



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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## SEPT-NOV UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS RELEASED

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THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DECREASED WHILE THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE REMAINED STABLE AT A LOW LEVEL DURING THE PERIOD OF SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1990, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1990 WAS 1.4 PER CENT, COMPARED WITH 1.8 PER CENT FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1990 AND 1.3 PER CENT FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE DECREASE OF 0.4 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT BELOW THE PRECEDING THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT WHILE THE INCREASE OF 0.1 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER IS STATISTICALLY NOT SIGNIFICANT.

THE NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1990 WAS ESTIMATED AT 40,000, COMPARED WITH 48,600 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1990 AND 37,000 IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1989.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1990 WAS 0.9 PER CENT, WHICH WAS THE SAME AS THAT FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1990 AND THAT FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1989 WAS 0.8 PER CENT.

THE INCREASE OF 0.1 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1989 IS STATISTICALLY NOT SIGNIFICANT.

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS IN SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1990 WAS 25,100, COMPARED WITH 26,200 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING AUGUST 1990 AND 22,000 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING NOVEMBER 1989.

CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO), PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK DUE TO ECONOMIC REASONS (SUCH AS SLACK WORK, MATERIAL SHORTAGE, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN AND INABILITY TO FIND FULL-TIME WORK) WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE EITHER SEEKING OR AVAILABLE FOR MORE WORK.

COMMENTING ON THESE FIGURES, THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS SAID BECAUSE THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (FOR EXAMPLE PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, UNEMPLOYMENT RATES THAT HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME.

THE COMMISSIONER ADDED THAT, BASED ON A SYSTEM OF PROVISIONAL COUNTS, THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATES COVERING THE LATEST THREE-MONTH PERIOD COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER THE SURVEY.

/THESE PROVIDE .....

THESE PROVIDE AN EARLY INDICATION OF THE LATEST UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT SITUATION. THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1990 WAS 1.3 PER CENT AND THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 0.8 PER CENT.

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1990 COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 11,300 HOUSEHOLDS OR 40,000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING DECEMBER 1990 WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL IN LATE MARCH AT \$11.50 PER COPY.

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OIL SUPPLY RESOURCES REMAIN AVAILABLE TO HK  
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SINCE THE ONSET OF THE GULF CRISIS THE GOVERNMENT HAS CO-OPERATED VERY CLOSELY WITH THE OIL INDUSTRY, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) FOLLOWING A MEETING OF THE OIL DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MEETING REVIEWED THE PRESENT SUPPLY SITUATION AND IN PARTICULAR POSSIBLE IMPLICATIONS FOR HONG KONG'S SUPPLIES SHOULD WAR BREAK OUT.

HE SAID ALL THE OIL COMPANIES HAD REAFFIRMED THAT THEIR STOCKS AND SUPPLY RESOURCES REMAINED AVAILABLE AND UNAFFECTED BY THE SITUATION IN THE GULF.

"THE COMMITTEE CONSIDERS THERE ARE NO GROUNDS FOR CONCERN AND THAT LOCAL AND REGIONAL OIL STOCKS ARE ADEQUATE TO DEAL WITH ALMOST ANY SITUATION," HE SAID.

"ONLY IN THE MOST UNLIKELY EVENT OF CATASTROPHIC LONG-TERM DAMAGE TO GULF OIL SUPPLIES MIGHT IT BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER FORMAL FUEL CONSERVATION MEASURES."

HE SAID, IN ADDITION TO THE 30 DAYS RESERVE OF KEY OIL PRODUCTS HELD IN HONG KONG, MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY AGENCY (THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT COUNTRIES) HAD AGREED AT THE IEA MEETING ON JANUARY 11, 1991 THAT, IF REQUIRED, ITS MEMBERS WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE UP TO 2.5 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY TO COVER ANY POSSIBLE SHORTFALL OF SUPPLIES FROM THE GULF AS A RESULT OF HOSTILITIES.

THIS WOULD BE ACHIEVED BY A COMBINATION OF DRAWING ON STRATEGIC STOCKS AND OTHER ECONOMY MEASURES.

HE SAID THE PRESENT GLOBAL SITUATION WAS NOT ONE OF SUPPLY SHORTAGES BUT OF PRICE VOLATILITY REFLECTING CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE GULF.

"EVEN IF HOSTILITIES WERE TO BREAK OUT, THE LIKELIHOOD IS THAT OIL SUPPLIES WILL REMAIN RELATIVELY UNAFFECTED AND, BECAUSE THERE IS A CURRENT WORLD SURPLUS OF OIL SUPPLIES, PRICES SHOULD RAPIDLY STABILISE, SINCE THE MARKET IS DISCOUNTING THE POSSIBILITY OF HOSTILITIES," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMMITTEE DID NOT ANTICIPATE ANY SHORTAGE OF OIL IN HONG KONG AND WAS SATISFIED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S EXISTING CONTINGENCY PLANS PROVIDED THE MEANS TO OVERCOME ANY DIFFICULTIES WITHOUT ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING OF THE TERRITORY.

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LOCAL FERRY SERVICES INTO THE 1990'S

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THE GEOGRAPHY OF HONG KONG MAKES TRAVEL BY SEA AS NATURAL TO ITS PEOPLE AS TRAVEL BY UNDERGROUND IS TO LONDONERS AND OVER 300,000 PEOPLE USE PASSENGER FERRIES TO GO TO WORK, SCHOOL OR FOR DAILY NECESSITIES EVERY DAY.

THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR MICHAEL C.C. SZE, SAID THIS TODAY (TUESDAY) AT A LUNCHEON OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF KOWLOON EAST.

MR SZE SAID THE VAST MAJORITY TRAVELLED ON A VARIETY OF CRAFT SUCH AS TRIPLE-DECKERS, HOVERFERRIES OR THAT WELL KNOWN SYMBOL OF HONG KONG, THE STAR FERRY.

A SIZEABLE FLEET OF SMALLER CRAFT KNOWN AS WALLA WALLAS FERRY HUNDREDS OF WORKERS TO AND FROM SHIPS IN THE PORT, HE SAID.

/"THE SAFETY .....

"THE SAFETY STANDARDS OF SUCH PASSENGER CARRYING LOCAL VESSELS IS REGULATED UNDER THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (LAUNCHES AND FERRY VESSELS) REGULATIONS 1965 WHICH PRESCRIBE A HIGH DEGREE OF PASSENGER SAFETY BASED ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

"THE SAFETY RECORD OF THESE PASSENGER VESSELS IN THE WATERS OF HONG KONG IS BEYOND QUESTION.

"NEVERTHELESS PUBLIC INTEREST WAS FURTHER SERVED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF COMPULSORY THIRD PARTY INSURANCE ON SUCH VESSEL LAST (1990) YEAR AS A CONDITION OF MY LICENSING THEM," HE SAID.

MR SZE SAID THERE WERE HOWEVER TWO AREAS OF PASSENGER SERVICES, ONE ANCIENT AND ONE MODERN, WHICH TO DATE DID NOT FALL WITHIN THE CATEGORIES OF LAUNCHES AND FERRY VESSELS DESCRIBED ABOVE.

"AS FAR BACK AS 1937 RECOGNITION WAS MADE OF JUNKS CONVEYING VILLAGERS FROM OUTLYING ISLANDS OR REMOTE MAINLAND ENCLAVES TO MARKET TOWNS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRES SUCH AS TAI PO AND SAI KUNG," HE SAID.

"THESE JUNKS WERE NATIVE DESIGN VESSELS INTENDED FOR TRADING PURPOSES. THEY WERE REFERRED TO AS 'KAITOS' OR STREET FERRIES.

"A FAR MORE MODERN PHENOMENON IS THE PUBLIC DEMAND FOR TRANSPORT TO THE SCENIC OUTER ISLANDS AND REMOTE COUNTRY PARK BEACHES AND THE DEMAND IN THIS AREA FLUCTUATES GREATLY ACCORDING TO PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AND SEASONAL FACTORS.

"SUCH SERVICES ARE PROVIDED BY 'KAITOS' OR PLEASURE JUNKS OFFERING THEMSELVES FOR HIRE."

MR SZE SAID OBVIOUSLY IT WAS IMPRACTICAL TO APPLY THE STRINGENT AND EXACTING STANDARDS OF THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (LAUNCHES AND FERRY VESSELS) REGULATIONS TO THESE INFORMAL STREET FERRIES, AND PLEASURE JUNKS WERE NOT REQUIRED TO UNDERGO THE STRINGENT SAFETY INSPECTIONS REQUIRED OF FERRIES AND LAUNCHES.

"TODAY THERE ARE 121 KAITOS WITH A CARRYING CAPACITY OF 4,434 OF WHICH 89 (WITH A CAPACITY OF 3,012) OPERATE IN THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TOWNS AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES COUPLED WITH THE ABANDONMENT OF MANY REMOTE VILLAGES AND ISLANDS WILL LEAD TO A DECLINE IN THE NEED FOR KAITOS," HE SAID.

MR SZE SAID THE CHALLENGE FOR THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED, FOR EXAMPLE TRANSPORT, CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION AND MARINE POLICE, WAS HOW TO CONTINUE TO SATISFY THE LEGITIMATE TRANSPORT DEMAND OF SUCH VILLAGERS AND HOLIDAY-MAKERS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME ENSURING THAT THE SAFETY OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC WAS NOT COMPROMISED.

HE SAID A NUMBER OF MEASURES HAD BEEN PROPOSED BY THE LOCAL CRAFT REVIEW AND WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION.

THESE ARE:

- \* TO CONDUCT PERIODIC REVIEWS OF KAITO ROUTES;
- \* TO REQUIRE THOSE FERRIES WHICH COULD NOT AND DO NOT FIT THE DESCRIPTION OF KAITOS BUT ARE OPERATING UNDER KAITO FERRY LICENCES TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE SAME SAFETY STANDARDS AS LAUNCHES;
- \* TO IDENTIFY BONA FIDE KAITO ROUTES WHERE INCREASED PATRONAGE MAY WARRANT AN UPGRADING OF THE SERVICE TO A "MINOR FERRY SERVICE" USING LICENSED LAUNCHES. FOR EXAMPLE THE ABERDEEN TO SOK KWU WAN SERVICE;
- \* TO PERMIT A NEW CLASS OF PASSENGER CARRYING VESSEL, CALL THEM "EXCURSION VESSELS", WHOSE SAFETY STANDARDS WOULD CONFORM WITH THOSE OF LAUNCHES AND FERRY VESSELS;
- \* TO INCREASE PATROLS AND INSPECTIONS BY MARINE DEPARTMENT AND MARINE POLICE DURING SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN THE PEAK MONTHS;
- \* TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE PROPER USE OF KAITOS, FOR EXAMPLE NOT TO GET ON BOARD OVERLOADED KAITOS; AND
- \* TO INTRODUCE IN PHASES HIGHER THOUGH PRAGMATIC SAFETY REQUIREMENTS ON ALL KAITOS.

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OBJECTIONS TO DRAFT MID-LEVELS WEST OZP WILL BE CONSIDERED

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WAS INFORMED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT ALL THE OBJECTIONS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAFT MID-LEVELS WEST OUTLINE ZONING PLAN (OZP) WOULD BE CONSIDERED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

THE AMENDMENTS, WHICH WERE GAZETTED ON SEPTEMBER 7 LAST YEAR, INCLUDED PLOT RATIO RESTRICTIONS IN THE MID-LEVELS WEST AREA.

A TOTAL OF 29 OBJECTIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, AND WILL BE REFERRED TO THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION IN APRIL.

A TOWN PLANNING BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID: "THE BOARD MAY DECIDE TO AMEND OR NOT TO AMEND THE DRAFT OZP TO MEET THE OBJECTIONS.

"IF THE BOARD DECIDES NOT TO AMEND THE DRAFT PLAN, EACH OBJECTOR IS ENTITLED TO BE HEARD BEFORE THE BOARD.

"IF THE BOARD DECIDES NOT TO AMEND THE DRAFT OZP AFTER THE HEARINGS, THE DRAFT PLAN, TOGETHER WITH THE UNWITHDRAWN OBJECTIONS, WILL THEN BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL."

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ANTI-POLLUTION PROSECUTION FIGURE RELEASED  
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (TUESDAY) RELEASED A LIST OF COMPANIES THAT HAD BEEN FOUND GUILTY IN THE COURTS, DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, OF BREACHING ANTI-POLLUTION LEGISLATION CURRENTLY ENFORCED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENTS WOULD BE MADE REGULARLY ON A MONTHLY BASIS.

THE LEGAL PROCEEDINGS COULD BE VERY TIME-CONSUMING AND AS A RESULT THERE WAS SOMETIMES A LENGTHY TIME GAP BETWEEN THE DATE OF THE OFFENCE AND THE CONVICTION DATE.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF PROSECUTION CASES AND THE ASSOCIATED FINES IMPOSED BY THE COURTS DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER LAST YEAR:

NAME (COMPANY/ PERSON)	ADDRESS	DATE OF OFFENCE	NATURE OF OFFENCE	FINES(\$)	RECORD OF OFFENCE	COURT
1. NEW TOWN HOTEL MANAGEMENT LTD	PAK HOK TING ST, SHA TIN	1.8.89- 30.9.89	APCO: UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF FURNACES	1,500	1ST	SHA TIN
2. KULSUM LTD	PAK HOK TING ST, SHA TIN	11.9.89- 10.10.89	APCO: UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF FURNACES	2,000	1ST	SHA TIN
3. LEE SING DYEING FACTORY	SHEK WU SUN CHUEN, SHEUNG SHUI	18.9.89	APCO: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FUEL RESTRICTION REGULATIONS	3,500	1ST	FANLING
4. SKY PHONE INVESTMENTS LTD	TUEN MUN TOWN PLAZA, TUEN MUN	19.12.89 -15.2.90	APCO: UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF FURNACES	1,500	1ST	TUEN MUN
5. CARITAS- HONG KONG	CAINE RD, CENTRAL	1.2.90- 28.2.90	APCO: UNAUTHORISED INSTALLATION OR ALTERATION OF FURNACES	1,000	1ST	WESTERN

6. LEE TAI BLEACHING & DYEING FACTORY LTD	TSING YI INDUSTRIAL CENTRE, TSING YI	16.5.90	APCO: EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	3,500	1ST	TSUEN WAN
7. UNION SIX DYEING WORKS	WING KEI RD, KWAI CHUNG	29.5.90	APCO: EXCESSIVE DARK SMOKE EMISSION	4,500	2ND	TSUEN WAN
8. SUN LUEN GLOVES FACTORY LTD	HUNG SHUI KIU, YUEN LONG	28.6.90	APCO: FAILURE TO ABATE AN AIR POLLUTANT NUISANCE (GENERAL)	1,500	1ST	FANLING
9. ETERNAL CAPITAL LAUNDRY FACTORY	TSING YI INDUSTRIAL CENTRE, TSING YI	3.7.90	APCO: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FUEL RESTRICTION REGULATIONS	5,000	1ST	TSUEN WAN
10. GLOBE DYEING FACTORY LTD	PING SHAN, YUEN LONG	5.7.90	APCO: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FUEL RESTRICTION REGULATIONS	2,500	1ST	FANLING
11. HONG KONG PAPER MILLS LTD	CONNAUGHT RD CENTRAL, CENTRAL	5.7.90	APCO: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE FUEL RESTRICTION REGULATIONS	1,500	1ST	FANLING
12. KONG LUEN ALUMINIUM WINDOW MANUFAC- TURING LTD	BELCHER'S ST, KENNEDY TOWN	24.7.90	APCO: FAILURE TO TAKE MEASURES TO ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY AIR POLLUTANT	10,000	2ND	FANLING
13. AUSTRIA PROPERTY MANAGEMENT LTD OF RUBY CHALET	LOT 1128, SAI KUNG	9.8.90	WPCO: DISCHARGE OF POLLUTING MATTERS INTO WATERS OF HONG KONG IN BREACH OF A LICENCE	5,000	1ST	KWUN TONG

14. MARINE LORD LTD	MAN CHEONG ST, YAU MA TEI	19.10.90	DASO: DUMPING OF 750 CUBIC METRES OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL AT SEA NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GRANTED LICENCE	3,000	1ST	CENTRAL
AND LAM SIU- MING (TUG MASTER)	MARINE LORD LTD	"	"	3,000	1ST	CENTRAL
AND CHAN MEI (BARGE OPERATOR)	"	"	"	3,000	1ST	CENTRAL
15. UNIVER- SAL DOCK- YARD LTD	KO FAI RD, KWUN TONG	2.11.90	DASO: DUMPING OF 750 CUBIC METRES OF EXCAVATED MATERIAL AT SEA WITHOUT A LICENCE	4,000	2ND	CENTRAL
AND FOOK TAI- FUK (TUG MASTER)	UNIVERSAL DOCKYARD LTD	"	"	3,000	1ST	CENTRAL
AND LEUNG YAU- KAN (BARGE OPERATOR)	"	"	"	3,000	1ST	CENTRAL

## NOTE:

APCO: AIR POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE  
 DASO: DUMPING AT SEA ACT 1974 (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES) ORDER 1975  
 WPCO: WATER POLLUTION CONTROL ORDINANCE

ON THE PROVISION OF THE NOISE CONTROL ORDINANCE RELATING TO NEIGHBOURHOOD NOISE, 14 PERSONS WERE PROSECUTED BY THE POLICE FOR CAUSING EXCESSIVE NOISE FROM DOMESTIC PLACES AT NIGHT WITH FINES RANGING FROM \$300 TO \$500.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO STEP UP ITS ENFORCEMENT ACTION AGAINST ANY MALPRACTICE OF ILLEGAL AND SHORT DUMPING ACTIVITIES THROUGH MORE REGULAR MARINE PATROLS. THE EXISTING ENFORCEMENT ACTION IS UNDER REVIEW WITH A VIEW TO TIGHTENING UP THE CONTROL MEASURES. THESE MEASURES WOULD BE DRAWN UP IN ABOUT TWO MONTHS' TIME.

30 INMATES PASS PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

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THIRTY YOUNG INMATES FROM THE PIK UK CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION (PUCI) RECEIVED CERTIFICATES THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON FOR HAVING PASSED PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

THEY ACHIEVED A TOTAL OF FIVE DISTINCTIONS, 16 CREDITS AND 48 PASSES IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY EXAMINATIONS AND PITMAN EXAMINATIONS.

SPEAKING AT THE CERTIFICATE PRESENTATION CEREMONY HELD AT PUCI, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL, MR DEREK PRITCHARD, STRESSED THAT EDUCATION WAS ONE OF THE KEYS TO SUCCESS.

THE FACT THAT THE INMATES HAD PASSED THE EXAMINATIONS SHOULD GIVE THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE, HE SAID.

"IT SHOWS THAT YOU ARE CAPABLE OF GETTING DOWN TO DOING SOME LEARNING WITH PERSEVERANCE AND PATIENCE," HE ADDED.

SINCE 1979, A TOTAL OF 1,356 YOUNG INMATES HAD SAT FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS, INCLUDING THOSE HELD BY THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY, THE LONDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, THE PITMAN EXAMINATION INSTITUTE AND THE CITY AND GUILDS OF LONDON INSTITUTE.

THEY ACHIEVED A TOTAL OF 389 DISTINCTIONS, 191 CREDITS AND 964 PASSES. THE AVERAGE PASS RATE IS 84 PER CENT.

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SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE ON DOMESTIC HELPERS

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THE SEPTEMBER 1990 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS CONTAINS A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE ON DOMESTIC HELPERS.

A TOTAL OF ABOUT 62,200 (OR 3.9 PER CENT) DOMESTIC HOUSEHOLDS WERE EMPLOYING ONE OR MORE DOMESTIC HELPERS IN 1989, COMPARED WITH THE SLIGHTLY LOWER FIGURES OF 59,000 (OR 3.8 PER CENT) IN 1988 AND 54,100 (OR 3.6 PER CENT) IN 1987.

FOUR-FIFTHS OF THESE HOUSEHOLDS EMPLOYED "LIVE-IN" DOMESTIC HELPERS (THOSE WHO STAYED OVERNIGHT IN THEIR EMPLOYERS' HOME) AND ABOUT 16 PER CENT EMPLOYED PART-TIME DOMESTIC HELPERS (THOSE WHO WORKED LESS THAN 40 HOURS PER WEEK).

THESE ARE FINDINGS FROM A SUPPLEMENTARY ENQUIRY CONDUCTED VIA THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT DURING THE QUARTER FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1989.

THIS ARTICLE PRESENTS THE CHARACTERISTICS OF HOUSEHOLDS EMPLOYING DOMESTIC HELPERS AND THOSE NOT EMPLOYING ANY BUT WITH THE INTENTION OF EMPLOYING ONE, AS WELL AS THE CHARACTERISTICS OF DOMESTIC HELPERS BEING EMPLOYED.

THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS NOW ON SALE AT \$40 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL.

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UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS TO CLOSE

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE THE UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS AT EIGHTH FLOOR, 93 FUK WA STREET, KOWLOON SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT COURT ON MARCH 26 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (TUESDAY).

UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE, A CLOSURE ORDER IS REQUIRED BEFORE DEMOLITION CAN BE CARRIED OUT.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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FRESH WATER CUT IN HAPPY VALLEY, TAI HANG AREAS

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SUPPLY OF FRESH WATER TO SOME PREMISES IN HAPPY VALLEY AND TAI HANG AREAS ON HONG KONG ISLAND WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 10 PM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 17) TO 5 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE WATERMANS CONNECTION.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT 27-33 PERKINS ROAD, 148 AND 150 TAI HANG ROAD AND ALL PREMISES AT BROADWOOD ROAD AND HAPPY VIEW TERRACE.

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