



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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STATEMENT ON ICAC CASE

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TODAY (FRIDAY):

MR ALEX TSUI MADE A NUMBER OF UNSUBSTANTIATED ALLEGATIONS WHEN HE GAVE EVIDENCE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SECURITY PANEL ON APRIL 14.

IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EVERY UNFOUNDED CHARGE IN DETAIL WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE CONFIDENTIALITY WHICH IS ESSENTIAL TO THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION'S (ICAC) WORK - FOR EXAMPLE TO ENSURE CO-OPERATION FROM THE PUBLIC IN PASSING ON INFORMATION ABOUT CORRUPTION.

BUT THERE ARE THREE POINTS THAT MUST BE MADE.

FIRST, THERE HAS BEEN NO POLITICISATION OF THE ICAC ROLE. THERE ARE NO POLITICAL LISTS OR POLITICAL TARGETS. THIS HAS NEVER HAPPENED, NOR WILL IT HAPPEN.

INDEED SUCH OPERATIONS BY THE ICAC WOULD BE TOTALLY UNLAWFUL GIVEN THE STATUTORY TERMS OF REFERENCE UNDER WHICH THE COMMISSION OPERATES.

SECOND, CONCERNS HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED IN THE MEDIA AND BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ABOUT SOME OF MR TSUI'S ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING THE USE OF ICAC POWERS AND ICAC PROCEDURES.

THE GOVERNOR APPOINTED THE ICAC REVIEW COMMITTEE IN FEBRUARY TO CONSIDER THESE GENERAL ISSUES. AMONG THE MATTERS WHICH THE COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE ICAC FOR INTEGRITY CHECKING.

THE ADMINISTRATION LOOKS FORWARD TO RECEIVING THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT IN DUE COURSE AND WILL OF COURSE MAKE IT PUBLIC.

THIRD, EVERY ICAC INVESTIGATION IS MONITORED BY THE ICAC OPERATIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE. THERE ARE 12 MEMBERS OF THE OPERATIONS REVIEW COMMITTEE OF WHOM EIGHT ARE FROM OUTSIDE THE ADMINISTRATION.

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PUBLIC ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994

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THE GOVERNMENT IS INTRODUCING LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO MODIFY AND UPDATE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC ORDER ORDINANCE, IN PARTICULAR THOSE RELATING TO PUBLIC GATHERINGS.

"WE ARE AWARE OF COMMUNITY FEELINGS ABOUT PUBLIC ORDER AND ABOUT THE POWERS OF THE POLICE TO REGULATE PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PROCESSIONS TO MAINTAIN GOOD ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY.

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"WE HAVE REVIEWED THE PUBLIC ORDER ORDINANCE AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND AND HAVE COME UP WITH A SET OF PROPOSALS TO ENSURE THAT THE ORDINANCE CAN ADEQUATELY MEET PRESENT DAY NEEDS," SAID A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN WHEN COMMENTING ON THE PUBLIC ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994, GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE BILL ADDRESSED CRITICISMS THAT THE PROVISIONS FOR REGULATING PUBLIC GATHERINGS WERE INFLEXIBLE, CUMBERSOME AND DIFFICULT FOR THE POLICE TO ENFORCE.

"THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS SHOULD BALANCE INDIVIDUAL'S RIGHTS TO FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY AND SPEECH WITH THE RIGHT OF THE COMMUNITY TO PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL SPECIFIES THE GENERAL CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS COVERING THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PROCESSIONS IN THE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCE, INSTEAD OF IN SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION.

IT ALSO SPELLS OUT, MORE CLEARLY, THE PROCEDURES FOR ORGANISERS OF PUBLIC GATHERINGS TO FOLLOW.

"THIS WILL MAKE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF GOOD ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY EASIER TO UNDERSTAND," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

REFLECTING THE IMPROVED STANDARDS OF POLICE MOBILITY AND COMMUNICATIONS, THE BILL PROPOSES TO REVISE THE THRESHOLDS FOR REQUIRING NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC MEETINGS IN THE OPEN FROM 30 TO 50 PERSONS, AND PUBLIC MEETINGS IN PRIVATE PREMISES FROM 200 TO 500 PERSONS.

"SIMILARLY THE THRESHOLD FOR REGULATION OF PUBLIC PROCESSIONS WILL BE RAISED FROM 20 PERSONS TO 30 PERSONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL ALSO SETS OUT THE GROUNDS ON WHICH THE POLICE CAN PROHIBIT, OR IMPOSE CONDITIONS, IN RESPECT OF THE HOLDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS OR PROCESSIONS.

"GIVEN THE CLARIFICATION OF THE POLICE POWERS, THE BILL PROPOSES TO REPLACE THE PREVIOUS REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LICENSING OF PUBLIC PROCESSIONS, WHICH IS CUMBERSOME AND BUREAUCRATIC, WITH A REQUIREMENT FOR ADVANCE NOTIFICATION WHICH ALREADY EXISTS FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS," HE SAID.

CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE DESIGNATION OF CLOSED AREAS BY THE GOVERNOR, POLICE POWERS ON STOP AND SEARCH, AND REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE IDENTIFICATION WILL BE REVISED.

OPPORTUNITY IS ALSO TAKEN TO REPEAL A PROVISION UNDER THE SUMMARY OFFENCES ORDINANCE WHICH DEALS WITH THE REQUIREMENT FOR A POLICE PERMIT FOR THE USE OF LOUDHAILERS IN PUBLIC PLACES.

"THE NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE CAN ALREADY ADEQUATELY COVER THE PREVENTION OF NUISANCE WHILE THE PROVISIONS IN THE PUBLIC ORDER ORDINANCE ALSO COVER SUFFICIENTLY PUBLIC ORDER CONCERNS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE PUBLIC ORDER (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994 IS SCHEDULED FOR INTRODUCTION INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON APRIL 20.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1994

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AMENDMENT BILL ON AIRCRAFT NOISE CONTROL

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO REQUIRE AIRCRAFT LANDING AND TAKING OFF AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO CONFORM TO MORE STRINGENT AIRCRAFT NOISE STANDARDS.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS ARE CONTAINED IN THE CIVIL AVIATION (AIRCRAFT NOISE) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994 GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LATER THIS MONTH.

UNDER THE CIVIL AVIATION (AIRCRAFT NOISE) ORDINANCE THE OPERATORS OF AIRCRAFT LANDING AND TAKING OFF AT THE AIRPORT MUST PRODUCE RECOGNISED CERTIFICATION, OR OTHER DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE SHOWING THAT THE AIRCRAFT COMPLIES WITH NOISE STANDARDS SET DOWN IN CHAPTER 2 OF ANNEX 16 TO THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION.

CHAPTER 3 OF THE ANNEX PRESCRIBES MORE STRINGENT STANDARDS THAN THOSE IN CHAPTER 2 WHICH, GENERALLY SPEAKING, CAN ONLY BE MET BY NEWER MODELS OF AIRCRAFT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID THAT SOME 90 PER CENT OF THE AIRCRAFT USING THE AIRPORT, ON A REGULAR BASIS, ALREADY CONFORMED TO THE HIGHER CHAPTER 3 STANDARDS.

"ENACTMENT OF THE AMENDMENT BILL WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR A PROGRESSIVE PHASING OUT OF THE NOISIER TYPES OF AIRCRAFT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES ISSUED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION," HE SAID.

SPECIFICALLY, THE BILL WILL PROVIDE THE GOVERNOR WITH POWERS TO PROHIBIT AIRCRAFT WHICH FAIL TO MEET CHAPTER 3 NOISE STANDARDS FROM LANDING AND TAKING OFF IN HONG KONG.

IN THE FIRST PHASE, ALL AIRCRAFT ON THE HONG KONG REGISTER OR OWNED, OPERATED, OR LEASED BY HONG KONG INDIVIDUALS OR COMPANIES WILL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY. THE REQUIREMENT WILL BE EXTENDED TO ALL AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING FOREIGN AIRCRAFT, AT A LATER DATE.

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SECRETARY APPOINTED TO WHITEHEAD INQUIRY

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF MR ANTHONY BENNETT AS SECRETARY TO AN INQUIRY INTO LAST THURSDAY'S OPERATION IN THE WHITEHEAD DETENTION CENTRE. MR BENNETT WILL BE GIVEN ALL THE SUPPORT STAFF REQUIRED.

UNTIL RECENTLY, MR BENNETT WAS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINED SERVICES.

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MEANWHILE, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE SOUGHT TREATMENT FOR INJURIES CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN SUSTAINED DURING THE OPERATION NOW STANDS AT 250.

A TOTAL OF 54 COMPLAINTS OF USE OF UNNECESSARY FORCE DURING THE OPERATION HAVE BEEN RECEIVED TO DATE.

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STI SIGNS URUGUAY ROUND FINAL ACT

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T H CHAU, TODAY (FRIDAY) JOINED OVER 120 OTHER MINISTERS IN SIGNING THE FINAL ACT THAT EMBODIES THE RESULTS OF THE URUGUAY ROUND TRADE NEGOTIATIONS.

"THIS FORMALLY ENDS ALMOST EIGHT YEARS OF TRADE NEGOTIATIONS," SAID MR CHAU IN MARRAKESH, MOROCCO, AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY.

"IT IS THE MOST AMBITIOUS AND BROAD-RANGING INTERNATIONAL TRADE AGREEMENT EVER SIGNED, REPRESENTING A MILESTONE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM."

MR CHAU ALSO SIGNED THE AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH THE NEW WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION (WTO), SUBJECT TO FORMAL RATIFICATION BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL.

"WE HOPE TO SEE THE WTO START ON JANUARY 1, 1995," MR CHAU SAID. "IT WILL HAVE A SIMILAR STATUS TO THE IMF AND WORLD BANK. IT WILL HAVE A BROADER SCOPE AND A MORE AUTHORITATIVE DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM THAN THE GATT HAS EVER HAD. WE HAVE LAID THE FOUNDATION TODAY OF WHAT WILL SURELY BECOME ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS."

IN ADDITION TO BILATERAL MEETINGS HELD EARLIER IN THE WEEK WITH THAILAND, CANADA, MEXICO, THE EUROPEAN UNION AND CHINA, MR CHAU HAS RECENTLY HELD MEETINGS WITH INDIA'S MINISTER FOR COMMERCE, PRANAB MUKHERJEE, THE PHILIPPINES' SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, RIZALINO NAVARRO, AUSTRALIA'S MINISTER OF TRADE, SENATOR BOB MCMULLAN AND BRAZIL'S MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS, CELSO AMORIM.

THESE BILATERALS WERE LARGELY FOCUSED ON GETTING THE NEWLY AGREED ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND ON NEW ISSUES WHICH THE WTO AND THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE SETTING WOULD HAVE TO ADDRESS.

TODAY IS THE FINAL DAY OF THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN MARRAKESH, MOROCCO. THE PROGRAMME WILL END WITH AN EVENING RECEPTION FOR VISITING MINISTERS HOSTED BY HIS MAJESTY KING HASSAN II OF MOROCCO IN THE ROYAL PALACE.

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SPEL MEETS PRIVATE DEVELOPERS

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THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, TODAY (FRIDAY) MET REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION TO DISCUSS LAND SUPPLY AND PROPERTY PRICES.

THE MEETING MARKED THE START OF THE PROCESS OF SOUNDING OUT THE PUBLIC AND RELEVANT GROUPS AT THE EARLIEST STAGE OF A TASK FORCE'S WORK TO LOOK INTO THE LAND SUPPLY AND PROPERTY PRICE SITUATION AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR.

MR EASON SAID: "WE HAVE HAD A USEFUL DISCUSSION TODAY ON WHAT PRIVATE DEVELOPERS AND GOVERNMENT CAN DO IN BOTH THE SHORT AND LONG TERM TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION."

"THESE IDEAS INCLUDE WAYS BY WHICH PRIVATE DEVELOPERS CAN BUILD MORE FLATS AND RELEASE THEM ONTO THE MARKET AT A FASTER PACE THROUGH NEW DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT.

"I WILL ALSO BE SEEKING VIEWS FROM THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE, LEGCO MEMBERS AND OTHER GROUPS IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.

"WE WILL BE MONITORING PUBLIC VIEWS CLOSELY, INCLUDING THOSE EXPRESSED IN THE MEDIA, AND CONSIDERING ALL POSSIBLE OPTIONS IN BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM TO MODERATE PROPERTY PRICES," HE SAID.

UNDER MR EASON'S CHAIRMANSHIP, THE HIGH-POWERED TASK FORCE IS EXPECTED TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR WITHIN THE NEXT TWO TO THREE MONTHS.

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FIGHTING SUBSTANDARD SHIPPING AT REGIONAL LEVEL

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HONG KONG WILL MAKE USE OF A REGIONAL DATA INFORMATION EXCHANGE SYSTEM ON SHIP INSPECTIONS TO ENHANCE ITS PORT STATE CONTROL INSPECTION, THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR ALLAN PYRKE, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SYSTEM MATERIALISED AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE PORT STATE CONTROL COMMITTEE OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON PORT STATE CONTROL IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION HELD IN BEIJING.

THE COMMITTEE WAS SET UP TO COMBAT THE GROWING THREAT OF SUBSTANDARD SHIPPING OPERATING IN THE REGION.

MR PYRKE AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MARINE (SHIPPING), MR JOHN TSE, REPRESENTED HONG KONG AT THE MEETING.

HONG KONG IS ONE OF THE 15 REGIONAL MARITIME AUTHORITIES THAT HAS ACCEPTED THE PROVISIONS OF THE TOKYO MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (TOKYO MOU) AGREED UPON IN TOKYO IN DECEMBER 1993.

"MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE WILL HAVE ACCESS TO INFORMATION SYSTEM AND TO DETERMINE WHICH SHIPS ENTERING THEIR JURISDICTION SHOULD BE TARGETED FOR INSPECTION BASED ON DATA FROM THE SYSTEM.

"RESULTS OF THE INSPECTIONS WILL THEN BE PUT INTO THE SYSTEM TO MAINTAIN AN UP-TO-DATE RECORD," MR PYRKE SAID.

"REGIONAL PORT STATE CONTROL ORGANISATIONS WILL SOON HOLD TALKS TO DISCUSS THE EXCHANGE OF INTER-REGIONAL INFORMATION," MR PYRKE ADDED.

"SUCH A DEVELOPMENT WOULD CONSIDERABLY ENHANCE THE GLOBAL EFFECTIVENESS OF PORT STATE CONTROL BY ENSURING THAT THE TRADING OPTIONS OPEN TO SUBSTANDARD TONNAGE TO EVADE PORT STATE CONTROL INSPECTION ARE FURTHER RESTRICTED," HE SAID.

TURNING TO OTHER AGREEMENTS REACHED AT THE MEETING, MR PYRKE SAID THE COMMITTEE WOULD COMPILE A SURVEYOR MANUAL AND A STRATEGY FOR SURVEYOR TRAINING TO ENSURE THAT A HARMONISED SYSTEM OF PORT STATE CONTROL INSPECTION IS ESTABLISHED IN THE REGION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

TO SPEED UP THE PROJECTS, JAPAN HAS UNDERTAKEN TO FUND A NUMBER OF REGIONAL TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANT PROGRAMMES.

THE COMMITTEE HAS ALSO AGREED TO SET UP AN OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR THE FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE TOKYO MOU AND START TO ADDRESS THE MANY TECHNICAL ISSUES INVOLVED TO ENSURE THAT A VIABLE, CREDIBLE PORT STATE CONTROL REGIME IS IMPLEMENTED WITHOUT DELAY, MR PYRKE NOTED.

THE COMMITTEE WILL IN FUTURE HOLD ITS MEETING APPROPRIATELY EVERY NINE MONTHS. THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA IN JANUARY 1995. AFTER THAT HONG KONG WILL HOST ANOTHER MEETING IN THE LATTER PART OF 1995.

MR PYRKE SAID THE MEETING ARRANGEMENTS SHOWED THE COMMITMENT OF ALL MEMBERS TO CONTINUE THEIR FIGHT AGAINST POORLY MAINTAINED AND OPERATED SHIP TRADING IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.

AUSTRALIA, CANADA, CHINA, HONG KONG, JAPAN, KOREA, MALAYSIA, NEW ZEALAND, SINGAPORE AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA HAVE ACCEPTED THE PROVISIONS OF THE TOKYO MOU.

MARITIME AUTHORITIES OF INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SOLOMON ISLANDS AND THAILAND ARE WAITING APPROVAL FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS.

THE INAUGURAL MEETING WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED EARLIER THIS WEEK BY CHINA'S VICE-MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, MADAME ZHENG GUANGDI.

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE SHIP SAFETY DIRECTORATE OF THE CANADIAN COAST GUARD, MR MICHAEL HUBBARD, WHO WAS ALSO ELECTED TO BE THE CHAIRMAN FOR THE NEXT TWO MEETINGS.

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TAKING PART IN THE MEETING AS OBSERVERS WERE THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION, THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, THE PARIS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON PORT STATE CONTROL, THE MARITIME AUTHORITIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF VANUATU.

THE TOKYO MOU RECENTLY SET UP ITS SECRETARIAT IN TOKYO WITH FORMER ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL AT INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANISATION, MR YOSHIO SASAMURA, HEADING THE OFFICE.

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INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION FOR 1993 FALLS SLIGHTLY

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THE INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION LAST YEAR DECREASED SLIGHTLY BY 0.8% OVER 1992, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OUTPUT OF THE PAPER PRODUCTS AND PRINTING INDUSTRY GROUP CONTINUED TO SURGE BY 12.8%.

THE BROAD INDUSTRY GROUP OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, MACHINERY, PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT AND OPTICAL GOODS REGISTERED A MODERATE INCREASE OF 2.6%. BUT THE PERFORMANCE OF INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES WITHIN THE GROUP VARIED GREATLY.

WHILE THE PRODUCTION OF MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, PARTS AND COMPONENTS INCREASED BY 12.7%, THAT OF CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS DROPPED BY 7.9%.

THE PRODUCTION OF THE FOOD, BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO INDUSTRY GROUP AND THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY INCREASED BY 2.6% AND 1.8% RESPECTIVELY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE BROAD INDUSTRY GROUPS OF CHEMICALS, RUBBER, PLASTIC AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS (-9.9%); BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (-9.4%); AND THE TEXTILES (INCLUDING KNITTING) INDUSTRY (-7.2%).

THE INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION RECORDED VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1993 WHEN COMPARED WITH BOTH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1992 AND THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993.

THE INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION REFLECTS CHANGES OF LOCAL MANUFACTURING OUTPUT IN REAL TERMS. IN OTHER WORDS, IT MEASURES THE VOLUME OF LOCAL PRODUCTION AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

MORE DETAILED INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE "REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, 4TH QUARTER 1993", WHICH IS ON SALE AT \$4 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, OR AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SECTION, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI. REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION MAY ALSO BE ARRANGED.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE GENERAL ECONOMIC SURVEYS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT ON TEL 839 3238.

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Indices of industrial production by broad industry group and
selected industry group
(1986 = 100)

Broad industry group / Selected industry group	Index for 4th Qtr. 1993	% change over		Percentage change in the index for 1993 as a whole over that for 1992
		4th Qtr. 1992	3rd Qtr. 1993	
1. Food, beverages and tobacco	187	+8.1	+19.9	+2.6
2. Wearing apparel, except footwear	131	+7.4	+5.6	+1.8
3. Textiles (including knitting)	131	-2.2	-1.5	-7.2
4. Paper products and printing	258	+2.0	-18.6	+12.8
5. Chemicals, rubber, plastic and non-metallic mineral products	73	-11.0	-3.9	-9.9
-- Plastic products	(52)	(-20.0)	(-13.3)	(-15.4)
6. Basic metals and fabricated metal products	99	-6.6	+3.9	-9.4
-- Fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment	(99)	(-3.9)	(-2.0)	(-8.7)
7. Electrical and electronic products, machinery, professional equipment and optical goods	171	-0.6	+4.3	+2.6
-- Consumer electrical and electronic products	(113)	(-17.5)	(-7.4)	(-7.9)
-- Machinery, equipment, apparatus, parts and components	(257)	(+8.0)	(+8.4)	(+12.7)
8. Miscellaneous manufacturing industries	93	-6.1	-2.1	-9.3
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	136	*	*	-0.8

Notes : 1. Four selected industry groups, which carry relatively large weights and are major components of their respective broad industry groups, are also included in the above table. For easy reading, the figures of these selected industry groups are shown in brackets.

2. As from the first quarter of 1992, the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC) is used to form the industry groups and broad industry groups presented in the above table. For the exact coverage of the groups in terms of HSIC codes, please refer to the "Report on the Quarterly Index of Industrial Production, 4th Quarter 1993".

* Change within $\pm 0.05\%$.

ASIA BENEFITS FROM HK ANTI-DRUG EXPERIENCE

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HONG KONG IS A FOCAL POINT IN ASIA FOR STUDY TOURS AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON ALL ASPECTS OF DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING, THE COMMISSIONER FOR NARCOTICS, MR ALASDAIR SINCLAIR, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) IN LONDON.

HE WAS SPEAKING TO THE LONDON DIPLOMATS GROUP OF QUAKER PEACE AND SERVICE, ILLUSTRATING HOW HONG KONG'S EXPERIENCE COULD BE OF BENEFIT TO ITS NEIGHBOURS.

MR SINCLAIR CITED MONEY LAUNDERING AS AN EXAMPLE.

AHEAD OF JAPAN AND SINGAPORE, HONG KONG WAS THE FIRST PLACE IN ASIA TO ENACT LEGISLATION ON MONEY LAUNDERING IN 1989.

"AS THE ONLY JURISDICTION WITH SEVERAL YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF FIGHTING MONEY LAUNDERING IN ASIA, WE FEEL WE ARE UNIQUELY PLACED TO CONTRIBUTE PRACTICAL ADVICE," HE SAID.

"OUR POLICE FORCE RUNS A COURSE ON FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION EVERY YEAR FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES," THE COMMISSIONER NOTED.

HONG KONG'S CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE (CRDA) - THE COMPUTERISED DATABASE WHICH WAS SET UP IN 1976 - RECEIVED CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS ON DRUG ABUSERS FROM GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS, AND FORMED A SOLID FOUNDATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE POLICIES, HE ADDED.

"FEW OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE SUCH A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND WE BELIEVE IT MAY BE WITHOUT PARALLEL IN THE WORLD," MR SINCLAIR SAID.

"WE HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO CO-OPERATE WITH OUR ASIAN NEIGHBOURS IN HELPING THEM UNDERSTAND OUR CRDA SYSTEM.

"MACAU IS STARTING ITS OWN CENTRAL REGISTRY. CHINA IS ACTIVELY EXPLORING THE PRACTICALITIES. SO IS BRUNEI. AND WE UNDERSTAND MALAYSIA, THAILAND AND MYANMAR (BURMA) ARE ALSO INTERESTED," HE SAID.

TURNING TO DRUG ANALYSIS, HE SAID THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT LABORATORY WAS RECOGNISED AS A REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRE FOR THE TECHNIQUE.

"LAST YEAR, THE UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAMME (UNDCP) SENT FOUR SCIENTISTS, ALL FROM CHINA, TO OUR GOVERNMENT LABORATORY FOR THREE MONTHS' TRAINING," HE SAID.

MR SINCLAIR ALSO DISCLOSED THAT THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION AND UNDCP WOULD BE JOINTLY SPONSORING A TRAINING COURSE IN HONG KONG LATER IN THE YEAR ON THE PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE AND HIV INFECTION.

"BY SHARING EXPERIENCE AND ADOPTING A COMMON APPROACH WHERE THAT IS APPROPRIATE, COUNTRIES CAN BOOST THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THEIR DOMESTIC PROGRAMMES.

"WE RECOGNISE THIS IN HONG KONG AND ARE DOING WHAT WE CAN TO TEACH, LEARN, SHARE AND CO-OPERATE," THE COMMISSIONER SAID.

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EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1993

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COMPARING DECEMBER 1993 WITH THE SAME MONTH IN 1992, THERE WAS CONTINUED GROWTH IN EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID.

BUT EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECLINED FURTHER.

THIS MAINLY REFLECTED THE CONTINUED ORIENTATION OF THE ECONOMY TOWARDS SERVICES, ALONG WITH THE PROGRESSIVE RELOCATION OF INDUSTRIAL PROCESSES TO CHINA.

MEANWHILE, EMPLOYMENT ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ALSO FELL.

VACANCIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AND IN SOME SERVICES SECTORS FELL FURTHER COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER. BUT VACANCIES IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR AND ON CONSTRUCTION SITES REGISTERED INCREASES OF VARIOUS MAGNITUDES.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1992, THE AVERAGE EARNINGS OF PERSONS ENGAGED IN MOST MAJOR SECTORS CONTINUED TO SHOW FURTHER INCREASES IN MONEY TERMS IN DECEMBER 1993.

AFTER ADJUSTING FOR INFLATION, THERE WAS STILL AN INCREASE IN REAL TERMS IN THE AVERAGE EARNINGS OF PERSONS ENGAGED FOR SOME SECTORS, IN PARTICULAR THE MAJOR SERVICES SECTORS.

THERE WERE 483,600 PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN DECEMBER 1993, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 14.4% FROM DECEMBER 1992.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AT 948,900 IN DECEMBER 1993, WAS 3.7% HIGHER THAN IN DECEMBER 1992.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AT 338,100, WAS UP BY 7.5% OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

ON THE OTHER HAND, EMPLOYMENT ON CONSTRUCTION SITES (MANUAL WORKERS ONLY), AT 55,900, WAS 6.1% LOWER THAN IN DECEMBER 1992.

THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1993 IN SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS, COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1992 AND SEPTEMBER 1993, ARE:

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTOR	PERSONS ENGAGED (EMPLOYMENT)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
	DEC 92	SEPT 93	DEC 93	DEC 93 OVER DEC 92	DEC 93 OVER SEP 93
MANUFACTURING	565,100	508,100	483,600	-14.4	-4.8
CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	59,500	52,200	55,900	- 6.1	+7.0
WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	914,800	958,000	948,900	+ 3.7	-1.0
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	314,500	336,000	338,100	+ 7.5	+0.6

THE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS IN DECEMBER 1993 WERE DERIVED FROM THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL AND THE QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION SITES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

IN THE FORMER SURVEY, EMPLOYMENT IN THE RETAIL TRADE EXCLUDED HAWKERS AND PERSONS WORKING AT RETAIL PITCHES BUT INCLUDED THOSE WORKING IN MARKET STALLS.

THE TWO SURVEYS ALSO PROVIDE THE VACANCY STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS.

THE VACANCY FIGURES, TOGETHER WITH A COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1992 AND SEPTEMBER 1993, ARE:

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTOR	NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES			PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
	DEC 92	SEPT 93	DEC 93	DEC 93 OVER DEC 92	DEC 93 OVER SEP 93
MANUFACTURING	17,690	14,130	11,890	-32.8	-15.9
CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	480	550	540	+11.2	- 2.4

/WHOLESALE, RETAIL

WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	33,550	31,370	27,500	-18.0	-12.3
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	8,830	11,210	10,440	+18.3	- 6.9

COMPARING DECEMBER 1993 WITH DECEMBER 1992, VACANCIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AND IN THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR FELL BY 32.8% AND 18.0% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES INCREASED BY 18.3%.

VACANCIES ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ALSO RECORDED AN INCREASE OF 11.2% IN DECEMBER 1993 OVER A YEAR EARLIER.

THE DECEMBER 1993 NOMINAL INDICES OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS AND THE CORRESPONDING REAL INDICES (AFTER ALLOWING FOR THE EFFECTS OF PRICE CHANGES) ARE GIVEN BELOW:

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTOR	NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (MARCH 1991 =100)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE
	DEC 92	DEC 93	DEC 93 OVER DEC 92
MANUFACTURING	145.1	149.1	+ 2.8
WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	143.2	158.2	+10.5
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	148.2	176.4	+19.0

SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTOR	REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (MARCH 1991 =100)		PERCENTAGE CHANGE
	DEC 92	DEC 93	DEC 93 OVER DEC 92
MANUFACTURING	125.6	118.9	- 5.3
WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	124.0	126.2	+ 1.8

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FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	128.3	140.7	+ 9.7
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BETWEEN DECEMBER 1992 AND DECEMBER 1993, AVERAGE EARNINGS IN MOST MAJOR SECTORS, AS MEASURED BY PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED, INCREASED IN MONEY TERMS.

AN INCREASE OF 2.8% WAS REGISTERED IN THE NOMINAL INDEX FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

FOR THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 10.5%.

FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 19.0%.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT THE YEAR-ON-YEAR RATE OF INCREASE IN AVERAGE EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1993, ESPECIALLY THAT FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, WAS TO SOME EXTENT AFFECTED BY THE DIFFERENCE IN TIMING OF ISSUE OF YEAR-END BONUSES SHORTLY BEFORE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR, WHICH WAS IN FEBRUARY THIS YEAR BUT IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

IN OTHER WORDS, SOME ESTABLISHMENTS HAD ISSUED BONUSES IN DECEMBER 1992 BUT HAD NOT YET DONE SO IN DECEMBER 1993, THEREBY RESULTING IN THE HIGH BASE OF COMPARISON IN DECEMBER 1992, HE SAID.

AFTER DISCOUNTING FOR THE INCREASE IN CONSUMER PRICES BETWEEN DECEMBER 1992 AND DECEMBER 1993, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN DECEMBER 1993, AS COMPARED WITH THAT IN DECEMBER 1992, INCREASED BY 1.8% FOR THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AND 9.7% FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED DECREASED BY 5.3%.

DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS, DECEMBER 1993 AND THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, DECEMBER 1993.

THEY ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT \$17 A COPY AND \$10.5 A COPY RESPECTIVELY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, HONG KONG AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1994

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DR MICHAEL LUK SELECTED HKIED ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR (ADMIN)
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THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNING COUNCIL (PGC) OF THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION (HKIED) TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED THE SELECTION OF DR MICHAEL LUK YAN-LUNG AS THE ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE INSTITUTE.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PGC, MR SIMON IP, SAID THE COUNCIL WAS IMPRESSED THAT DR LUK MET THE DEMANDING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE POST.

"DR LUK IS A WELL-RESPECTED SCHOLAR AND UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATOR. HIS DEEP KNOWLEDGE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS AND HIS MANAGEMENT SKILLS WILL BE MOST VALUABLE TO THE HKIED," MR IP SAID.

"DR LUK'S EXTENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL WILL SERVE TO COMPLEMENT THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM OF THE HKIED," HE ADDED.

DR LUK IS CURRENTLY A SENIOR LECTURER AT THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG (HKU).

IN ADDITION TO LECTURING AND RESEARCH DUTIES, HE HAS BEEN INVOLVED EXTENSIVELY IN FACULTY AND UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION, RANGING FROM FACULTY PLANNING AND STUDENT ADMISSION TO STAFF MATTERS.

HE WAS THE SUB-DEAN OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS OF HKU FROM 1985 TO 1988 AND HAS SERVED ON A LARGE NUMBER OF UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES.

DR LUK RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR'S AND MASTER'S DEGREE FROM HKU AND WAS AWARDED A DOCTORAL DEGREE BY THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO IN 1982.

HE IS AGED 46 AND IS MARRIED.

DR LUK IS EXPECTED TO TAKE UP HIS NEW APPOINTMENT AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AND HOPEFULLY BEFORE MID-1994.

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DRAINAGE CHANNEL TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING
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CONSTRUCTION OF A MAIN DRAINAGE CHANNEL IN YUEN LONG AND KAM TIN WILL BEGIN LATER THIS MONTH, AIMING TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING HAZARD IN THE AREAS.

THE CHANNEL WILL STRETCH ACROSS FISH POND AREAS FROM THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD AT HUNG MO KIU TO SHAN PUI RIVER ADJACENT TO LUT CHAU.

THE \$283 MILLION CONTRACT WAS SIGNED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF DRAINAGE SERVICES (PROJECTS AND DEVELOPMENT), MR TSE HON-SUM, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTRACTOR, TOBISHIMA CORPORATION.

/IT FORMS

IT FORMS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE DRAINAGE PROJECT TO ALLEVIATE FLOODING HAZARD IN THE YUEN LONG AND KAM TIN CATCHMENTS.

THE WORKS INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A THREE-KILOMETRE DRAINAGE CHANNEL WITH A BASE WIDTH OF 110 METRES TO 140 METRES, THE ASSOCIATED EMBANKMENTS AND ACCESS ROADS, AS WELL AS THE MODIFICATION OF THE MASONRY LINING OF THE EXISTING CHANNEL NEAR HUNG MO KIU.

OTHER WORKS INVOLVE THE LAYING OF STORMWATER DRAINAGE SYSTEMS AND WATER MAINS, LANDSCAPING AND OTHER ASSOCIATED ANCILLARY WORKS.

THE WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON APRIL 28 FOR COMPLETION IN 36 MONTHS.

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LICENCE FEES TO BE REVISED

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LICENCE FEES COVERING LOTTERIES, TOMBOLAS, GAMES OF AMUSEMENT WITH PRIZES AND TRADE PROMOTION COMPETITIONS WILL BE INCREASED BY ABOUT 10 PER CENT FROM MAY 19 THIS YEAR.

REGISTRATION FEES FOR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS AND NEWS AGENCIES AS WELL AS LICENCE FEES FOR NEWSPAPER DISTRIBUTORS WILL ALSO GO UP BY THE SAME RATE.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (FRIDAY), A HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO SET FEES AT A LEVEL GENERALLY SUFFICIENT TO RECOVER THE FULL COSTS OF PROVIDING THESE SERVICES.

HE ALSO STRESSED THAT THE REVISED FEES WOULD NOT SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE OPERATING COSTS OF THOSE AFFECTED.

CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS, HE SAID, WILL CONTINUE TO QUALIFY FOR A WAIVER OR REDUCTION OF THE FEES UNDER THE GAMBLING REGULATION.

THE ADJUSTMENTS, CONTAINED SEPARATELY UNDER THE GAMBLING (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1994, THE NEWSPAPERS REGISTRATION AND DISTRIBUTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1994 AND THE NEWS AGENCIES REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) REGULATION 1994, WERE GAZETTED TODAY.

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CIGARETTE TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS STABLE

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THE AVERAGE TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS PER CIGARETTE AMONG THE 106 BEST-SELLING CIGARETTES IN HONG KONG BETWEEN JANUARY AND DECEMBER 1993 WERE 13.3 MILLIGRAMS (MG) AND 0.82 MG RESPECTIVELY, ACCORDING TO THE GOVERNMENT'S LATEST REVIEW OF TAR AND NICOTINE YIELDS OF CIGARETTES.

THEY WERE SIMILAR TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S RESULTS.

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1994

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RELEASING THE FINDINGS OF THE REVIEW TODAY (FRIDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN REPEATED AN APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC NOT TO SMOKE.

ACCORDING TO THE REVIEW, 23 BRANDS OF CIGARETTES WERE CLASSIFIED IN THE LOW TAR GROUP, 30 IN THE LOW TO MIDDLE TAR GROUP, 40 IN THE MIDDLE TAR GROUP AND 13 IN THE HIGH TAR GROUP.

THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF TAR OBTAINED WAS 19 MG PER CIGARETTE AND THAT OF NICOTINE WAS 1.3 MG PER CIGARETTE.

"THE LAW PROHIBITS THE SALE OF CIGARETTES WITH A TAR CONTENT EXCEEDING 20 MG PER CIGARETTE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"COMPARED WITH THE REVIEW A YEAR AGO, THERE WERE MORE CIGARETTES IN THE MIDDLE TAR GROUP IN THE MARKET."

THE REVIEW ALSO SHOWED THAT 25 BRANDS WERE FOUND TO HAVE BEEN LABELLED WITH TAR GROUPS INCONSISTENT WITH THE TEST FINDINGS - 22 SHOULD BE IN A HIGHER TAR GROUP AND THREE IN A LOWER GROUP.

"THESE DECLARED TAR GROUP DESIGNATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE CHANGED ACCORDINGLY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

IN ADDITION TO THE TAR GROUP DESIGNATION, CIGARETTE PACKETS MUST DISPLAY ONE OF THE FOUR HEALTH WARNINGS WHICH WERE INTRODUCED EARLIER THIS YEAR TO REMIND THE PUBLIC OF THE HAZARDS OF SMOKING.

THE FULL REVIEW WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL'S "CHOICE" MAGAZINE.

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SPECIAL POSTMARK COMMEMORATES BANK OF CHINA NOTES

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A SPECIAL POSTMARK WILL BE INTRODUCED ON MAY 2 TO COMMEMORATE THE FIRST ISSUE OF BANK NOTES IN HONG KONG BY THE BANK OF CHINA (HONG HONG BRANCH).

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MISS NANCY LAW.

HAND-BACK SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED ON THE DAY AT THE FOLLOWING SIX PHILATELIC OFFICES FOR SOUVENIR COVERS PRIVATELY MADE BY PHILATELISTS BEARING INDICATION OF THE OCCASION:

BEACONSFIELD HOUSE POST OFFICE
GENERAL POST OFFICE
GRANVILLE ROAD POST OFFICE
PEAK POST OFFICE
SHATIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE
TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE

/SERVICED SOUVENIR

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SERVICED SOUVENIR COVERS ISSUED BY THE BANK OF CHINA (HONG KONG BRANCH) WILL BE SOLD BY THE BANK STAFF AT \$5 PER COVER AT THE PUBLIC HALL OF THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON MAY 2.

EACH CUSTOMER CAN BUY ONLY FIVE SERVICED COVERS.

SERVICED COVERS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT ANY PHILATELIC OFFICES.

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WO TONG TSUI STREET TO BE WIDENED

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE WIDENING OF THE EXISTING WO TONG TSUI STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH TAI WO HAU ROAD AND KIN HONG STREET.

THE WORKS COMPRISE THE WIDENING OF THE EXISTING WO TONG TSUI STREET BETWEEN ITS JUNCTIONS WITH TAI WO HAU ROAD AND KIN HONG STREET, CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 160 METRES LONG RETAINING WALL AND LAYING OF WATERMAINS.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE WORKS, A MORE DURABLE AND WIDER ROAD WILL BE PROVIDED FOR THE LOCAL TRAFFIC.

THE ROAD WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE IN JULY THIS YEAR AND COMPLETE IN JULY 1995.

A NOTICE ON THE TENDER INVITATION WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM REGIONAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER/NEW TERRITORIES, HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT, THIRD FLOOR, ROOM 314, HO MAN TIN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 88 CHUNG HAU STREET, HO MAN TIN, KOWLOON. ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 762 3534.

TENDERS MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED AND ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC WORKS TENDER BOARD, AND PLACED IN THE PUBLIC WORKS TENDER BOX AT THE LIFT LOBBY ON THE 34TH FLOOR OF THE QUEENSWAY OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG, BEFORE NOON ON MAY 13. LATE TENDERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND WILL BE SUPERVISED BY THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1994

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APPOINTMENTS TO ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL ANNOUNCED

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THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE GOVERNOR HAS ESTABLISHED THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (HKADC) AND APPOINTED THE FOLLOWING PERSONS TO BE MEMBERS OF THE HKADC WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 15, 1994 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE:-

SIR JOSEPH HOTUNG, CHAIRMAN

MS CHRISTINE LOH KUNG-WAI, VICE-CHAIRMAN

DR CHAN WING-WAH

BENNY CHIA

VINCENT CHOW

DAVID ELDON

ANGUS FORSYTH

OSCAR HO

KAN TAI-KEUNG

MISS LEE MER

DR LEUNG PING-KWAN

RAYMOND LIU

LO KING-MAN

MS YIP WING-SIE

YU SHU-TAK

DANNY YUNG

THE CHAIRMAN, URBAN COUNCIL
OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE

THE CHAIRMAN, REGIONAL COUNCIL
OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE

THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE
OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION
OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE

ORIGINALLY, 16 MEMBERS WERE APPOINTED TO THE WORKING GROUP CHARGED WITH PREPARING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HKADC.

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE RECREATION AND CULTURE BRANCH SAID THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE HKADC HAS BEEN INCREASED TO 20 IN NUMBER IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT AN EVEN WIDER RANGE OF INTERESTS, SKILLS AND VIEWPOINTS WERE REPRESENTED.

THUS THE MEMBERSHIP INCLUDES PEOPLE DRAWN FROM THE FOLLOWING SECTORS: LITERARY ARTS; VISUAL ARTS; DRAMA; DANCE; MUSIC; ARTS ADMINISTRATION; ARTS EDUCATION; AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE ARTS AND CAN CONTRIBUTE USEFULLY TO THE COUNCIL'S WORK.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL IS INITIALLY BEING ESTABLISHED AS A NON-STATUTORY BODY TASKED WITH ADVISING THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, PENDING THE DRAFTING, PROCESSING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NECESSARY LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH THE COUNCIL AS AN INDEPENDENT STATUTORY BODY WITH EXECUTIVE POWERS, ITS OWN STAFF AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FUNDING.

"THE COUNCIL IS TASKED WITH PREPARING AND EXECUTING PLANS AND DOING ALL OTHER THINGS THAT ARE NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS MISSION TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS."

THE MISSION OF THE HKADC IS TO:-

- * PLAN AND PROMOTE THE BROAD DEVELOPMENT AND APPRECIATION OF AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS WITH A VIEW TO IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY, PLACING PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE LITERARY, PERFORMING AND VISUAL ARTS;
- * LIAISE AND WORK CLOSELY WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND EXISTING ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS THE URBAN AND REGIONAL COUNCILS, THE HONG KONG ACADEMY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, THE HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE AND OTHER INDEPENDENT BODIES INVOLVED IN THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS IN HONG KONG WHILST RESPECTING THEIR AUTONOMOUS POSITIONS;
- * ENGAGE IN SUCH ACTIVITIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS; AND
- * ENGAGE IN SUCH OTHER ACTIVITIES CONDUCIVE TO THE PLANNING, PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ARTS AS THE GOVERNOR MAY, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNCIL, PERMIT OR ASSIGN TO IT.

TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS, THE HKADC HAS BEEN TASKED WITH FORMULATING A CLEAR AND COHERENT STRATEGY FOR THE PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTION AND SUPPORT OF THE ARTS IN HONG KONG FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY.

THE COUNCIL IS TASKED WITH ADVISING THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE ON THE EXPENDITURE OF BOTH THE ANNUALLY RECURRENT BLOCK GRANT BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE SUBVENTION OF ARTS ACTIVITIES AND THE TWO CAPITAL GRANTS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT TO THE SIR DAVID TRENCH FUND FOR ARTS DEVELOPMENT.

THE COUNCIL IS ALSO TASKED WITH ADVISING AND ASSISTING THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE IN MATTERS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL ITSELF AS A STATUTORY BODY.

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CONSTRUCTION OF OUTFALL DIFFUSER PIPELINE
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AN OUTFALL DIFFUSER PIPELINE WILL BE CONSTRUCTED OFF THE WESTERN HARBOUR ANCHORAGE AREA TO CONVEY TREATED SEWAGE FOR DISCHARGE OFFSHORE.

DETAILS OF THE WORK, WHICH WILL START EARLY NEXT YEAR AND TAKE ABOUT 25 MONTHS TO COMPLETE, ARE DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE NOTICE AND A PLAN OUTLINING THE 13.6 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEA-BED WHICH WILL BE AFFECTED IN THE CONSTRUCTION ARE AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC VIEWING AT THE LANDS DEPARTMENT'S SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG, AND AT THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICES CENTRE, KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEA-BED INVOLVED WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE WORKS PROJECT CAN WRITE TO THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS TO CLAIM COMPENSATION ON OR BEFORE APRIL 15, 1995.

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LEISURE POOL COMPLEX FOR WONG TAI SIN RESIDENTS
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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A LEISURE POOL COMPLEX AT HAMMER HILL ROAD, WONG TAI SIN.

THE COMPLEX COMPRISES A SINGLE-STOREY AMENITIES BUILDING, A TWO-STOREY SERVICE BUILDING, AN INDOOR TRAINING AND LEISURE POOL BUILDING, INTEGRATED OUTDOOR LEISURE POOLS AND A PADDLING POOL, DRAINAGE AND EXTERNAL WORKS.

WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO START IN JUNE THIS YEAR FOR COMPLETION IN NOVEMBER 1995.

THE DEADLINE FOR TENDERS IS NOON ON MAY 6.

TENDER FORMS AND FURTHER PARTICULARS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE DEPARTMENT, 34TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

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REPORT ON YOUTH CENTRE SERVICES PUBLISHED

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A REPORT SETTING OUT A CHALLENGING WAY FORWARD TO HELP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FACE THE CHANGES AND STRESSES OF MODERN SOCIETY IN HONG KONG WAS RELEASED TODAY (FRIDAY).

ENTITLED "REPORT ON REVIEW OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE SERVICES", IT WAS COMPILED BY A WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY PROFESSOR FELICE LIEH-MAK.

THE WORKING PARTY, COMPRISING BOTH OFFICIAL AND NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS, WAS APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE IN MARCH 1992 TO REVIEW THE POLICY, OBJECTIVES AND OPERATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES AND RELATED SERVICES IN VIEW OF THE CHANGING NEEDS OF YOUNG PEOPLE AND A DECLINING YOUTH POPULATION.

ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING PARTY IS THAT SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE SHOULD BE INTEGRATED AND PROVIDED IN A SPECIFIC CATCHMENT AREA BY A TEAM OF SOCIAL WORKERS UNDER ONE MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE.

"THE SERVICES TO BE INTEGRATED ARE CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES, OUTREACHING SOCIAL WORK, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK, AND WHERE POSSIBLE, FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE REPORT ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRE SERVICES SHOULD BE PLANNED ACCORDING TO THE YOUTH POPULATION AND NOT THE GENERAL POPULATION.

AN INTEGRATED TEAM SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR EACH CATCHMENT AREA WITH A YOUTH POPULATION OF 12,000.

PROGRAMMES OFFERED BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH CENTRES SHOULD BE MORE TARGET-ORIENTED AND MORE RELATED TO SOCIAL WORK, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY PHASES.

INTERESTED PARTIES MAY OBTAIN A COPY OF THE REPORT FROM ANY DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

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LAND TO BE RESUMED FOR PARK

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LAND RESUMPTION NOTICES WERE POSTED TODAY (FRIDAY) ON 97 PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL LOTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HAMMER HILL ROAD DISTRICT PARK.

THE LOTS, COVERING 9,383.7 SQUARE METRES, WILL REVERT TO GOVERNMENT ON JULY 15. THEY ARE LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF LUNG CHEUNG ROAD AND HAMMER HILL ROAD.

COMPENSATION TO THE AFFECTED OWNERS WILL BE ASSESSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE, OR BASED ON EX-GRATIA RATE OF COMPENSATION ACCORDING TO CURRENT POLICY.

AFFECTED OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF THE PRIVATE LAND MAY MAKE STATUTORY CLAIMS UNDER THE ORDINANCE. IF THEIR CLAIMS CANNOT BE SETTLED BY AGREEMENT, THEY MAY APPLY TO THE LANDS TRIBUNAL FOR DETERMINATION.

THE CLEARANCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISTRICT PARK PROJECT WILL INVOLVE BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE LAND.

ABOUT 2,440 PERSONS BELONGING TO 800 FAMILIES WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE EXERCISE.

ELIGIBLE OCCUPIERS WILL BE REHOUSED AND OFFERED EX-GRATIA DOMESTIC REMOVAL ALLOWANCES.

DETAILS OF THE RESUMPTION WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

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SECOND OPEN FORUM FOR CONDUCT COUNCIL ELECTION

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TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO MEET CANDIDATES IN THE FORTHCOMING COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION ELECTION AT A FORUM ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON SUNDAY (APRIL 17).

A DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE FORUM WOULD PROVIDE A GOOD CHANCE FOR VOTERS AND CANDIDATES IN THE SECONDARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS CATEGORY OF THE ELECTION TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE SETTING UP AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNCIL.

TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS OF SPECIAL SCHOOLS ARE URGED TO ATTEND THE FORUM ON SUNDAY AND SHOW THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION IS SET UP IN THE INTEREST OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION. IT IS AIMED AT ENHANCING THEIR PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT AND STATUS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE FORUM ON SUNDAY WILL BE THE SECOND AND LAST OPEN FORUM FOR THE ELECTION. IT WILL TAKE PLACE AT 9 AM AT THE LECTURE THEATRE, GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD, YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON.

THE FORUM WILL BE ATTENDED BY 16 CANDIDATES - 12 FROM SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND FOUR FROM SPECIAL SCHOOLS - WHO WILL IN TURN GIVE A SHORT ELECTION SPEECH EXPLAINING THEIR PLATFORMS AND THEN ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

THE COUNCIL IS A NON-STATUTORY BODY TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON MEASURES TO PROMOTE PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION, INCLUDING THE DRAFTING OF OPERATIONAL CRITERIA DEFINING THE CONDUCT EXPECTED OF AN EDUCATOR, AND TO ADVISE THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION IN RESOLVING CASES OF DISPUTE OR ALLEGED PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT.

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THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COUNCIL WAS RECOMMENDED BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION IN ITS REPORT NO. 5.

THE FIRST FORUM, WHICH WAS HELD LAST SUNDAY, WAS ATTENDED BY 18 CANDIDATES COMPETING IN THE CATEGORIES OF KINDERGARTENS, PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE SECOND OPEN FORUM FOR CANDIDATES OF THE COUNCIL ON PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT IN EDUCATION ELECTION.

THE FORUM WILL BE HELD AT 9 AM ON APRIL 17 (SUNDAY) AT THE LECTURE THEATRE, GRANTHAM COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, GASCOIGNE ROAD, YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON.

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION	TIME (HOURS)	CUMULATIVE CHANGE (\$ MILLION)
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,541	0930	+146
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,885	1000	+196
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	+326
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	+749	1200	+326
LAF TODAY	-405	1500	+859
		1600	+749

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 125.4 *+0.2* 15.4.94

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.79 PCT	16 MONTHS	2508	4.625	99.67	4.94
1 MONTH	3.16 PCT	19 MONTHS	2511	4.15	98.50	5.20
3 MONTHS	3.67 PCT	22 MONTHS	2602	4.40	98.25	5.48
6 MONTHS	3.97 PCT	30 MONTHS	3610	4.20	96.04	5.99
12 MONTHS	4.49 PCT	33 MONTHS	3701	4.60	96.26	6.17

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 18,823 MN

CLOSED 15 APRIL 1994

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