



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1992

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STATEMENT ON LAW OF CONTRACT

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COMMENTING ON THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE HONG KONG AND MACAU AFFAIRS OFFICE IN PEKING TODAY, A HONG KONG GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID:

"THE JOINT DECLARATION MAKES CLEAR THAT AFTER THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, THE LAWS PREVIOUSLY IN FORCE IN HONG KONG, WHICH INCLUDE THE LAW OF CONTRACT, SHALL BE MAINTAINED, SAVE FOR ANY THAT CONTRAVENE THE BASIC LAW AND SUBJECT TO ANY AMENDMENT BY THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION LEGISLATURE.

ACCORDING TO THE BASIC LAW, CONTRACTS WHICH ARE VALID UNDER HONG KONG'S EXISTING LAWS WILL CONTINUE TO BE VALID AND RECOGNISED AND PROTECTED BY THE HONG KONG SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGION, PROVIDED THAT THEY DO NOT CONTRAVENE THE BASIC LAW.

AS A MATTER OF CURRENT PRACTICE, WE DISCUSS MAJOR GOVERNMENT FRANCHISES AND CONTRACTS STRADDLING 1997 WITH THE CHINESE SIDE OF THE JOINT LIAISON GROUP. THESE DISCUSSIONS HAVE BEEN PRODUCTIVE IN THE PAST AND WE ARE GLAD TO NOTE THAT THE CHINESE SIDE INTEND IN FUTURE TO TAKE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO POST-1997 INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG."

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NEXT STEPS IN CONSTITUTIONAL PACKAGE EXPLAINED

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THE SECRETARY FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SZE, TODAY (MONDAY) EXPLAINED THE NEXT STEPS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT WAS GOING TO TAKE CONCERNING THE CONSTITUTIONAL PACKAGE.

ADDRESSING THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION IN LONDON, MR SZE EMPHASISED THAT THE PROPOSALS PUT FORWARD BY THE GOVERNOR WERE NOT SET IN CONCRETE BUT WERE PROPOSALS FOR DISCUSSION WITH ANYONE.

"THOSE CRITICAL OF OUR PROPOSALS SHOULD ADVANCE BEYOND PURELY RHETORICAL CHANTS. THEY SHOULD ALSO TELL US WHAT BETTER ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS THEY THEMSELVES HAVE IN MIND," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE JUST ONE BOTTOM LINE - THE ELECTORAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR 1994/95 SHOULD BE OPEN, FAIR AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG."

MR SZE SAID TIME WAS OF THE ESSENCE BECAUSE THE DEBATE COULD NOT GO ON ENDLESSLY.

GIVEN THE NORMAL ELECTION CYCLE AND THE TIMING OF THE 1994 AND 1995 ELECTIONS, IT WAS INCUMBENT ON THE ADMINISTRATION, WITH THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, TO PUT FIRM, CLEAR AND DETAILED PROPOSALS ON THE FINAL PACKAGE TO LEGCO SOME TIME EARLY NEXT YEAR IN THE FORM OF DRAFT LEGISLATION.

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"AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT WILL BE FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG, TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE REFORM PACKAGE IN THE LIGHT OF ALL THE VIEWS EXPRESSED," HE SAID.

HE SAID HE HAD EVERY CONFIDENCE IN THE JUDGEMENT AND INTEGRITY OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS IN CARRYING OUT THIS SOLEMN DUTY IN A RESPONSIBLE WAY AND IN THE LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

TURNING TO CONCERNS ABOUT DETERIORATION IN SINO-BRITISH RELATIONS AND ITS EFFECT ON HONG KONG, MR SZE SAID RELATIONS WITH CHINA HAD FOR LONG BEEN A MAJOR FACTOR IN POLICY MAKING, AND IT WAS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT NOW AS 1997 DREW CLOSER.

"BUT OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA IS NOT A FREE-STANDING ENTITY OF ITS OWN. IT IS NOT THE ONLY BENCH-MARK AGAINST WHICH OUR ACTIONS WILL BE JUDGED," HE SAID.

HE SAID THE FURTHERANCE OF A GOOD RELATIONSHIP DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT BOTH SIDES COULD AGREE ON ALL ISSUES AT ALL TIMES.

IN A MATURE RELATIONSHIP, THERE WOULD INEVITABLY BE TIMES WHERE THE TWO PARTIES HAD TO AGREE TO DISAGREE.

MR SZE ALSO ADDRESSED THE MAIN CRITICISMS MADE BY THE CHINESE SIDE, WHICH WERE THAT THE PROPOSALS WERE TOO RADICAL AND CONFRONTATIONAL, THAT THEY PRE-EMPTED CONSULTATION WITH CHINA, THAT THEY WERE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE BASIC LAW, AND THAT THEY WERE NOT CONDUCIVE TO STABILITY AND PROSPERITY.

MR SZE SAID THE PROPOSALS WERE NOT CONFRONTATIONAL AT ALL. OTHERWISE HONG KONG WOULD HAVE FORGED AHEAD TO INCREASE DEMOCRACY BY THE MOST DIRECT MEANS, WHICH WAS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF DIRECTLY ELECTED SEATS.

"IT IS PRECISELY TO AVOID DIRECT CONFRONTATION THAT WE HAVE PROPOSED TO BROADEN THE DEMOCRATIC BASE OF THE 1995 ELECTION BY ALTERNATIVE MEANS, WHICH ARE IN KEEPING WITH THE BASIC LAW," HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPRUDENT FOR THE GOVERNOR TO DISCUSS THESE PROPOSALS WITH CHINA BEHIND THE BACKS OF HONG KONG PEOPLE.

HAD HE DONE SO, IT WOULD HAVE IMMEDIATELY CAUSED WORRYING SPECULATION ABOUT WHAT SECRET DEALS WERE IN THE MAKING. THIS WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CONDUCIVE TO POLITICAL STABILITY.

ON THE CRITICISMS THAT THE PROPOSALS WERE INCOMPATIBLE WITH THE BASIC LAW, MR SZE SAID IT WAS A FACT THAT THE BASIC LAW DID NOT PROVIDE ALL THE ANSWERS ABOUT HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE 1995 ELECTIONS.

IT WAS LITERALLY SILENT ON WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE NINE NEW FUNCTIONAL CONSTITUENCIES OR ABOUT THE ELECTION COMMITTEE FOR 1995.

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"IT IS THEREFORE INCUMBENT UPON US TO COME UP WITH SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO FLESH OUT THESE POINTS. WHAT WE HAVE PROPOSED ARE FULLY CONSISTENT WITH THE BASIC LAW PRINCIPLES OF GRADUAL AND ORDERLY PROGRESS, AND OF OPENNESS AND DEMOCRACY," HE SAID.

ON THE CRITICISM THAT THE PROPOSALS WERE NOT CONDUCIVE TO PROSPERITY AND STABILITY, HE SAID AS THE COMMUNITY BECOMES MORE MATURE AND AS THE LEVEL OF SOPHISTICATION INCREASED IN STEP WITH BETTER EDUCATION AND IMPROVEMENT IN ECONOMIC POWER, IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT THERE WERE MORE DEMANDS FOR A GREATER DEGREE OF PARTICIPATION IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

"NOTHING WILL DO MORE TO DE-STABILISE SOCIETY THAN TO TRY AND BLOCK OFF OR RESIST THE REASONABLE AMBITION OF THE COMMUNITY IN THIS AREA. AND POLITICAL STABILITY IS, AS WE ALL KNOW, ESSENTIAL FOR THE SOCIAL STABILITY AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS THAT ALL OF US DESIRE," HE SAID.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER

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HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS RECORDED A STRONG INCREASE DURING OCTOBER, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH.

CONSISTENT WITH THIS, THE BROADEST HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY, M3, ROSE DURING THE MONTH. HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS AND ADVANCES ALSO INCREASED IN OCTOBER.

DEPOSITS

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A NUMBER OF SHARE FLOTATION EXERCISES, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, ROSE SHARPLY BY 19.1% IN OCTOBER FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.0% AND 2.8% IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY.

MAINLY DUE TO THE SHARE FLOTATION OF THE CHINA TRAVEL INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT LTD, DEMAND DEPOSITS AND TIME DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 80.0% AND 16.9% RESPECTIVELY WHILE SAVING DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 2.4%. YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 38.9%.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 1.0% IN OCTOBER, AFTER INCREASES OF 1.3% AND 1.5% IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY.

OF THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 2.3% WHILE NON-U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS RECORDED INSIGNIFICANT CHANGE. YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 10.2%.

/DURING OCTOBER,

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DURING OCTOBER, DEPOSITS IN ALL CURRENCIES WITH LICENSED BANKS ROSE BY 9.8% WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES FELL BY 3.8% AND 2.9% RESPECTIVELY.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS GREW BY 24.9% WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECLINED BY 13.9% AND 22.7% RESPECTIVELY.

MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 54.2%, 18.3% AND 17.6% IN OCTOBER, COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 16.9%, 2.7% AND 2.7% IN SEPTEMBER.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 113.3%, 39.4% AND 37.1% RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 INCREASED BY 49.7%, 9.4% AND 8.9% RESPECTIVELY IN OCTOBER. THESE COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 14.5%, 2.2% AND 2.0% RESPECTIVELY IN SEPTEMBER.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 99.5%, 24.6% AND 22.5% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 3.5% IN OCTOBER, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 2.4% AND 2.5% IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE LOANS, HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS INCREASED BY 15.8% WHILE FOREIGN CURRENCY LOANS DECREASED BY 2.3%. COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 34.4% AND 18.7% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG INCREASED BY 0.04% IN OCTOBER, AFTER DECREASES OF 0.1% AND 1.9% IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, SUCH LOANS GREW BY 7.7%.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG INCREASED BY 13.7% IN OCTOBER, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 0.9% AND 2.3% IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 31.7%.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG DECREASED BY 2.5% IN OCTOBER, AFTER INCREASES OF 3.7% AND 3.0% IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 21.0%.

LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG INCREASED BY 2.9% DURING OCTOBER, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 1.2% IN AUGUST AND A DECREASE OF 1.8% IN SEPTEMBER. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS DECREASED BY 1.0%.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 159. THE NUMBER OF RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS INCREASED BY ONE TO 55 WHILE THE NUMBER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY ONE TO 147.

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MONETARY STATISTICS - OCTOBER 1992

(HK\$mn)

	Oct 1992	Earlier months (% change to Oct 1992)		
		Sep 1992	Jul 1992	Oct 1991
Money Supply				
M1 - HK\$	230,705	149,595 (54.2)	132,296 (74.4)	108,142 (113.3)
Foreign currency	16,879	15,830 (6.6)	16,177 (4.3)	15,964 (5.7)
Total	247,584	165,425 (49.7)	148,473 (66.8)	124,106 (99.5)
M2 - HK\$*	851,699	719,965 (18.3)	693,623 (22.8)	611,155 (39.4)
Foreign currency*	789,850	780,254 (1.2)	756,977 (4.3)	706,650 (11.8)
Total	1,641,549	1,500,219 (9.4)	1,450,601 (13.2)	1,317,804 (24.6)
M3 - HK\$*	873,362	742,406 (17.6)	715,622 (22.0)	636,798 (37.1)
Foreign currency*	823,510	815,111 (1.0)	792,679 (3.9)	748,809 (10.0)
Total	1,696,872	1,557,518 (8.9)	1,508,301 (12.5)	1,385,607 (22.5)
Notes and coins in circulation	56,748	56,299 (0.8)	54,459 (4.2)	46,097 (23.1)
of which held by public	49,588	48,957 (1.3)	47,022 (5.5)	40,082 (23.7)
Total Deposits				
Total Demand deposits	197,996	116,468 (70.0)	101,451 (95.2)	84,024 (135.6)
Total Savings deposits	352,604	351,317 (0.4)	347,454 (1.5)	291,009 (21.2)
Total Time deposits with licensed banks	1,024,495	967,129 (5.9)	938,030 (9.2)	886,557 (15.6)
Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks	34,183	35,543 (-3.8)	36,257 (-5.7)	39,693 (-13.9)
Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies	19,187	19,754 (-2.9)	20,029 (-4.2)	24,816 (-22.7)
HK\$ deposits*	809,604	679,547 (19.1)	654,827 (23.6)	583,035 (38.9)
US\$ deposits*	375,617	367,338 (2.3)	334,256 (12.4)	301,948 (24.4)
Other foreign currency deposits*	443,245	443,326 (-0.0)	454,138 (-2.4)	441,115 (0.5)
All deposits	1,628,466	1,490,211 (9.3)	1,443,221 (12.8)	1,326,099 (22.8)
Foreign currency swap deposits	57,329	51,317 (2.0)	46,747 (11.9)	41,893 (24.9)
Total Loans and advances				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	89,210	89,173 (0.0)	90,945 (-1.9)	82,806 (7.7)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	11,450	11,126 (2.9)	11,196 (2.3)	11,569 (-1.0)
Other loans for use in H.K.	1,037,830	912,534 (13.7)	884,492 (17.3)	787,995 (31.7)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	1,434,577	1,471,180 (-2.5)	1,377,519 (4.1)	1,185,737 (21.0)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	37,266	37,440 (-0.5)	38,022 (-2.0)	39,046 (-4.6)
Loans in HK\$	937,192	809,135 (15.8)	789,201 (18.8)	697,195 (34.4)
Loans in foreign currencies	1,673,141	1,712,319 (-2.3)	1,612,973 (3.7)	1,409,958 (18.7)
Total loans and advances	2,610,333	2,521,453 (3.5)	2,402,174 (8.7)	2,107,153 (23.9)

* Adjusted for foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

Note: 'Restricted licence banks' and 'deposit-taking companies' were known as 'licensed deposit-taking companies' and 'registered deposit-taking companies' respectively before 1 February 1990.

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GOVT WILL INVEST IN EMERGENCY SERVICES: FS

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO INVEST IN ESSENTIAL AND EMERGENCY SERVICES TO ENSURE THAT HONG KONG REMAINS A SAFE AND EFFICIENT PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE, TO VISIT, TO DO BUSINESS AND TO INVEST, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE FIRE SERVICES COMMUNICATION CENTRE, MR MACLEOD SAID THE COMPUTERISED CENTRE COST OVER \$100 MILLION TO BUILD AND EQUIP.

"BUT GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY, I MUST SAY THAT THIS MONEY IS WELL SPENT," HE SAID.

THE COMMUNICATION CENTRE RECEIVES CALLS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, AND WITH THE HELP OF THE COMPUTER, IDENTIFIES THE LOCATION OF THE INCIDENTS AS WELL AS THE NEAREST FIRE APPLIANCES AND AMBULANCES, AND DESPACHES THEM TO THE SCENE.

IT IS THE NERVE CENTRE OF ALL FIRE SERVICES ACTIVITIES.

"NO DOUBT, THE ADVENT OF THIS SOPHISTICATED AND MODERN COMMUNICATION CENTRE - AND WITH IT A MUCH MORE EFFICIENT MOBILISATION SYSTEM - WILL SUBSTANTIALLY BOOST THE DEPARTMENT'S SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC," HE SAID.

HE ALSO PRAISED THE FIRE SERVICES FOR BEING NOTED FOR THEIR PROFESSIONALISM, DEDICATION, AND ESPRIT DE CORPS.

"DESPITE THE EVER INCREASING CALLS FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES, THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN ABLE TO RESPOND SPEEDILY," HE SAID.

"IN OVER 80 PER CENT OF ALL FIRE AND SPECIAL SERVICES CASES ATTENDED TO LAST YEAR, FIVE SERVICES PERSONNEL WERE ABLE TO REACH THE SCENES WITHIN GRADED RESPONSE TIMES.

"THAT IS TO SAY SIX MINUTES IN BUILT-UP URBAN AREAS AND NEW TOWNS.

"IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY AMBULANCE CALLS, OVER 90 PER CENT OF SUCH CALLS WERE ATTENDED TO WITHIN THE TARGET TRAVEL TIME OF 10 MINUTES," HE NOTED.

MR MACLEOD SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED TO LEARN THAT THE DEPARTMENT WAS GEARING UP ITS EFFORTS TO TRY AND ATTEND EVEN MORE CALLS WITHIN THE STANDARD RESPONSE TIMES UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S PERFORMANCE PLEDGE PROGRAMME.

THE TARGET SET FOR 1992/93 WILL BE 85 PER CENT FOR FIRE CALLS AND 91.5 PER CENT FOR EMERGENCY AMBULANCE CALLS, ACCORDING TO THE PROGRAMME.

/THESE PLEDGES

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THESE PLEDGES ARE TO BE ATTAINED WITHIN EXISTING RESOURCES.

"THESE PERFORMANCE PLEDGES FORM PART OF THE INITIATIVES TO ACHIEVE GREATER OPENNESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT AND TO DEVELOP A USER-ORIENTATED SERVICE IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR.

"I AM CONFIDENT THAT OUR COLLEAGUES IN THE FIRE SERVICES WILL RISE TO THIS CHALLENGE," MR MACLEOD SAID.

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KAI TAK EXTENSION PROGRESSING ON PROGRAMME

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WORKS TO EXTEND THE KAI TAK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARE PROGRESSING ON PROGRAMME AND WELL WITHIN ESTIMATES, TO PROVIDE 30 MORE PARKING BAYS FOR AIRCRAFT UPON COMPLETION BY MARCH 1994.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, DURING HIS SITE VISIT TO KAI TAK TODAY (MONDAY) TO SEE FOR HIMSELF PROGRESS OF THE \$740 MILLION EXTENSION PROGRAMME WHICH HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT IN PHASES SINCE AUGUST 1988.

MR BLAKE SAID THE EXTENSION PROGRAMME INCLUDED FORMATION OF 36 HECTARES OF LAND FOR AIRCRAFT PARKING, WORKS TO IMPROVE AND EXTEND THE TERMINAL FACILITIES AND RESURFACING OF PART OF THE RUNWAY.

THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF THE EXTENSION PROGRAMME.

"SO FAR, 19 NEW PARKING BAYS HAD BEEN COMPLETED. ANOTHER FIVE BAYS WILL BE ADDED IN THE CURRENT PHASE OF WORK DUE FOR COMPLETION IN AUGUST 1993, AT WHICH TIME A TOTAL OF 63 PARKING BAYS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT KAI TAK AIRPORT.

"THE FINAL PHASE WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF SIX MORE BAYS TO BRING THE FINAL TOTAL NUMBER OF PARKING BAYS TO 69 BY EARLY 1994," HE SAID.

MR BLAKE SAID THE CURRENT EXTENSION PROGRAMME WAS DESIGNED TO INCREASE KAI TAK'S CAPACITY TO HANDLE AIR TRAFFIC WHICH WAS EXPECTED TO REACH SATURATION BY 1994 WHEN THE NUMBER OF AIR PASSENGERS WOULD GROW TO 24 MILLION COMPARED WITH 19.2 MILLION LAST YEAR.

MR BLAKE SAID: "WE ALREADY HAVE A VERY EFFICIENT AIRPORT WHICH IS HANDLING 32 FLIGHTS PER HOUR DURING THE BUSY PERIOD.

"AT THE END OF OCTOBER THIS YEAR, THE 12 MONTH THROUGHPUT HAD REACHED 21.6 MILLION PASSENGERS, WITH CARGO THROUGHPUT AT 930,000 TONNES.

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"WHILE THE CURRENT EXTENSION PROGRAMME WILL FURTHER OPTIMISE KAI TAK'S EFFICIENCY, EXTENSION BEYOND THE PRESENT WORKS IS IMPOSSIBLE DUE TO THE RESTRICTIONS ARISING FROM A SINGLE RUNWAY OPERATION AND PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC MOVEMENT AFTER MIDNIGHT. REMOVAL OF THE NIGHT-TIME RESTRICTION WOULD PLACE UNACCEPTABLE DEMANDS UPON RESIDENTS LIVING BELOW THE FLIGHT PATH AND THOSE CLOSE TO THE AIRPORT.

"THE PREDICTED AIR TRAVEL GROWTH FOR THE REGION AND INTERNATIONALLY MAKE IT OBVIOUS, AS BORNE OUT BY THE 14% INCREASE IN PASSENGER TRAFFIC ALREADY SEEN THIS YEAR, THAT THE NEED FOR OUR NEW AIRPORT BY 1997 IS BECOMING EVER MORE PRESSING," MR BLAKE SAID.

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SPEED LIMIT ON EXPRESSWAYS TO BE RELAXED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT SPEED LIMIT ON SEVERAL EXPRESSWAYS WILL BE RELAXED FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID SPEED LIMIT ON T6 BRIDGE AND ON CHEUNG PEI SHAN ROAD WILL BE RELAXED, FROM 70 TO 80 KILOMETRES PER HOUR.

THE 100 KILOMETRE-PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT ON THE TOLO HIGHWAY WILL BE EXTENDED SOUTHWARDS BY ABOUT 400 METRES.

ON THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROUTE, THE SPEED LIMIT WILL BE FROM 80 TO 100 KILOMETRES PER HOUR BETWEEN SO KWUN PO AND FAIRVIEW PARK IN THE WESTBOUND DIRECTION AND BETWEEN FAIRVIEW PARK AND SAN SHAN ROAD AND BETWEEN PO SHEK WU ROAD AND SO KWUN PO IN THE EASTBOUND DIRECTION.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGE TO THE SPEED LIMIT FOR THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR, THE KWUN TONG BY PASS, ON ROUTE 6 BETWEEN TATE'S CAIRN TUNNEL AND THE T6 BRIDGE AND THE TUEN MUN ROAD.

SPEED LIMIT FOR THE ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR, THE KWUN TONG BY PASS, AND ON TUEN MUN ROAD WILL REMAIN AT 70 KILOMETRES PER HOUR, WHILE THE SPEED LIMIT ON ROUTE 6 WILL REMAIN AT 80 KILOMETRES PER HOUR.

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SPECIAL LEGCO MEETING TOMORROW

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL BRIEF MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON HIS RECENT OVERSEAS VISITS AT A SPECIAL SITTING OF THE COUNCIL AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES OF THE LEGCO CHAMBER. THEY MAY RESERVE SEATS BY CALLING 869 9492.

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ADDITIONAL ROLE FOR BLD

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THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE OVER THE ROLE OF PROVIDING LEGAL ADVICE AND CONVEYANCING SERVICE ON ALL GOVERNMENT LAND MATTERS FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE LEGAL ADVISORY AND CONVEYANCING SECTION OF THE RGD WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE BLD WHERE A NEW LEGAL ADVISORY AND CONVEYANCING OFFICE WILL BE SET UP.

"IT WILL BECOME THE FOURTH MAIN OFFICE WITHIN BLD, ALONGSIDE THE LANDS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE AND THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE TRANSFER OF THE SECTION FROM RGD TO BLD WILL GIVE THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS COMPLETE RESPONSIBILITY FOR, AND CONTROL OVER, ALL RESOURCES INVOLVED IN LAND ADMINISTRATION.

HE SAID THE NEW OFFICE WOULD BE HEADED BY A PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS, AND STAFFED MAINLY BY TWO GRADES OF OFFICERS, NAMELY THE SOLICITOR GRADE AND THE NEWLY CREATED LAND CONVEYANCING OFFICER GRADE.

"THE NEW OFFICE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LEGAL ADVICE ON ALL GOVERNMENT LAND MATTERS AND CONDUCT ALL GOVERNMENT PROPERTY CONVEYANCING," HE SAID.

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OPENING OF TSING YI TOWN CLINIC

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THE TSING YI TOWN CLINIC, WITH ITS NEW BUILDING DESIGN AND NEW OPERATIONAL STYLES, EPITOMISES THE DEVOTION OF HEALTH CARE PLANNERS TO THE CAUSE OF QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE, MRS PATTEN SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CLINIC THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON, MRS PATTEN HIGHLIGHTED THE IMPORTANCE OF A QUALITY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDED AT THE FIRST POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS OR FAMILIES AND THE HEALTH SYSTEM.

MRS PATTEN SAID: "NONE OF US, I AM SURE, WOULD LIKE OURSELVES OR OUR FAMILY MEMBERS TO UNDERGO COMPLICATED TREATMENT IN HOSPITAL IF A DISEASE CAN BE CURED AT THE EARLIEST STAGE AND BETTER STILL, IF DISEASE CAN BE PREVENTED."

"I BELIEVE IT IS ALSO BENEFICIAL FOR THE COMMUNITY TO MINIMISE PRESSURE ON THE MORE EXPENSIVE AND TECHNOLOGICALLY MORE SPECIALISED MEDICAL SERVICES," SHE ADDED.

MRS PATTEN THEN EXTENDED HER WARM SUPPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S AIM IN BUILDING UP BETTER QUALITY PRIMARY HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

/MRS PATTEN

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MRS PATTEN WAS ALSO DELIGHTED TO LEARN THAT THE DEPARTMENT, WITHIN A SPAN OF LESS THAN TWO YEARS, INITIATED A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WHICH GREATLY ENHANCED THE QUALITY OF THE GENERAL OUT-PATIENT (GOP) CLINIC SERVICE.

THESE CHANGES FEATURE INDIVIDUAL MEDICAL RECORDS, AN APPOINTMENT SYSTEM, DRUG LABELLING AND HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMMES.

"ALL THESE ARE BEING ACCOMPLISHED WITH THE MAXIMUM ECONOMY AND THE CREDIT SHOULD GO TO THE DEVOTED FRONT-LINE WORKERS AS WELL AS THE FAR-SIGHTED PLANNERS OF PRIMARY HEALTH CARE," MRS PATTEN SAID.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE CEREMONY, THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR S H LEE, SAID THE NEW DESIGN OF THE CLINIC PROVIDED A HOMELY ATMOSPHERE, A COMFORTABLE AND CLIENT-ORIENTED ENVIRONMENT.

DR LEE SAID THE NEW CLINIC, WITH A FLOOR AREA OF ABOUT 900 SQUARE METRES AND BEING THE SECOND OUT-PATIENT CLINIC ON TSING YI, WAS BUILT TO MEET THE INCREASING DEMAND FOR GOP SERVICES FROM THE 160,000 LOCAL RESIDENTS.

DR LEE SAID: "IN SERVING THE COMMUNITY, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS BEEN DEVELOPING THE PRACTICES OF BEING A 'CARING AND COMMUNICATING DEPARTMENT'.

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IS PARTICIPATORY CARE," DR LEE SAID, "AND THE QUALITY CARE CAN BE FURTHER IMPROVED WITH GREATER COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT."

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CANDIDATE WITHDRAWS FROM LAB ELECTION

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED A NOTIFICATION FROM THE HONG KONG AIRCREW OFFICERS ASSOCIATION TO WITHDRAW THE NOMINATION OF CAPTAIN W B TUCKNOTT AS A CANDIDATE FOR THE FORTHCOMING LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD ELECTION.

CONSEQUENTLY, ONLY EIGHT CANDIDATES WILL VIE FOR FIVE SEATS AS EMPLOYEES' REPRESENTATIVES ON THE BOARD FOR A TWO-YEAR TERM STARTING NEXT JANUARY.

THEY ARE:

* MR LEUNG FU-WAH

HONG KONG AND KOWLOON RUBBER AND PLASTIC WORKERS GENERAL UNION

* MR CHEUNG KWOK-BUI, FELIX

HONG KONG CIVIL SERVANTS GENERAL UNION

/* MISS LI

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* MISS LI FUNG-YING

HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES'
GENERAL UNION

* MR CHU MING

HONG KONG PROSTHETISTS AND ORTHOTISTS ASSOCIATION

* MR LEUNG CHOK-FU

HONG KONG AND KOWLOON CLOCK AND WATCH TRADE WORKERS UNION

* MR CHEUNG PAK-CHI

CABLE AND WIRELESS (HK) LTD STAFF ASSOCIATION

* MR LEUNG TSZ-LEUNG

HONG KONG BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS GENERAL UNION

* MR LEUNG SHIU-CHUN

UNION OF HEADS OF AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOLS OF HONG KONG

THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON DECEMBER 5 AT WAH YAN COLLEGE IN
KOWLOON.

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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 A TENEMENT BUILDING IN CHAI WAN SO THAT THEY CAN BE
DEMOLISHED WITHOUT CAUSING DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES ARE LOCATED AT THE ROOF OVER FLATS
B AND D, FIFTH FLOOR OF MAN WAH BUILDING, 7-7D SUI MAN ROAD.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER UNDER THE
BUILDINGS ORDINANCE FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON FEBRUARY 23,
1993 WAS POSTED ON THE PREMISES TODAY (MONDAY).

DEMOLITION WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE
ORDER IS ISSUED.

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STUDENTS URGED TO SET GOALS

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STUDENTS SHOULD SET GOALS AND STANDARD OF ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH WOULD LEAD THEM TO A MEANINGFUL LIFE, THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR DOMINIC S W WONG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE CHIU CHOW PUBLIC SCHOOL ANNUAL SPEECH DAY IN SHA TIN, MR WONG URGED GRADUATES TO MAKE USE OF THE KNOWLEDGE THEY LEARNED IN SCHOOL WHEN JOINING SOCIETY AS ADULTS.

"YOU NEED TO BE KIND-HEARTED AND FORGIVING, HAVE THE VIRTUE OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND THOUGHTFULNESS AND THE ABILITY TO DISTINGUISH RIGHT FROM WRONG," MR WONG SAID.

STUDENTS ALSO NEEDED TO DEVELOP PHYSICAL AND MENTAL STRENGTHS TO BETTER FACE FUTURE FRUSTRATIONS AND DIFFICULTIES, HE SAID.

MR WONG STRESSED THAT IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEVELOP A RIGHTEOUS AND UNCORRUPTED CHARACTER.

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1992 HK ANNUAL DIGEST OF STATISTICS NOW ON SALE

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) PUBLISHED THE 1992 EDITION OF THE HONG KONG ANNUAL DIGEST OF STATISTICS.

THE REPORT COVERS STATISTICS ON A WIDE RANGE OF TOPICS INCLUDING CLIMATE AND GEOGRAPHY, POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS, LABOUR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION, BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION, AND DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES.

ALSO INCLUDED ARE TRANSPORT, GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, COMMUNICATION AND TOURISM, FOOD SUPPLIES, HOUSING, EDUCATION, MEDICAL AND HEALTH, SOCIAL WELFARE, LAW AND ORDER, PUBLIC FINANCE, FINANCE AND BANKING, PRICES, AND CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT.

ALTOGETHER, THERE ARE ABOUT 300 TABLES IN 20 SECTIONS, COVERING WHEREVER POSSIBLE A 10-YEAR PERIOD FROM 1982-1991.

THE REPORT IS AVAILABLE AT \$98 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE AT GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1992

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 67 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 392.766 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 242.136 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 41.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,460
REVERSAL OF LAF	+40
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	NIL
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 114 **0.1*	30.11.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.06 PCT	15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.76	4.90
1 MONTH	3.92 PCT	18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.73	5.04
3 MONTHS	3.96 PCT	21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.80	5.18
6 MONTHS	4.06 PCT	24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.80	5.43
12 MONTHS	4.63 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 7,839 MN

CLOSED 30 NOVEMBER 1992

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