



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1993

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LABOUR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES PERFORMANCE PLEDGE

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED ITS PERFORMANCE PLEDGE ON VARIOUS SERVICES TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

"WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROVIDING AN EFFICIENT, COURTEOUS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS IN A CLEAN AND FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"OUR SERVICES WILL BE DELIVERED TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WITHIN THE TARGET STANDARDS SET OUT IN THE PERFORMANCE PLEDGE," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE SERVICES COVERED IN THE PERFORMANCE PLEDGE INCLUDED EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, CONCILIATION OF LABOUR DISPUTES, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION, REGISTRATION OF PRESSURE EQUIPMENT AND THE GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE.

"ON EMPLOYMENT SERVICE, INFORMATION ON JOB VACANCIES WILL BE DISPLAYED WITHIN 24 HOURS OF RECEIPT OF A VACANCY ORDER FROM AN EMPLOYER EITHER BY TELEPHONE, FAX OR OTHER MEANS," HE SAID.

"JOB-SEEKERS WILL BE SERVED WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF THE APPOINTED TIME IF AN APPOINTMENT HAS TO BE MADE IN THE MORE BUSY OFFICES."

IN RESOLVING DISPUTES INVOLVING MORE THAN 20 EMPLOYEES OR RESULTING IN WORK STOPPAGES, THE SPOKESMAN SAID CONCILIATION OFFICERS WOULD CONTACT THE PARTIES CONCERNED AT ONCE AND TRY TO ARRANGE CONCILIATION MEETINGS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

"CLAIM CASES FOR UNPAID EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS WILL BE DISCUSSED WITHIN 30 MINUTES WITH A VIEW TO RESOLVING THEM STRAIGHTAWAY," HE SAID.

"A CONCILIATION MEETING WILL BE ARRANGED WITHIN THREE TO FOUR WEEKS IF A CASE CANNOT BE RESOLVED AT THE FIRST INSTANCE."

WITH REGARD TO EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION, THE SPOKESMAN SAID AN INJURED EMPLOYEE SEEKING MEDICAL CLEARANCE OR REFERRAL TO AN ASSESSMENT BOARD AT THE OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE UNIT WOULD BE INTERVIEWED WITHIN 30 MINUTES OF THE APPOINTED TIME IF AN APPOINTMENT HAD TO BE MADE AT BUSY TIMES.

"A CERTIFICATE OF COMPENSATION ASSESSMENT WILL BE ISSUED TO THE EMPLOYEE WITHIN TWO WEEKS AFTER MEDICAL CLEARANCE OR WITHIN THREE WEEKS AFTER ASSESSMENT BY AN ASSESSMENT BOARD," HE SAID.

AS FOR REGISTRATION OF PRESSURE EQUIPMENT, HE SAID THE PROCESS OF AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF EQUIPMENT WILL BE COMPLETED WITHIN THREE WEEKS UPON RECEIPT OF ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTATION.

MEANWHILE, THE GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE HOTLINE, WITH THE USE OF AN INTERACTIVE VOICE PROCESSING SYSTEM CARRYING 18 TELEPHONE LINES, PROVIDES 24-HOUR SERVICE TO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.

/"THE COMPUTERISED

"THE COMPUTERISED SYSTEM IS SUPPLEMENTED BY 14 STAFF MEMBERS DURING OFFICE HOURS TO ANSWER ENQUIRIES WHEN FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED AFTER LISTENING TO THE PRE-RECORDED INFORMATION ON VARIOUS ITEMS OF LABOUR LEGISLATION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FAX TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE THROUGH THE SYSTEM."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PUBLIC WERE WELCOME TO COMMENT OR SUGGEST THE WAY IN WHICH THE SERVICES WERE DELIVERED.

"OUR CUSTOMERS HAVE A RIGHT TO A FULL AND PROMPT EXPLANATION ON THE OCCASIONS WHEN, DESPITE OUR BEST EFFORTS, THE STANDARDS ARE NOT ACHIEVED," HE SAID.

"SUGGESTIONS OR COMPLAINTS CAN BE RAISED IN PERSON TO THE OFFICER MANAGER ON THE SPOT."

ALTERNATIVELY, THEY MAY CONTACT THE CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER OF THE SERVICE BY TELEPHONE OR IN WRITING AT:

SERVICE -----	ADDRESS -----	TELEPHONE -----
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE	EMPLOYMENT SERVICES DIVISION 17/F HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG	852 4155
CONCILIATION OF LABOUR DISPUTES	LABOUR RELATIONS DIVISION 12/F HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG	852 3515
REGISTRATION OF PRESSURE EQUIPMENT	PRESSURE EQUIPMENT DIVISION 17/F HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG	852 4183
EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION	EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION DIVISION CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES 5/F, 393 CANTON ROAD, KOWLOON	733 2353
GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE	LABOUR INSPECTION DIVISION 17/F HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG	815 2200

"IF YOU ARE NOT SURE WHO THE APPROPRIATE PERSON IS TO APPROACH, YOU MAY WRITE TO THE PUBLICITY LIAISON OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT ON 16/F, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WE WILL REPLY TO ALL WRITTEN ENQUIRIES OR COMPLAINTS WITHIN 10 DAYS AND WE WILL GIVE AN INTERIM REPLY IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE.

"IF YOU STILL FEEL THAT YOUR CASE HAS NOT BEEN DEALT WITH ADEQUATELY, YOU MAY WRITE TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR ON 16/F, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL, HONG KONG," HE ADDED.

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THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR WOULD MONITOR PERFORMANCE AGAINST TARGETS.

"A CUSTOMER LIAISON GROUP WILL BE FORMED TO COLLECT CUSTOMERS' FEEDBACK ON THE STANDARD OF OUR SERVICES," HE SAID.

"THE RESULTS WILL BE PUBLISHED ANNUALLY," HE ADDED.

A BILINGUAL LEAFLET LISTING THE STANDARDS OF VARIOUS SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED AND IS NOW AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AT ALL LABOUR DEPARTMENT BRANCH OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

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NEW AIRCRAFT TAXIWAY BRIDGE PROVIDES SHORTER ROUTE TO RUNWAY

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A NEW TAXIWAY BRIDGE - TAXIWAY BRIDGE NO. 3 - LINKING THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S RUNWAY PROMONTORY AND SOUTHERN END OF THE NEWLY CONSTRUCTED SOUTH APRON WAS COMMISSIONED FOR USE TODAY (MONDAY).

TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING TRAFFIC DEMAND, THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT HAD PROCEEDED WITH A PACKAGE OF IMPROVEMENT WORKS INCLUDING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTH APRON IN THE KOWLOON BAY RECLAMATION AREA TO PROVIDE 11 ADDITIONAL AIRCRAFT PARKING BAYS, BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER TO 69.

AFTER LANDING FROM THE KOWLOON PENINSULA DIRECTION, AIRCRAFT WILL NOW HAVE AN ALTERNATIVE ROUTE TO TAXI TO THEIR ALLOCATED PARKING POSITIONS EITHER AT THE SOUTH APRON OR THE MAIN APRON BY WAY OF THE NEW BRIDGE, AND EXIT THE SOUTH APRON VIA BRIDGE NO. 2, SITUATED AT THE NORTHERN END OF THE SOUTH APRON. OTHERWISE THE SOUTH APRON WOULD BE A CUL-DE-SAC.

DEPARTING FLIGHTS TAKING OFF FROM THE LEI YUE MUN END OF THE RUNWAY, PARTICULARLY THOSE PARKED AT THE SOUTH APRON, WILL ALSO BENEFIT FROM THE NEW FACILITY.

TO ENSURE THAT THE COMPLETION OF TAXIWAY BRIDGE NO. 3 COINCIDES WITH THE COMPLETION OF THE SOUTH APRON, THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE WAS AWARDED BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT UNDER THE FIRST EVER FAST-TRACK "DESIGN-AND-CONSTRUCT" GOVERNMENT CONTRACT.

THE CONTRACT VALUE WAS \$109 MILLION AND WORK STARTED IN MID-MAY LAST YEAR.

MEASURING 46 METRES WIDE AND 220 METRES LONG, AND SPANNING THE KOWLOON BAY SEA CHANNEL, THE BRIDGE WAS DESIGNED TO TAKE THE LOAD OF THE LARGEST AIRCRAFT IN SERVICE AND THOSE ENVISAGED TO BE IN SERVICE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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ANNUAL RECRUITMENT FOR FIVE CIVIL SERVICE GRADES

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UNIVERSITY GRADUATES INTERESTED IN MAKING A CAREER IN THE CIVIL SERVICE SHOULD WATCH OUT FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN NEWSPAPERS OVER THE NEXT TWO SATURDAYS (AUGUST 21 AND 28).

VACANCIES IN FIVE GRADES WILL BE ADVERTISED: ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, EXECUTIVE OFFICER II, ASSISTANT LABOUR OFFICER II, MANAGEMENT SERVICES OFFICER II AND ASSISTANT TRADE OFFICER II.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR JOBS IN THESE DIFFERENT GRADES, A COMMON RECRUITMENT EXAMINATION WILL BE HELD IN EARLY NOVEMBER.

AS IN THE PAST, THIS YEAR'S EXAMINATION WILL CONSIST OF THREE PAPERS: PAPER 1 (ONE HOUR) IS USE OF ENGLISH, PAPER 2 (1 HOUR 15 MINUTES) IS OBJECTIVE TESTS AND PAPER 3 (3 HOURS) IS A TASK PAPER.

THE WEIGHTINGS OF THESE PAPERS ARE 30 PER CENT, 20 PER CENT AND 50 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. PAPERS 1 AND 2 ARE IN ENGLISH WHILE HALF OF THE QUESTIONS IN PAPER 3 ARE SET IN CHINESE AND MUST BE ANSWERED IN CHINESE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID RECRUITMENT FOR THESE FIVE GRADES WAS CONDUCTED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS.

VACANCIES FOR THESE GRADES WILL BE ADVERTISED IN AN ENGLISH DAILY, A CHINESE DAILY AND A CHINESE EVENING DAILY.

THE ADVERTISEMENTS WILL GIVE DETAILS OF THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR EACH POST, THE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED AND REMUNERATION, AS WELL AS APPLICATION PROCEDURES. APPLICATION FOR THESE VACANCIES WILL CLOSE IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

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ANALYSIS OF HK'S RE-EXPORT TRADE IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

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RE-EXPORTS ACCOUNTED FOR 78% OF THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS AND 38% OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF EXTERNAL TRADE OF HONG KONG IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993.

IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1992, THE CORRESPONDING SHARES WERE 74% AND 36% RESPECTIVELY.

THESE FIGURES, AFFIRMING THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF RE-EXPORT TRADE, ARE AMONGST THE DETAILED RE-EXPORT STATISTICS RELEASED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY).

/CHINA REMAINED

CHINA REMAINED THE LARGEST PARTNER FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE. OF THE TOTAL \$376 BILLION OF RE-EXPORTS GOING THROUGH HONG KONG IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993, 87% OR \$329 BILLION INVOLVED CHINA IN EITHER DIRECTION.

RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING IN CHINA ACCOUNTED FOR 56% OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT VALUE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993. AS A DESTINATION, CHINA'S SHARE WAS 34%.

IT IS NOTED THAT MUCH OF THE RE-EXPORT TRADE INVOLVING CHINA IS RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING, AS RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURED GOODS ARE EXPORTED TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING AND THE FINAL PRODUCTS SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO HONG KONG.

OTHER MAJOR ORIGINS FOR HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 INCLUDED JAPAN (ACCOUNTING FOR A SHARE OF 14%), TAIWAN (8.2%), THE UNITED STATES (4.7%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (2.7%).

THE MAJOR DESTINATIONS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993, BESIDES CHINA, INCLUDED THE UNITED STATES (ACCOUNTING FOR A SHARE OF 21%), JAPAN (5.0%), GERMANY (4.9%) AND TAIWAN (2.9%).

TABLE 1 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR ORIGINS IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992.

COMPARING THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS FROM MOST MAJOR ORIGINS: GERMANY (+74%), SINGAPORE (+51%), JAPAN (+42%), MALAYSIA (+35%), TAIWAN (+24%), CHINA (+18%), THE UNITED STATES (+15%), FRANCE (+13%), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+11%) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (+8.6%).

OF THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING IN CHINA IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993, 35% WENT TO THE UNITED STATES, 8.2% TO GERMANY AND 7.0% TO JAPAN.

FOR GOODS OF JAPAN ORIGIN, 71% OF THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS THROUGH HONG KONG IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 WENT TO CHINA, 3.5% TO THE UNITED STATES AND 3.1% TO TAIWAN.

FOR RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING IN TAIWAN, AN OVERWHELMING PROPORTION, 92% OF THE VALUE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993, WENT TO CHINA.

AS REGARDS RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING IN THE UNITED STATES, 64% OF THE VALUE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 WERE SHIPPED TO CHINA, 6.3% TO TAIWAN AND 5.5% TO SINGAPORE.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR DESTINATIONS.

COMPARING THE FIRST HALF OF 1993 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO MOST MAJOR DESTINATIONS : CHINA (+36%), SINGAPORE (+26%), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+24%), THE UNITED STATES (+22%), GERMANY (+22%), FRANCE (+19%), JAPAN (+15%), CANADA (+10%) AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+3.9%). HOWEVER, A DECREASE OF 18% WAS RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN.

ANALYSED BY COMMODITY, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE RECORDED FOR ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$9,026 MILLION OR 212%); MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY \$3,179 MILLION OR 59%); AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$3,076 MILLION OR 75%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE RECORDED FOR MEDICINAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS (BY \$299 MILLION OR 20%); AND ORGANIC CHEMICALS (BY \$212 MILLION OR 15%).

AS REGARDS RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES, SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN VALUE WERE RECORDED FOR FOOTWEAR (BY \$4,038 MILLION OR 44%); CLOTHING (BY \$2,608 MILLION OR 26%); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES CONSISTING OF MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS (BY \$2,008 MILLION OR 12%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES WERE RECORDED FOR FISH, CRUSTACEANS, MOLLUSCS AND AQUATIC INVERTEBRATES AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY \$79 MILLION OR 29%); AND ESSENTIAL OILS AND RESINOIDS AND PERFUME MATERIALS; TOILET, POLISHING AND CLEANSING PREPARATIONS (BY \$51 MILLION OR 30%).

DETAILED STATISTICS OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE ARE PUBLISHED IN THE JUNE 1993 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" REPORT WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT \$68.50 A COPY AROUND AUGUST 24.

THE REPORT CAN BE PURCHASED EITHER AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; OR THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WANCHAI.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG ON TEL 842 8802 AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4915.

TABLE 1 : RE-EXPORTS FROM THE 10 MAJOR ORIGINS

ORIGIN	JAN-JUN 1993 (HKD MN.)	JAN-JUN 1992 (HKD MN.)	YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE (HKD MN.)	(% CHANGE)
CHINA	209,244	178,021	+ 31,223	+ 17.5
JAPAN	52,927	37,214	+ 15,713	+ 42.2
TAIWAN	30,752	24,770	+ 5,982	+ 24.1
UNITED STATES	17,625	15,287	+ 2,338	+ 15.3
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	10,279	9,286	+ 994	+ 10.7

/GERMANY

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GERMANY	6,847	3,942	+ 2,905	+ 73.7
SINGAPORE	5,308	3,504	+ 1,803	+ 51.5
UNITED KINGDOM	3,835	3,530	+ 305	+ 8.6
FRANCE	3,506	3,116	+ 390	+ 12.5
MALAYSIA	3,097	2,294	+ 803	+ 35.0

TABLE 2 : RE-EXPORTS TO THE 10 MAJOR DESTINATIONS

DESTINATION	JAN-JUN	JAN-JUN	YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE	
	1993 (HKD MN.)	1992 (HKD MN.)	(HKD MN.)	(% CHANGE)
CHINA	129,354	95,180	+ 34,175	+ 35.9
UNITED STATES	78,080	63,917	+ 14,163	+ 22.2
JAPAN	18,724	16,322	+ 2,402	+ 14.7
GERMANY	18,275	14,953	+ 3,321	+ 22.2
TAIWAN	10,846	13,239	- 2,393	- 18.1
UNITED KINGDOM	10,226	8,241	+ 1,985	+ 24.1
SINGAPORE	8,102	6,457	+ 1,645	+ 25.5
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	7,160	6,893	+ 267	+ 3.9
FRANCE	6,192	5,212	+ 979	+ 18.8
CANADA	5,670	5,146	+ 524	+ 10.2

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DONATION FUNDS NEW HOME FOR ELDERLY
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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RECEIVED A DONATION OF \$10 MILLION FOR PROVIDING SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY.

THE DONATION WAS MADE BY MRS HO TIM.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH HER WISHES, THE DONATION WILL HELP ASIA WOMEN'S LEAGUE BUILD A CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY ON RENFREW ROAD IN KOWLOON TONG.

SPEAKING AT A CHEQUE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, SAID THERE WAS AN ACUTE SHORTFALL OF CARE-AND-ATTENTION PLACES IN HONG KONG.

"TO MEET THIS SHORTFALL, PLANS ARE IN PLACE TO PROVIDE 5,000 ADDITIONAL CARE-AND-ATTENTION PLACES IN FOUR YEARS, MAKING A TOTAL PROVISION OF 9,500 SUBVENTED CARE-AND-ATTENTION PLACES.

"COUPLED WITH AGED HOME PLACES, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUBVENTED PLACES IN RESIDENTIAL HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY WILL REACH 17,700 PLACES BY EARLY 1997," HE SAID.

"THIS GENEROUS DONATION HAS MADE IT POSSIBLE TO BRING EARLY RELIEF TO THE DEMAND FOR PLACEMENTS FOR THE ELDERLY," HE ADDED.

THE HOME WILL PROVIDE 190 ADDITIONAL CARE-AND-ATTENTION PLACES AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE LATTER PART OF 1995.

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COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINED SERVICES PAY REAPPOINTED
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT MRS MIRIAM LAU HAS BEEN REAPPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINED SERVICES SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE.

ALSO REAPPOINTED ARE MR ANTHONY NEOH, CHAIRMAN OF THE ICAC SUB-COMMITTEE; MR RONALD ARCULLI, CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL DISCIPLINED SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE; AND MR MARTIN BARROW, CHAIRMAN OF THE POLICE SUB-COMMITTEE.

IN ADDITION, MR ANTHONY CHEUNG, MR TANG KWAI-NANG, MR CHOW CHUN-FAI, MR POON CHIN-HUNG, MR YEUNG KA-SING, DR WILFRED CHAN AND MR BRIAN RENWICK HAVE ALL BEEN REAPPOINTED AS MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

THE REAPPOINTMENTS ARE FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS, WITH EFFECT FROM OCTOBER 1 THIS YEAR.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DISCIPLINED SERVICES SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE IS A PERMANENT BODY APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR TO ADVISE AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE STRUCTURE OF THE DISCIPLINED SERVICES, AND THE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE OF THEIR STAFF.

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HOT AND DRY IN JULY

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JULY WAS A HOT MONTH WITH THE MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE OF 29.4 DEGREES RANKING THE SECOND HIGHEST ON RECORD, ACCORDING TO A MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT OF THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

THE TEMPERATURE IS JUST BELOW THE HIGHEST JULY MEAN OF 29.7 DEGREES RECORDED IN 1967.

THE MONTH'S MEAN MINIMUM AND MEAN WET BULB TEMPERATURES OF 27.6 DEGREES AND 26.5 DEGREES ALSO BROKE THE RECORD.

THERE WERE ALSO LONG SUNNY SPELLS WITH ABOUT 12 PER CENT MORE SUNSHINE HOURS THAN NORMAL.

ON THE WHOLE THE MONTH WAS ALSO MUCH DRIER.

ALTHOUGH SEVERE TROPICAL STORM LEWIS BROUGHT OVER 100 MILLIMETRES OF RAIN TO HONG KONG, THE TOTAL RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH WAS ONLY 213.7 MILLIMETRES, 66 PER CENT OF THE JULY NORMAL OF 323.5 MILLIMETRES.

THIS EVENED OUT THE EXCESS RAINFALL IN JUNE. AS A RESULT, THE TOTAL RAINFALL FOR THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF THE YEAR WAS 1,257.1 MILLIMETRES, ABOUT FOUR PER CENT BELOW THE NORMAL AMOUNT OF 1,316.0 MILLIMETRES FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

THE FINE WEATHER AT THE END OF JUNE CONTINUED INTO EARLY JULY. APART FROM SOME BRIEF MORNING SHOWERS, THE FIRST NINE DAYS OF THE MONTH WERE SUNNY AND HOT WITH MODERATE WINDS MAINLY FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

MEANWHILE, THE CLOUD CLUSTER OVER THE CENTRAL PHILIPPINES DEVELOPED INTO A TROPICAL DEPRESSION NAMED LEWIS ON JULY 8. IT MOVED INTO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND INTENSIFIED THE NEXT DAY.

LOCAL WEATHER STARTED OFF FINE APART FROM A FEW MORNING SHOWERS ON JULY 10. THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 33.5 DEGREES THAT DAY WAS THE HIGHEST OF THE MONTH.

HOWEVER, THE WEATHER DETERIORATED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE EVENING WHEN THE PERIPHERAL RAIN BANDS OF LEWIS BROUGHT HEAVY SHOWERS AND SQUALLY THUNDERSTORMS TO HONG KONG.

WINDS STRENGTHENED FROM THE EAST AND BECAME STRONG GUSTY OFFSHORE.

SEVERE TROPICAL STORM LEWIS CONTINUED TO MOVE WESTWARDS OVER THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON JULY 11 TO 13 AND THE WEATHER IN HONG KONG REMAINED UNSETTLED WITH HEAVY SHOWERS AND OCCASIONAL SQUALLY THUNDERSTORMS.

TEMPERATURES DROPPED TO THE MONTH'S MINIMUM OF 24.3 DEGREES DURING A HEAVY DOWNPOUR IN THE SMALL HOURS OF JULY 14.

/AS LEWIS

AS LEWIS LANDED AND DISSIPATED OVER NORTHERN VIETNAM, THE WEATHER IN HONG KONG IMPROVED RAPIDLY DURING THE DAY ON JULY 14.

EASTERLY WINDS SUBSIDED AND WERE GRADUALLY REPLACED BY A MODERATE SOUTHWESTERLY AIRSTREAM. A FINE SPELL THEN PREVAILED FROM JULY 15 TO 19.

WINDS TURNED SOUTHERLY ON THE NEXT TWO DAYS AND THE WEATHER WAS FINE AND HOT APART FROM MORNING SHOWERS.

IN THE MORNING ON JULY 22, A BAND OF ACTIVE THUNDERSTORMS DEVELOPED OVER THE WATERS TO THE EAST OF HONG KONG. IT MOVED STEADILY IN TO AFFECT THE TERRITORY.

ABOUT 60 MILLIMETRES OF RAIN WAS RECORDED AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY WITHIN AN HOUR, NECESSITATING THE ISSUANCE OF THE ONLY FLOOD WARNING OF THE MONTH.

THE HEAVY SHOWERS DID NOT LAST LONG AND THE WEATHER IMPROVED RAPIDLY BEFORE NOON.

THE WEATHER FOR THE NEXT EIGHT DAYS REMAINED MAINLY FINE APART FROM BRIEF SHOWERS AND ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS.

AFTERNOON MAXIMUM TEMPERATURES CLIMBED STEADILY DURING THE PERIOD AND REACHED THE MONTH'S MAXIMUM OF 33.5 DEGREES FOR A SECOND TIME ON JULY 29.

AN AREA OF UNSETTLED WEATHER DEVELOPED OVER THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA TOWARDS THE END OF THE MONTH.

ISOLATED THUNDERY SHOWERS BEGAN TO AFFECT THE TERRITORY ON JULY 30, WITH MORE FREQUENT HEAVY SHOWERS OCCURRING THE NEXT DAY WHEN AN EASTERLY AIRSTREAM REACHED THE SOUTH CHINA COASTAL AREAS.

FIVE TROPICAL CYCLONES DEVELOPED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA IN JULY. SEVERE TROPICAL STORM LEWIS WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT MOVED INTO THE SOUTH CHINA SEA.

DURING THE MONTH, TWO AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG BECAUSE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER. DETAILS OF THE ISSUANCE/HOISTING AND CANCELLATION/LOWERING OF VARIOUS WARNINGS/SIGNALS IN THE MONTH ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 1.1.

MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL FOR JULY ARE TABULATED IN TABLE 1.2.

TABLE 1.1

WARNINGS AND SIGNALS IN JULY 1993

WARNINGS / SIGNALS	EFFECTIVE DATE AND TIME

TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SIGNALS	
LEWIS	SIGNAL NO. 1 JUL 10 0005 - JUL 10 2200

FLOOD WARNING	JUL 22 0430 - JUL 22 0755

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS	JUL 10 1640 - JUL 10 1840
	JUL 10 2125 - JUL 11 0600
	JUL 11 1250 - JUL 11 1450
	JUL 13 1405 - JUL 13 1605
	JUL 22 0400 - JUL 22 1000
	JUL 28 0435 - JUL 28 0735
	JUL 29 1915 - JUL 29 2115
	JUL 30 0825 - JUL 30 1125
	JUL 30 1335 - JUL 30 1535
	JUL 31 0005 - JUL 31 0705
	JUL 31 0845 - JUL 31 1430
	JUL 31 1600 - JUL 31 2000
	JUL 31 2330 - AUG 1 0730

TABLE 1.2

FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL - JULY 1993

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	259.8 HOURS; 28.7 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	19.18 MJ/SQM; 0.03 MJ/SQM ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	213.7 MM; 109.8 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN CLOUD AMOUNT	75 % ; 10 % ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	79 % ; 1 % BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE	32.0 DEGREES; 0.5 DEGREE ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	29.4 DEGREES; 0.6 DEGREE ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM TEMPERATURE	27.6 DEGREES; 1.0 DEGREE ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	25.3 DEGREES; 0.4 DEGREE ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	150.5 MM; 21.1 MM BELOW NORMAL

DRAGON BOAT RACES HELD ON HUDSON RIVER

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THE U.S. DRAGON BOAT ASSOCIATION TEAM FROM PHILADELPHIA BEAT 11 OTHER TEAMS TO CAPTURE THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE YESTERDAY (SUNDAY) AS THE THIRD ANNUAL HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK REACHED A CRESCENDO.

WITH A WINNING TIME OF 1 MINUTE 37 SECONDS, THE U.S. DRAGON BOAT ASSOCIATION TEAM, PHILADELPHIA, OUT-PADDLED TEAMS FROM ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA IN A TRADITIONAL 640-METRE RACE ON THE HUDSON RIVER OFF LOWER MANHATTAN IN THE HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

THE TEAM WILL BE FLOWN TO HONG KONG TO COMPETE IN THE 1994 HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT RACE.

TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE VIEWED THE RACE AND VISITED THE WEEK-LONG HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL, HELD AT THE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THE FESTIVAL WAS PRESENTED BY THE HONG KONG ECONOMIC & TRADE OFFICE IN NEW YORK AND HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK AND WAS SPONSORED BY HONGKONGBANK.

"SINCE THE LAUNCHING OF THE FIRST HONG KONG DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL IN NEW YORK IN 1991, THIS TRADITIONAL CHINESE FESTIVAL SPORTING EVENT HAS CAUGHT ON IN NEW YORK," SAID HONG KONG COMMISSIONER, USA, MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP RACE.

"I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO SEE THAT THIS YEAR, NOT ONLY HAS THE NUMBER OF TEAMS PARTICIPATING IN THE DRAGON BOAT RACES DOUBLED, BUT ALSO THE SCOPE OF THIS YEAR'S EVENT HAS EXPANDED TO INCLUDE AN EXHIBITION AND CULTURAL FAIR AT THE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTRE," SAID MR WIGGHAM.

"THE MANY EXCITING EVENTS OF THE FESTIVAL WILL ENABLE NEW YORKERS TO GAIN A COLOURFUL INSIGHT INTO THE MANY FACETED LIFE OF HONG KONG."

THE DAY'S EVENTS INCLUDED A PARADE BY ALL 12 TEAMS LED BY A TRADITIONAL DRAGON DANCE.

THE FOUR-DAY CELEBRATION IN THE WINTER GARDEN AND ON THE PLAZA OUTSIDE OF THE WORLD FINANCIAL CENTRE FEATURES DEMONSTRATIONS OF TRADITIONAL CHINESE DRAFTS, COOKING, MARTIAL ARTS AND DANCES, AND STATE-OF-THE-ART PRODUCTS AND DISPLAYS.

THE DEMONSTRATIONS AND EXHIBITS INCLUDE: CHINESE MUSIC AND DANCE, MARTIAL ARTS, CHINESE KNOTTING, CALLIGRAPHY, ARTISTIC SEAL CARVING, CHINESE PAINTING, AND DOUGH FIGURES. A "HONG KONG VILLAGE" WAS ALSO SET UP ON THE PLAZA.

MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1993

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FRESH WATER CUT IN SAN PO KONG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SAN PO KONG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON WEDNESDAY (AUGUST 18) TO 6 AM THE NEXT DAY TO FACILITATE WASTE DETECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT 690-714 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST, 2-48 SHUNG LING STREET, 2-24 YAN OI STREET, 1-57 AND 2-64 YIN HING STREET, 8-114 CHOI HUNG ROAD, 2-4 AND 3-27 FOO YUEN STREET, 1-33 AND 2-26 KAM WING STREET; AND 15-41 AND 6-120 TSEUK LUK STREET.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 76 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 445.456 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 502.090 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 85.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	16 AUGUST 1993
PAPER ON OFFER	EF NOTES
ISSUE NUMBER	2508
AMOUNT APPLIED	HK\$2,500 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HK\$500 MN
AVERAGE PRICE ACCEPTED	100.56
LOWEST PRICE ACCEPTED	100.56
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 94 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER PRICE	100.42

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MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,310
REVERSAL OF LAF	+690
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-120
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,880
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.1 *-0.2* 16.8.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.19 PCT	12 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.86	3.53
1 MONTH	3.01 PCT	15 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.18	3.68
3 MONTHS	3.03 PCT	18 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.22	3.94
6 MONTHS	3.13 PCT	21 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.26	4.23
12 MONTHS	3.47 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 12,816 MN

CLOSED 16 AUGUST 1993

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