.

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COMIC BOOKLET TO PROMOTE FIGHT CRIME MESSAGE

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THE COMICS WORLD WILL HAVE A NEW MEMBER NEXT WEEK IN THE FORM OF A FIGHT CRIME CAMPAIGN PUBLICITY ITEM.

JOINTLY PUBLISHED BY THE POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH AND THE DENON STUDIO, THE FIGHT CRIME COMIC BOOKLET NO. 2 WILL BE AVAILABLE, FREE OF CHARGE, AT ALL DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICES FROM MONDAY (APRIL 30).

A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY): "THE 32-PAGE CHINESE COMIC BOOK IS TARGETTED AT YOUNGSTERS AGED 10 TO 14.

"IN ADDITION TO AN INTERESTING STORY AND THE RIGHT INGREDIENTS FOR LIGHT-HEARTED READING, IT ALSO CARRIES AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE - UNRULY BEHAVIOUR CAN EASILY LEAD TO CRIMINAL ACTS," HE SAID.

"CRIMINAL OFFENCES RUIN LIVES. THEREFORE, IT IS OUR INTENTION TO WARN YOUNG READERS OF SUCH DANGER IN HOOLIGANISM."

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT A SPECIAL LAUNCHING EXERCISE FOR THE BOOKLET WILL BE HELD AT THE CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING, ON SUNDAY (APRIL 29).

BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4 PM, ADVANCED COPIES OF THE BOOKLET AND MATCHING BOOKMARKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED. AT THE SAME TIME, THE "ROBOTCOP" WILL TEAM UP WITH TWO PRESENTERS FROM THE JUNIOR POLICE CALL TELEVISION PROGRAMME TO PLAY HOSTS TO THE CHILDREN, HE SAID.

THE FUNCTION IS OPEN TO ALL AND PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO BRING ALONG THEIR CHILDREN ON SUNDAY TO MEET THE "ROBOTCOP" AND TO GET A SOUVENIR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EXERCISE TO PROMOTE THE FIGHT CRIME COMIC BOOKLET TO BE HELD FROM 2 PM TO 4 PM ON SUNDAY (APRIL 29) ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF CITYPLAZA, TAIKOO SHING.

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