



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVT'S MOTTO: MINIMUM INTERFERENCE BUT MAXIMUM SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY

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THE GOVERNMENT'S MOTTO TO HELP SUSTAIN HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC STRENGTH IS: "THE MINIMUM INTERFERENCE BUT THE MAXIMUM SUPPORT FOR INDUSTRY", THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"WE ARE DETERMINED TO SEE THAT HONG KONG REMAINS ONE OF THE STRONGEST ECONOMIES IN THE WORLD AND IN THAT WAY WE'LL HAVE THE RESOURCES TO MEET THE INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ASPIRATIONS THAT WE HAVE AS A COMMUNITY," MR PATTEN SAID.

THE GOVERNOR WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER A DAY'S TOUR OF TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS, FACTORIES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO SEE HOW THEY HAD CONTRIBUTED TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS.

HE ALSO SAID HONG KONG HAD AN IMMENSELY POWERFUL TRADING COMMUNITY AND IT CONTINUED TO INCREASE THE SHARE OF WORLD MARKETS.

THE GOVERNOR BEGAN HIS DAY WITH A BRIEFING BY THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR T.H. CHAU, AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

ACCOMPANIED BY MR CHAU, MR PATTEN VISITED THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL (HKPC) WHERE HE MET THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, MR JAMES TIEN; DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, DR JOHN LO; AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, MR S.K.CHAN.

HE THEN TOURED THE HKPC BUILDING TO SEE PRODUCTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS AT THE COMPUTER AID DESIGN SERVICES CENTRE, RADIO FREQUENCY LABORATORY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT LABORATORY.

LATER ON, HE VISITED THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND MET THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TRADE, MR DONALD TSANG, AND OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS WHO BRIEFED HIM ON THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

AFTER LUNCH, THE GOVERNOR WENT ON TO THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WHERE HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, AND HIS STAFF ON THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT AND ON HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

HIS NEXT STOP WAS THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT. MR PATTEN SAW THE PUBLIC SEARCH AREA OF THE TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS REGISTRY WHERE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC COULD SEARCH FOR REGISTERED TRADE MARKS AND PATENTS.

THE GOVERNOR THEN VISITED TWO FACTORIES OF THE CHEN HSONG HOLDINGS LTD IN THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE.

RECEIVED BY THE COMPANY'S CHAIRMAN, MR CHIANG CHEN, HE FIRST SAW THE MANUFACTURING OF COMPUTER-CONTROLLED PLASTIC INJECTION MOULDING MACHINES AT THE CHEN HSONG MACHINERY CO. LTD.

HE THEN VISITED THE HONG KONG CAD-CAM SERVICES LTD NEXT DOOR AND SAW THE USE OF SOPHISTICATED COMPUTERISED MACHINERY IN THE MANUFACTURING OF PRECISION MOULDS.

HE CONCLUDED HIS DAY'S VISIT BY TOURING THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (TDC). HE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY TDC CHAIRMAN, DR VICTOR FUNG.

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GOVERNOR HOPES FOR RAPID PROGRESS IN AIRPORT FINANCE TALKS

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THE ONLY NEGOTIATING POSITION FOR THE GOVERNMENT IS TO GET THE BEST POSSIBLE DEAL FOR HONG KONG IN ORDER TO BUILD THE BEST POSSIBLE AIRPORT, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER VISITING A FACTORY IN TAI PO, HE SAID THE REALITY WAS THAT THE AIRPORT WOULD BE COMPLETED.

"EVERYBODY KNOWS IT. EVERYBODY WANTS TO GET AHEAD WITH IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. I WISH I COULD SAY THAT DELAY WAS A COST-FREE OPTION, ALAS IT'S NOT," MR PATTEN SAID.

HE ADDED: "WHETHER OR NOT I SIT DOWN AT THE TABLE TO TALK ABOUT THE AIRPORT DOESN'T CHANGE THE REALITIES."

"THE SOONER WE REACH AN AGREEMENT; AND WE WILL BEFORE TOO LONG, REACH AN AGREEMENT, ON THE OVERALL FINANCING OF THE AIRPORT AND THE PROJECTS ASSOCIATED WITH IT, THE BETTER," HE ADDED.

MR PATTEN SAID THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE HAD AGREED TO REFLECT ON ISSUES RAISED AND HE HOPED THAT THOSE REFLECTIONS COULD LEAD TO A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION TO THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

"I THINK WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT WHEN THE PERIOD OF REFLECTION IS COMPLETED, AND AUGUST IS SOMETIMES A PARTICULARLY GOOD TIME FOR REFLECTION, WHEN THAT PERIOD OF REFLECTION IS OVER I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT WE'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS AS RAPIDLY AS WE CAN.

"WE HAVE EXTREMELY GOOD PUBLIC OFFICIALS ON BOTH THE PRC SIDE AND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE TABLE IN THESE TALKS IN THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE. AND I'M SURE THAT THEY WOULD ALL LIKE TO SEE THEIR DISCUSSIONS COME TO A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION SO THAT THEY CAN GET ON WITH OTHER MATTERS," HE SAID.

THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO ESTABLISHING AS GOOD A RELATIONSHIP AS POSSIBLE WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS IN THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WHEN HE HAD LEARNT ABOUT THE FULL RANGE OF PROBLEMS THAT HAD TO ADDRESS IN HONG KONG AND WHEN HE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY OF DISCUSSING MATTERS ACROSS THE COMMUNITY AS BROADLY AS POSSIBLE.

"I'M SURE IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO CONTINUE THE DIALOGUE WITH MY COLLEAGUES IN THE PRC. AS YOU WELL KNOW, THE AMBASSADOR FOR THE PRC IN LONDON IS COMING THROUGH HONG KONG NEXT WEEK, I'LL BE CONTINUING MY RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM ON THAT OCCASION," HE SAID.

"THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT I WANT TO HAVE AS GOOD A RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PRC AS POSSIBLE," HE ADDED.

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GOVT WELCOMES SELECTION OF AIRPORT SITE PREPARATION CONTRACTOR

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COMMENTING ON THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY'S (PAA) SELECTION OF THE CONTRACTOR FOR THE SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT AT CHEK LAP KOK, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID:

"THE GOVERNMENT WELCOMES THE PAA'S ANNOUNCEMENT THAT IT HAS SELECTED THE CONTRACTOR FOR THE CHEK LAP KOK SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT.

"THE TENDER PRICE IS WITHIN THE PAA'S COST ESTIMATES FOR THE PROJECT AND THIS ILLUSTRATES THE COST EFFECTIVE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF THE WHOLE OF THE AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME.

"A SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE HAS NOW BEEN REACHED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT, AND THE GOVERNMENT WANTS THE SITE PREPARATION CONTRACT TO PROCEED AS SOON AS THE PAA'S OVERALL FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE FIRMLY IN PLACE."

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR JUNE

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

CONSISTENT WITH THIS, HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS ROSE DURING THE MONTH. HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS AND ADVANCES ALSO INCREASED IN JUNE.

DEPOSITS

HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, ROSE BY 2.1% IN JUNE FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.9% AND 3.7% IN APRIL AND MAY RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE DEPOSITS, DEMAND DEPOSITS GREW BY 8.7%, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF A COUPLE OF SHARE FLOTATION EXERCISES. SAVINGS DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 3.7% WHILE TIME DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 0.8%.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 20.2%.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 0.4% IN JUNE, AFTER INCREASES OF 0.5% AND 1.6% IN APRIL AND MAY RESPECTIVELY.

OF THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 3.4% WHILE NON-U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 1.7%.

/YEAR-ON-YEAR

YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 9.0%.

DURING JUNE, DEPOSITS OF ALL CURRENCIES WITH LICENSED BANKS AND RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS GREW BY 1.1% AND 4.1% RESPECTIVELY WHILE DEPOSITS WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DROPPED BY 1.2%.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS AND RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS GREW BY 15.0% AND 3.0% RESPECTIVELY WHILE DEPOSITS WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECLINED BY 25.9%.

MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 INCREASED BY 6.1%, 2.2% AND 2.0% RESPECTIVELY IN JUNE, COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 6.3%, 3.5% AND 3.4% IN MAY.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 41.6%, 21.8% AND 19.7% RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 INCREASED BY 6.1%, 1.1% AND 1.2% IN JUNE RESPECTIVELY. THESE COMPARED WITH INCREASES OF 5.6%, 2.5% AND 2.4% IN MAY.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES GREW BY 36.4%, 14.9% AND 13.6% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 1.9% IN JUNE FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 0.7% AND 2.7% IN APRIL AND MAY RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THE TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS, THOSE DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLAR INCREASED BY 0.9% WHILE THOSE DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCY INCREASED BY 2.4%.

COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 17.6% AND 27.9% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG INCREASED BY 1.0% IN JUNE, AFTER INCREASES OF 3.8% AND 4.3% IN APRIL AND MAY RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, SUCH LOANS GREW BY 12.2%.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG INCREASED BY 1.2% IN JUNE, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 0.9% AND 2.0% IN APRIL AND MAY RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 17.8%.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG INCREASED BY 2.6% IN JUNE, AFTER INCREASES OF 0.3% AND 3.2% IN APRIL AND MAY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 31.8%.

/LOANS TO

LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG DECREASED BY 1.4% DURING JUNE, AFTER INCREASES OF 7.2% AND 4.2% IN APRIL AND MAY RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 41.6%.

QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR

DURING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1992, TOTAL LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG (EXCLUDING THOSE FOR TRADE FINANCING) INCREASED BY 4.1%.

OF THESE, LOANS FOR USE IN MANUFACTURING INCREASED BY 5.2%, FOLLOWING A DECREASE OF 0.05% AND AN INCREASE OF 4.5% IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1991 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1992 RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 9.2%.

LOANS TO BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT SECTOR ROSE BY 4.0% DURING THE SECOND QUARTER, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 3.6% AND 1.5% DURING THE PREVIOUS TWO QUARTERS. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 13.3%.

LOANS TO WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE RECORDED A QUARTERLY GROWTH OF 4.8%, COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES OF 1.6% AND 3.8% DURING THE PRECEDING TWO QUARTERS. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 13.7%.

LOANS TO FINANCIAL CONCERNS (EXCLUDING AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS) ROSE BY 0.9% THIS QUARTER, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 6.3% AND 3.8% DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1991 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1992 RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 15.6%.

LOANS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (OTHER THAN FLATS IN THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME) GREW BY 5.3% THIS QUARTER, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 5.4% AND 3.2% IN THE PRECEDING TWO QUARTERS. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 25.0%.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBERS OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS, RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES EACH DECREASED BY ONE TO 159, 54 AND 153 RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - JUNE 1992

	(HK\$mn)			
	Jun 1992	Earlier months (% change to Jun 1992)		
		May 1992	Mar 1992	Jun 1991
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	131,773	124,221 (6.1)	115,642 (13.9)	93,050 (41.6)
Foreign currency	16,110	15,116 (6.6)	14,139 (13.9)	15,398 (4.6)
Total	147,883	139,337 (6.1)	129,781 (13.9)	108,449 (36.4)
M2 - HK\$*	687,849	673,182 (2.2)	638,577 (7.7)	564,655 (21.8)
Foreign currency*	758,935	757,632 (0.2)	740,630 (2.5)	694,637 (9.3)
Total	1,446,784	1,430,814 (1.1)	1,379,207 (4.9)	1,259,292 (14.9)
M3 - HK\$*	710,209	696,091 (2.0)	661,380 (7.4)	593,160 (19.7)
Foreign currency*	798,774	795,216 (0.4)	778,939 (2.5)	734,988 (8.7)
Total	1,508,984	1,491,307 (1.2)	1,440,319 (4.8)	1,328,148 (13.6)
Notes and coins in circulation	52,500	51,902 (1.2)	51,024 (2.9)	44,091 (19.1)
of which held by public	45,729	45,079 (1.4)	44,341 (3.1)	37,936 (20.5)
<u>Total Deposits</u>				
Total Demand deposits	102,154	94,258 (8.4)	85,440 (19.6)	70,513 (44.9)
Total Savings deposits	342,803	332,829 (3.0)	309,466 (10.8)	244,947 (39.9)
Total Time deposits with licensed banks	939,854	942,768 (-0.3)	924,103 (1.7)	888,269 (5.8)
Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks	38,909	37,378 (4.1)	37,185 (4.6)	37,793 (3.0)
Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies	20,702	20,946 (-1.2)	21,866 (-5.3)	27,938 (-25.9)
HK\$ deposits*	650,990	637,737 (2.1)	603,765 (7.8)	541,580 (20.2)
US\$ deposits*	333,728	322,661 (3.4)	314,182 (6.2)	291,761 (14.4)
Other foreign currency deposits*	459,703	467,781 (-1.7)	460,113 (-0.1)	436,118 (5.4)
All deposits	1,444,421	1,428,178 (1.1)	1,378,061 (4.8)	1,269,459 (13.8)
Foreign currency swap deposits	45,181	42,830 (5.5)	44,275 (2.0)	61,132 (-26.1)
<u>Total Loans and advances</u>				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	90,153	89,219 (1.0)	82,457 (9.3)	80,324 (12.2)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	14,545	14,750 (-1.4)	13,211 (10.1)	10,269 (41.6)
Other loans for use in H.K.	878,951	868,605 (1.2)	844,262 (4.1)	746,401 (17.8)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	1,356,673	1,322,827 (2.6)	1,277,847 (6.2)	1,029,390 (31.8)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	37,566	38,602 (-2.7)	37,811 (-0.6)	46,165 (-18.6)
Loans in HK\$	781,524	774,498 (0.9)	751,240 (4.0)	664,721 (17.6)
Loans in foreign currencies	1,596,365	1,559,506 (2.4)	1,504,348 (6.1)	1,247,828 (27.9)
Total loans and advances	2,377,889	2,334,004 (1.9)	2,255,588 (5.4)	1,912,548 (24.3)

* 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.

TABLE 2 : QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR - JUNE 1992

<u>Sectors</u>	<u>Jun 1992</u>	<u>Earlier quarters</u> (% change to Jun 1992)		
		<u>Mar 1992</u>	<u>Dec 1991</u>	<u>Jun 1991</u>
Manufacturing	59,943	56,989 (5.2)	54,532 (9.9)	54,886 (9.2)
Transport and transport equipment	54,300	51,415 (5.6)	51,260 (5.9)	45,251 (20.0)
Building, construction, property development and investment	132,620	127,556 (4.0)	125,704 (5.5)	117,017 (13.3)
Wholesale and retail trade	87,553	83,551 (4.8)	80,500 (8.8)	76,991 (13.7)
Financial concerns *	119,187	118,108 (0.9)	113,758 (4.8)	103,119 (15.6)
Individuals:				
to purchase flats in the Home Ownership Scheme and Private Sector Participation Scheme	19,988	20,052 (-0.3)	19,077 (4.8)	15,535 (28.7)
to purchase other residential property	193,676	183,996 (5.3)	178,347 (8.6)	154,902 (25.0)
other purposes	80,284	78,793 (1.9)	75,073 (6.9)	68,586 (17.1)
Others	131,400	123,802 (6.1)	118,516 (10.9)	110,114 (19.3)
Total	878,951	844,262 (4.1)	816,767 (7.6)	746,401 (17.8)

* This excludes funds advanced to authorized institutions.

FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR 1991-92 PUBLISHED

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THE GOVERNMENT'S FINAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1991-92, WHICH ENDED ON MARCH 31, 1992, WAS PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) IN THE GAZETTE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

TOTAL REVENUE FOR THE YEAR WAS \$114.7 BILLION, COMPARED TO THE REVISED ESTIMATE OF \$112 BILLION GIVEN IN THE 1992 BUDGET SPEECH.

TOTAL EXPENDITURE FROM THE GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT, THE CAPITAL WORKS RESERVE FUND (WORKS ACCOUNT), THE LOAN FUND AND THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND WAS \$92.2 BILLION COMPARED WITH A REVISED ESTIMATE OF \$96.7 BILLION.

"THE ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF \$2.7 BILLION, JUST OVER 2 PER CENT OF THE REVISED ESTIMATE, REFLECTS THE BUOYANT ACTIVITY IN CERTAIN SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 1991-92," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE UNDERSPENDING IS MAINLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO SLIPPAGE IN EXPENDITURE ON CAPITAL WORKS AND LAND ACQUISITION; MUCH OF THIS EXPENDITURE WILL FALL TO BE MET IN THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR," HE SAID.

"IT IS NOT UNUSUAL FOR PAYMENTS ON CAPITAL WORKS TO SLIP; THE HIGHER THAN NORMAL LEVELS OF RAINFALL IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR BEING A CONTRIBUTORY FACTOR," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AS A RESULT OF THE VARIATIONS IN REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, THE OVERALL SURPLUS FOR 1991-92 WAS ABOUT \$22.5 BILLION. THIS BRINGS THE TOTAL FISCAL RESERVES TO \$99 BILLION AT MARCH 31, 1992.

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VIEWS SOUGHT ON ANTI-SMOKING PROPOSALS

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL LAUNCH A THREE-MONTH CONSULTATION EXERCISE STARTING TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO SEEK PUBLIC VIEWS ON PROPOSALS TO FURTHER RESTRICT THE USE, SALE AND PROMOTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

ANNOUNCING THIS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY, A PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MR DEREK GOULD, SAID THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN A CONSULTATION PAPER INCLUDE BANNING THE SALE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO MINORS AND PROHIBITION OF TOBACCO ADVERTISING IN PRINTED PUBLICATIONS, AND FOR DISPLAY ON BILLBOARDS AND SIGNS.

"THE GOVERNMENT HAS SINCE 1975 ADOPTED A POLICY OF DISCOURAGING SMOKING, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE YOUNG, AND EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ON THE HEALTH RISKS OF SMOKING," MR GOULD SAID.

"THE APPROACH IS PRAGMATIC, PROGRESSIVE AND THREE-PRONGED: THROUGH PREVENTION, LEGISLATION AND EDUCATION."

IN JANUARY THIS YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT ENACTED THE SMOKING (PUBLIC HEALTH)(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1992 FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE 24 RECOMMENDATIONS PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL ON SMOKING AND HEALTH (COSH).

"IN PURSUANCE OF ITS PROGRESSIVE APPROACH, THE GOVERNMENT NOW WISHES TO CONSULT THE PUBLIC ON WHETHER OR NOT TO INTRODUCE FURTHER MEASURES," MR GOULD ADDED.

COPIES OF THE CONSULTATION PAPER, IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE, ARE AVAILABLE FROM ALL DISTRICT OFFICE PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES, PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CLINICS, TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT LICENSING OFFICES, AND THE OFFICES OF COSH, GROUND FLOOR, 226 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

VIEWS IN WRITING SHOULD BE SENT TO THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, SEVENTH FLOOR, MAIN WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG BY OCTOBER 31.

ALSO ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WAS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF COSH, MR CHEUNG CHE-KWOK.

MR CHEUNG REMINDED THE PUBLIC THAT UNDER THE SMOKING (PUBLIC HEALTH)(AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, THE PROHIBITION AGAINST SMOKING WILL BE EXTENDED TO INCLUDE ALL SEATING ACCOMMODATION IN CINEMAS, THEATRES AND CONCERT HALLS; AMUSEMENT GAME CENTRES; AND ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORT CARRIERS FROM TOMORROW (AUGUST 1).

HE SAID "NO SMOKING" OR "SMOKING PROHIBITED" SIGNS IN PUBLIC TRANSPORT CARRIERS AND PUBLIC PLACES SHOULD BEAR THE STATEMENT "MAXIMUM PENALTY: \$5,000", BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

"THE INTENTION OF INCLUDING THE MAXIMUM PENALTY ON THESE SIGNS IS TO PROVIDE FURTHER DETERRENCE AGAINST SMOKING," MR CHEUNG ADDED.

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AIRPORT CHARGES GAZETTED

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NEW LEVELS OF CHARGES FOR AIRCRAFT USING KAI TAK AIRPORT WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

LANDING CHARGES FOR AIRCRAFT WILL INCREASE BY 26.9 PER CENT WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 1.

"THIS IS THE RESULT OF AN ANNUAL REVIEW," SAID THE DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION, MR PETER LOK.

"THE AIRLINES ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE REASONS FOR THE INCREASES INVOLVED. ONE OF THE FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN SETTING THE INCREASE WAS THE EXPENDITURE ALREADY BEING INCURRED ON DEVELOPING A REPLACEMENT AIRPORT TO PROVIDE THE EXPANDED CAPACITY NEEDED FOR HONG KONG'S ONLY AIRPORT WHICH CANNOT BE PROVIDED AT ITS CURRENT LOCATION."

/"CHARGES SET

"CHARGES SET ON THIS BASIS WERE FIRST INTRODUCED IN 1990. ALTHOUGH THIS APPROACH WAS SUSPENDED IN 1991, IT IS NOW EXPECTED THAT HENCEFORTH THE EXPENDITURE ON THE REPLACEMENT AIRPORT WILL BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN CALCULATING FUTURE ANNUAL INCREASES."

"THE ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES ON WHICH THIS INCREASE IS JUSTIFIED ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED GUIDELINES SET BY THE WORLD BODY GOVERNING SUCH ISSUES, THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANISATION."

"THE CHARGES STILL REMAIN HIGHLY COMPETITIVE INTERNATIONALLY AND ARE MUCH LOWER THAN MANY OTHER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS."

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CONCERN OVER TSING YI BRIDGE ACCIDENT
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THE MARINE DEPARTMENT TAKES A VERY SERIOUS VIEW OF THE LATEST INCIDENT OF DAMAGE TO THE TSING YI SOUTH BRIDGE BY A CARGO BARGE EARLIER TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE DIRECTOR OF MARINE HAS ORDERED THE REDEPLOYMENT OF MARINE PATROLS TO THE AREA TO MONITOR THE MOVEMENT OF CARGO BARGES THERE, AND TO WARN VESSEL OPERATORS THAT THEY SHOULD LOWER THEIR DERRICKS TO A HEIGHT OF NOT MORE THAN 17 METRES ABOVE THE WATER LEVEL.

ANY OPERATORS DISREGARDING ADVICE GIVEN BY PATROLLING MARINE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS WOULD BE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

AFTER A VISIT TO THE SCENE, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR A.C. PYRKE, SAID THE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE MEETING REPRESENTATIVES OF BARGE AND TUG OPERATORS EARLY NEXT WEEK.

"WE NEED THIS MEETING TO EXPRESS OUR CONCERN AT CARELESS OPERATING PRACTICES AND THE POTENTIALLY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES OF ACCIDENTS.

"WE WANT TO BRING HOME TO THEIR MEMBERS THE NEED FOR THEM TO SHAPE UP. AND WE WANT TO EXPLORE WITH THEIR REPRESENTATIVES ALL POSSIBLE MEASURES FOR PREVENTING A RECURRENCE," HE SAID.

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CLEAREES URGED TO CEASE SIT-IN

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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION TODAY (FRIDAY) URGED KOWLOON WALLED CITY CLEAREES TO CEASE THEIR SIT-IN AT ITS HEADQUARTERS IN WAN CHAI.

"APPEAL CHANNELS ARE AVAILABLE AND CLEAREES SHOULD USE THESE PROPER FORUMS TO SEEK REDRESS OF THEIR GRIEVANCES," HE STRESSED.

ALL APPEALS OVER COMPENSATION OFFERS MUST BE LODGED WITH THE ASSESSMENT REVIEW BOARD BY TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE SIT-IN ACTIONS HAD BEEN CAUSING INCONVENIENCE TO THE PUBLIC AND WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY HELP SOLVE THE ISSUE.

"WE HAVE ALREADY PROVIDED A RATHER FULL REPLY TO THE CLEAREES' ORIGINAL LETTER. THEY HAVE NOW SENT IN ANOTHER PETITION, BRINGING OUT OTHER POINTS OF DETAIL.

"THESE ARE NOW BEING TAKEN UP WITH THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED AND A REPLY WILL BE GIVEN TO THE CLEAREES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE," HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT NUMEROUS MEETINGS HAD BEEN HELD WITH THE CLEAREES TO ADDRESS THEIR POINTS OF CONCERN, ADDING THAT FURTHER MEETINGS WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE.

OF THE SOME 10,322 HOUSEHOLDS THAT HAD TO MOVE OUT OF THE WALLED CITY, MORE THAN 98 PER CENT HAD ACCEPTED THE COMPENSATION OFFERS. ONLY 190 HOUSEHOLDS HAVE YET TO DO SO.

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35 JUSTICES OF THE PEACE APPOINTED

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT 35 PERSONS HAD BEEN APPOINTED AS NON-OFFICIAL JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

THE APPOINTMENTS, GAZETTED TODAY, ARE:

MR BONG SHU-YING, FRANCIS
MR CHAMBERS JOHN WALTER
MR CHAN KA-KUI
MR CHAO KING-LIN
DR CHENG YU-SHEK, JOSEPH
MR CHEUNG WING-LAM, LINUS
MR CHIU YU-HEI
MRS CHONG WONG CHOR-SAR
MR CHOW MING-KUEN, JOSEPH
MR CHOY WAI-SHEK, RAYMOND
MR CHU KA-SUN, WINSTON
PROF DAVIES WILLIAM IAN REES
DR FANG DAVID
MR GALE MICHAEL GEORGE
MR HO KING-MAN, KENNETH
SIR PIERS JACOBS
MR KWOK PING-KWONG, THOMAS
MRS LEE CHIU KAM-HING, KATHY
PROF LEE PUI-LEUNG, RANCE
PROF LEUNG CHI-KEUNG
DR LIU KAI-CHING, TIMOTHY
MRS LOONG WONG LAI-SANG, MOYNA ELIZABETH
DR LUI MING-WAH
MR MA CHING-YUK
MR NG TAT-LUN
MR TAM CHUNG-DING
MR TAM MAN-KWAN
MR TANG PUI-TAT
MR TSUI TSIN-TONG
MISS WAN LAI-YAU, DEBORAH
MR WONG MAN-CHIU, RONNIE
MR WU T., HAROLD
MR YEUNG YUK-CHIU
MR YOUNG HOW-WAH, HOWARD
MR YOUNG TZE-KONG, PAUL

THE APPOINTMENT OF SIR PIERS JACOBS IS TO TAKE EFFECT FROM AUGUST 13, 1992 UPON HIS CEASING TO BE AN OFFICIAL JUSTICE OF THE PEACE FOR HONG KONG ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT THAT DAY FROM THE SERVICE OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

THE APPOINTMENTS OF THE OTHER 34 PERSONS TOOK EFFECT FROM JULY 7.

WITH THE LATEST APPOINTMENTS, THERE ARE NOW A TOTAL OF 512 NON-OFFICIAL JPS IN HONG KONG.

FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1992

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AMENDMENTS TO APPROVED MA WAN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN

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THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD TODAY (FRIDAY) ANNOUNCED AMENDMENTS TO THE APPROVED MA WAN OUTLINE ZONING PLAN.

ONE OF THE MAJOR AMENDMENTS IS TO INCORPORATE "COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA" ZONES AT THE NORTHEAST AND WESTERN PARTS; "RECREATION PRIORITY AREA" ZONE AT THE SOUTHERN PART; AND "VILLAGE TYPE DEVELOPMENT" ZONE AT THE NORTHWESTERN PART OF MA WAN.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT IS TO INCORPORATE ONTO THE PLAN THE MA WAN VIADUCT LINKING THE TSING MA AND KAP SHUI MUN BRIDGES; AND THE SMALL ISLAND OF TANG LUNG CHAU TO THE SOUTH OF MA WAN.

THE REVISION AIMS TO REFLECT THE LATEST PLANNING PROPOSALS IN ITS PLANNING SCHEME AREA WHICH COVERS ABOUT 96 HECTARES OF LAND COMPRISING MA WAN AND TANG LUNG CHAU.

THE DRAFT AMENDMENT PLAN CAN NOW BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES UNTIL SEPTEMBER 30:

- * PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG;
- * LANTAU AND ISLANDS DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, LEIGHTON CENTRE, 77 LEIGHTON ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG; AND
- * TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES.

ANY PERSON AFFECTED BY THE AMENDMENTS MAY SUBMIT HIS OBJECTIONS IN WRITING TO SECRETARY OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD, C/O PLANNING DEPARTMENT, 16TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG BY SEPTEMBER 30.

THEY SHOULD SET OUT THE NATURE OF AND REASONS FOR THE OBJECTION; AND IF THE OBJECTION WOULD BE REMOVED BY AN ALTERATION OF THE DRAFT PLAN, ANY ALTERATION PROPOSED.

COPIES OF THE DRAFT AMENDMENT PLAN ARE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG AND KOWLOON MAP SALES SECTION, 382 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1992

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IMMIGRATION PROCEDURE TO BENEFIT TAIWAN VISITORS

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THAT WITH EFFECT FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY), THE REQUIREMENT FOR CHINESE RESIDENTS IN TAIWAN TO HAVE AT LEAST TWO YEARS RESIDENCE IN TAIWAN BEFORE THEY COULD APPLY FOR A HONG KONG ENTRY PERMIT IS ABOLISHED.

"THIS IS PART OF OUR ONGOING REVIEW TO STREAMLINE PROCEDURES. I AM SURE THIS WILL BENEFIT GENUINE VISITORS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE CHANGE WILL ALSO APPLY TO APPLICATIONS THAT ARE CURRENTLY UNDER PROCESS.

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ONE MORE AIDS CASE CONFIRMED

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ONE MORE CASE OF AIDS (ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME) WAS CONFIRMED AND ANOTHER SIX MEN WERE FOUND TO BE POSITIVE FOR THE HIV ANTIBODY TEST LAST MONTH, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH ANNOUNCED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THIS BRINGS TO 297 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF HIV INFECTED IN HONG KONG WITH 63 CONFIRMED AIDS CASES.

REVIEWING THE LATEST AIDS SITUATION AT A MONTHLY MEETING WITH MEDIA MEMBERS, THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S CONSULTANT (SPECIAL PREVENTIVE PROGRAMME), DR S.S. LEE, SAID ONE OF THE NEWLY INFECTED WAS AN INTRAVENOUS DRUG USER (IVDU).

SO FAR, 40 AIDS PATIENTS HAVE DIED AND 23 OTHERS ARE EITHER UNDER COUNSELLING AND TREATMENT OR HAVE LEFT THE TERRITORY.

OF THE 297 HIV INFECTED, 60 WERE HAEMOPHILIACS, 201 ACQUIRED THE INFECTION SEXUALLY, SIX WERE DRUG ABUSERS AND THREE ACQUIRED THE INFECTION THROUGH BLOOD TRANSFUSION.

FOR THE REMAINING 27, THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE WAS INADEQUATE FOR CLASSIFICATION, HE ADDED.

UNDER THE AIDS SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME WHICH STARTED IN 1985, A TOTAL OF 239,946 BLOOD SPECIMENS HAVE BEEN TESTED FOR THE AIDS VIRUS.

THE HONG KONG RED CROSS BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE HAS ALSO SCREENED ALL BLOOD DONORS FOR HIV ANTIBODY.

UP TO LAST MONTH, 1,097,606 UNITS OF BLOOD HAD BEEN TESTED AND 22 DONORS WERE FOUND POSITIVE.

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE MEETING WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP ON AIDS PREVENTION AMONG DRUG USERS UNDER THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY ON AIDS, DR JAMES CHIEN.

/HE SAID

HE SAID A STREET SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED BY THE WORKING GROUP IN MAY TO ASCERTAIN THE GENERAL KNOWLEDGE LEVELS ABOUT AIDS AND AWARENESS OF THE RISK FACTORS OF HIV INFECTION AMONG DRUG ADDICTS IN THE STREET.

THE INFORMATION WILL HELP TO FORMULATE APPROPRIATE PREVENTIVE AND EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES.

THE 314 RESPONDENTS WERE CLASSIFIED INTO FOUR DIFFERENT CATEGORIES ACCORDING TO THEIR RISK BEHAVIOUR.

DR CHIEN SAID OF THE DRUG ADDICTS INTERVIEWED:

- * 36.3 PER CENT BELONGING TO THE VERY HIGH-RISK GROUP, ADMITTED INJECTING HEROIN REGULARLY AND SHARING NEEDLES WITH OTHERS AT THE TIME OF SURVEY.
- * 20.7 PER CENT WERE IN THE HIGH-RISK GROUP. THEY WERE IVDUS WHO HAD CEASED OR SUSPENDED NEEDLE-SHARING.
- * 22.3 PER CENT WERE CLASSIFIED AS THE MEDIUM HIGH-RISK GROUP. THEY SAID THEY NEVER SHARED NEEDLES.
- * 17.8 PER CENT BELONGED TO THE LOW-RISK GROUP AND THEY NEVER USED HEROIN INTRAVENOUSLY BEFORE THE SURVEY. BUT THEY ARE STILL AT RISK OF HIV INFECTION ON ACCOUNT OF THEIR LIFESTYLE AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ADVANCING TO THE MORE DIRECT MODE OF INTRAVENOUS USE AFTER THE INTERVIEWS.

THE SURVEYS SHOWED THAT A GREAT MAJORITY OF THE RESPONDENTS HAD LEARNED ABOUT THE DANGERS OF AIDS THROUGH FREQUENT ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST OVER THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT 36 PER CENT OF THE IVDUS INTERVIEWED THIS YEAR WERE STILL SHARING NEEDLES WITH OTHERS COMPARED WITH 26 PER CENT IN A PREVIOUS STUDY LAST YEAR.

BASED ON THE INFORMATION COLLECTED, HE SAID, PUBLICITY ALONE COULD NOT CHANGE CERTAIN RISK-TAKING BEHAVIOUR.

HE BELIEVED THAT DRUG ADDICTS UNDER TREATMENT COULD BENEFIT MORE FROM ORGANISED EDUCATION AND PREVENTION ACTIVITIES.

AS FOR DRUG ADDICTS ON THE STREETS, DR CHIEN SAID THERE WAS A NEED TO FORM OUTREACHING TEAMS AND TO TRAIN FORMER DRUG USERS AS PEER COUNSELLORS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THEM TO ENCOURAGE TREATMENT AND TO COUNSEL FOR RISK REDUCTION.

愛滋病毒抗體檢驗

AIDS Virus (HIV) Antibody Testing
 病毒組 衛生署
 Virus Unit, Department of Health

	Apr 85-May 92		Jun 92		Total	
	No. tested*	No. +ve	No. tested*	No. +ve	No. tested*	No. +ve
經由政府診所及公立醫院轉介 Referrals from Public hospitals and clinics	30487	120	326	5	30813	125
經由私家醫生轉介 Referrals from private practitioners	1908	58	6	0	1914	58
前往社會衛生診所求診人士 Attendances at social hygiene clinics	195931	51	2374	1	198305	52
血友病患者 Haemophiliacs	613	60	3	0	616	60
濫用靜脈注射毒品者 IV drug users	6758	1	77	0	6835	1
經由家庭計劃指導局轉介 Referrals from Family Planning Association	241	0	1	0	242	0
健康護理人員 Health care personnel	1187	0	34	0	1221	0
總數 TOTAL	237125	290	2821	6	239946	296

此乃檢驗樣本數目，並非人數，因某些人士的檢驗是重複的。

* This indicates the number of specimens and not persons as tests are repeated for certain individuals.

	Aug 85-May 92		Jun 92		Total	
	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve	No. tested	No. +ve
香港紅十字會輸血服務 Hong Kong Red Cross Blood transfusion Service	1083831	21	13775	1	1097606	22

Department of Health
 Jul 1992

NEW WARNING NOTICE ON INDECENT ARTICLES

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THE TELEVISION AND ENTERTAINMENT LICENSING AUTHORITY TODAY (FRIDAY) REMINDED RELEVANT TRADES OF CHANGES TO THE WORDING OF THE WARNING NOTICE TO BE DISPLAYED ON INDECENT ARTICLES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AUTHORITY POINTED OUT THAT THE CONTROL OF OBSCENE AND INDECENT ARTICLES (AMENDMENT) BILL, WHICH AMENDED THE WORDING OF THE WARNING NOTICE TO BE DISPLAYED ON INDECENT ARTICLES, WAS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON JULY 15. THE AMENDMENT ORDINANCE WAS GAZETTED ON JULY 17.

THE WARNING HAS BEEN AMENDED TO READ:

"WARNING: THIS ARTICLE CONTAINS MATERIAL WHICH MAY OFFEND AND MAY NOT BE DISTRIBUTED, CIRCULATED, SOLD, HIRED, GIVEN, LENT, SHOWN, PLAYED OR PROJECTED TO A PERSON UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS."

"LETTERS HAVE BEEN SENT OUT TO THE PUBLISHERS OF PRINTED PUBLICATIONS, NEWSPAPERS, BOOKSHOPS, NEWSTANDS, VIDEO SHOPS AND CINEMA OPERATORS INFORMING THEM OF THE CHANGE AND ADVISING THEM TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW WHEN PUBLISHING INDECENT ARTICLES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THEY ARE ALSO REMINDED THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO PUBLISH AN INDECENT ARTICLE WITHOUT THE REQUISITE WARNING."

ANY PERSON WHO COMMITS SUCH AN OFFENCE IS LIABLE TO A FINE OF \$200,000 AND TO IMPRISONMENT FOR 12 MONTHS, HE ADDED.

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WATER SUPPLY TO AP LEI CHAU, TUEN MUN TO IMPROVE

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TWO WORKS PROJECTS AIMING TO IMPROVE FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO AP LEI CHAU AND TUEN MUN WILL START TOWARDS THE END OF THIS YEAR.

THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SECOND FRESH WATER SERVICE RESERVOIR WITH A CAPACITY OF 7,250 CUBIC METRES AND THE LAYING OF THE ASSOCIATED WATER MAINS MEASURING ABOUT 3,960 METRES LONG IN AP LEI CHAU.

UPON COMPLETION, IT IS HOPED THAT ADEQUATE FRESH WATER CAN BE SUPPLIED TO A LARGE-SCALE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT BEING CONSTRUCTED ON THE FORMER OIL DEPOT AND POWER STATION SITES AT NORTHWESTERN AP LEI CHAU.

MEANWHILE, THE DEPARTMENT ALSO INVITES TENDERS FOR THE LAYING OF A 2,600-METRE LONG FRESH WATER MAIN ALONG LUNG MUN ROAD FROM SIU LANG SHUI TO PAK KOK.

SUPPLY OF POTABLE WATER TO RESIDENTS IN THE WESTERN PART OF TUEN MUN CAN BE IMPROVED SOON.

WORKS FOR THE FORMER PROJECT ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN NOVEMBER AND TAKE ABOUT 14 MONTHS TO COMPLETE. THOSE FOR THE LATTER WILL START IN OCTOBER AND BE FINISHED AFTER ABOUT A YEAR.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, 44TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER II, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

TENDER OFFERS WILL CLOSE AT NOON ON AUGUST 21.

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INCREASING DEMAND FOR BETTER ELDERLY SERVICES

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AN AGEING POPULATION MEANS GREATER DEPENDENCE ON SUPPORT OF OTHERS, AND AN INCREASING DEMAND FOR BETTER SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY, THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M D CARTLAND, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

ADDRESSING THE 14TH PARTY FOR 1000 ELDERLY PEOPLE ORGANISED BY THE SHUN TAK FRATERNAL ASSOCIATION, MR CARTLAND SAID THERE WERE ABOUT 800,000 PEOPLE OVER THE AGE OF 60. THE NUMBER WAS EXPECTED TO REACH 1,000,000 BY THE END OF THIS DECADE.

THE GOVERNMENT'S LONG-ESTABLISHED POLICY ON WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY IS TO ENCOURAGE ELDERLY PEOPLE TO STAY IN THE COMMUNITY FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE AND TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE SUPPORTING SERVICES TO ACHIEVE THIS PURPOSE.

"UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS ALWAYS A SMALL NUMBER OF OUR SENIOR CITIZENS, ABOUT FOUR PER CENT OF THE ELDERLY POPULATION, WHO NEED RESIDENTIAL CARE," HE ADDED.

HE SAID SOME RESIDENTIAL CARE SERVICES COULD MEET WITH THE DEMAND WHILE OTHERS, PARTICULARLY CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOMES AND INFIRMARIES, WERE STILL FAR SHORT OF PLACES TO COPE WITH THE GROWING NUMBERS OF INFIRM ELDERLY.

MR CARTLAND SAID SUPPLEMENTARY MEASURES WERE BEING TAKEN TO SPEED UP THE PROVISION OF CARE-AND-ATTENTION PLACES, INCLUDING THE "BOUGHT-PLACE" SCHEME UNDER WHICH 500 PLACES HAD BEEN PURCHASED FROM PRIVATE HOMES REGISTERED AS HAVING MET AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD.

"IT IS HOPED THAT A FURTHER 500 PLACES CAN BE PROVIDED WITHIN TWO YEARS BY CONVERTING LOW DEMAND "SELF-CARE" PLACES INTO MUCH NEEDED CARE-AND-ATTENTION OR MEAL SERVICE FACILITIES," HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT ADDITIONAL CAPACITY COULD BE GENERATED BY COURAGING THE DEVELOPMENT OF "SELF-FINANCING" HOMES WHICH COULD BE FUNDED BY FEES OR INCOME FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN SUBVENTION.

MR CARTLAND SAID VOLUNTEER WORK AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PROVIDED BY LOCAL GROUPS ALSO PLAYED A VERY SIGNIFICANT SUPPORTING ROLE FOR THE ELDERLY.

TODAY'S PARTY FOR THE ELDERLY WAS A VERY GOOD EXAMPLE OF THIS KIND OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT, MR CARTLAND SAID.

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MACHINE GUARDS A MUST

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FACTORY PROPRIETORS MUST PROPERLY GUARD ALL DANGEROUS PARTS OF MACHINERY TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM POSSIBLE INJURY, CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR CHAN TAT-KING, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"IT IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS TO LEAVE A MACHINE UNGUARDED OR INADEQUATELY GUARDED AS EVEN THE MOST EXPERIENCED OPERATIVES CAN MAKE MISTAKES," MR CHAN SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT INJURIES RESULTING FROM MACHINERY ACCIDENTS WERE OFTEN SERIOUS AND COULD CAUSE PERMANENT INCAPACITY OR EVEN DEATH TO THE VICTIM.

"PROPER GUARDING OF MACHINERY CAN HELP AVOID INJURIES AT ALL TIMES AND GIVES CONFIDENCE TO OPERATIVES," HE SAID.

"ON THE OTHER HAND, A WORKER MUST NOT WORK ON A MACHINE UNLESS IT IS PROPERLY GUARDED AND HE SHOULD AVOID COMING INTO DIRECT CONTACT WITH DANGEROUS, MOVING PARTS OF A MACHINE," HE ADDED.

MR CHAN CITED A RECENT CASE IN WHICH AN EMPLOYER WAS FINED \$4,500 FOR VIOLATING THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (GUARDING AND OPERATION OF MACHINERY) REGULATIONS.

IN THE CASE, A WORKER'S RIGHT HAND WAS BADLY INJURED BY A PAIR OF ROTATING ROLLERS OF AN UNGUARDED OFFSET PRINTING MACHINE WHEN HE WAS CLEANING IT.

IN ANOTHER CASE LAST WEEK, A WORKER SUSTAINED INJURIES TO HIS RIGHT HAND IN A SIMILAR SITUATION IN A KOWLOON BAY FACTORY.

"UNDER THE FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (GUARDING AND OPERATION OF MACHINERY) REGULATIONS, FACTORY PROPRIETORS MUST EFFECTIVELY GUARD DANGEROUS PARTS OF EVERY PIECE OF MACHINERY OR PLANT DRIVEN BY MECHANICAL POWER," MR CHAN STRESSED.

"THE MEASURES INCLUDE INSTALLING INTERLOCKING GUARDS BOTH IN FRONT AND BEHIND THE ROTATING PARTS OF THE MACHINE; AND NIB GUARDS ON PLATE CYLINDERS AND BLANKET CYLINDERS," HE ADDED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT PROPRIETORS SHOULD PROVIDE APPROPRIATE EQUIPMENT FOR WORKERS IN CLEANING ROTATING PARTS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WORKERS SHOULD ATTEND SAFETY TRAINING COURSES RUN BY THE INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT SO THAT THEY COULD MAKE USE OF VARIOUS SAFETY EQUIPMENT EFFECTIVELY AND WOULD NOT OPERATE MACHINE AFTER REPAIR UNLESS GUARDS WERE RE-INSTALLED.

"PROPRIETORS MUST REALISE THAT IT IS THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES AND THAT THEY SHOULD NOT RELY ON OUR FACTORY INSPECTORS TO CONDUCT SAFETY INSPECTIONS ON THEIR BEHALF," HE SAID.

/"ANY PROPRIETOR

"ANY PROPRIETOR WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE REGULATIONS IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$30,000," HE ADDED.

HE ALSO URGED WORKERS TO CO-OPERATE WITH EMPLOYERS IN TAKING NECESSARY SAFETY PRECAUTIONS.

NOTING THAT THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY STARTED A TWO-MONTH MACHINERY SAFETY CAMPAIGN, MR CHAN SAID FACTORY INSPECTORS WOULD CONTINUE THEIR CLOSE SURVEILLANCE ON SAFETY OF EQUIPMENT OR MACHINERY DURING VISITS TO WORKPLACES.

"PROSECUTION WILL BE TAKEN OUT AGAINST OFFENDING PROPRIETORS," HE ADDED.

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INSHORE WORKS FOR STEELMILL IN TUEN MUN
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THE EXTENT OF THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED BY RECLAMATION AND DREDGING WORKS PROPOSED BY A PRIVATE COMPANY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STEELMILL IN TUEN MUN WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PROJECT WILL INVOLVE AN AREA OF ABOUT 19.32 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED IN AREA 38, TUEN MUN TO PROVIDE ABOUT 5.54 HECTARES OF RECLAIMED LAND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE STEELMILL, INCLUDING A PIER AND TEMPORARY SEAWALL.

THE PROPOSAL IS A SLIGHT MODIFICATION TO THE PREVIOUS ONE WHICH WAS EARLIER GAZETTED ON JANUARY 17 THIS YEAR.

ACCORDING TO THE NEW PROPOSAL, THE LAND TO BE RECLAIMED IN FUTURE FOR THE STEELMILL WILL INCREASE FROM 4.99 HECTARES TO ABOUT 5.54 HECTARES AND THAT THE LOCATIONS OF THE PROPOSED PIER AND SEAWALL BE ADJUSTED ACCORDINGLY.

THE WORK WILL START IN LATE 1992 AND BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT A YEAR.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30.

THE NOTICE, IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE, TOGETHER WITH THE RELATED PLANS CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS POSTED NEAR THE SITES.

THE PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER) AND AT THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 1 TUEN HI ROAD, TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR TSEUNG KWAN O LANDFILL EXTENSION WORKS

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THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS TO UNDERTAKE WORKS FOR THE TSEUNG KWAN O LANDFILL STAGE ONE EXTENSION IN SIU CHIK SHA, TSEUNG KWAN O.

THE WORKS WILL COMPRISE THE CONSTRUCTION OF 850 METRES OF SEAWALL, RECLAMATION BEHIND THE SEAWALL TO PROVIDE LAND FOR LANDFILLING OF REFUSE, CONSTRUCTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION MEASURES, LANDFILLING OF ABOUT 2.8 MILLION TONNES OF REFUSE, CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS, DRAINAGE AND COVER LAYER OVER THE COMPLETED PORTIONS OF THE LANDFILL, AND HYDROSEEDING.

WORKS ARE EXPECTED TO START THIS OCTOBER AND WILL TAKE 36 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY SOLID WASTE DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON, AUGUST 28.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CHIEF ENGINEER, SOLID WASTE DIVISION, CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, CIVIL ENGINEERING BUILDING, 101 PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD, KOWLOON.

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REVISED TUNNEL CLASSIFICATION FOR GOODS VEHICLES TO TAKE EFFECT

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THE REVISED CLASSIFICATION AND TOLLS FOR GOODS VEHICLES USING THE CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL WILL COME INTO EFFECT TOMORROW (SATURDAY), BRINGING THE TUNNEL'S CLASSIFICATION AND TOLLS FOR GOODS VEHICLES IN LINE WITH THAT OF THE EASTERN HARBOUR CROSSING.

DETAILS OF THE CLASSIFICATIONS AND TOLLS WERE GAZETTED TODAY (FRIDAY).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID UPON REVISION, GOODS VEHICLE CLASSIFICATIONS AND THE TOTAL CROSS HARBOUR TUNNEL TOLL (INCLUDING THE PASSAGE TAX) FOR EACH CLASS OF GOODS VEHICLES WILL BE IDENTICAL FOR BOTH TUNNELS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE TOLLS FOR HEAVY GOODS VEHICLES OVER 24 TONNES AND EACH ADDITIONAL AXLE IN EXCESS OF TWO WOULD EACH BE INCREASED BY \$5, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

GOODS VEHICLES WITHIN THE RANGE OF 5.3 TO 5.5 TONNES WILL BE RECLASSIFIED AS LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES. THE REVISED TOLL WILL BE \$15 INCLUDING \$5 PASSAGE TAX.

/GOODS VEHICLES

GOODS VEHICLES WEIGHING IN EXCESS OF 5.5 TONNES BUT BELOW 24 TONNES WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS MEDIUM GOODS VEHICLES. THE REVISED TOLL WILL BE \$20 INCLUDING \$5 PASSAGE TAX.

GOODS VEHICLES OVER 24 TONNES WILL COME UNDER THE HEAVY GOODS VEHICLE CATEGORY WITH THE REVISED TOLL AT \$30 INCLUDING \$5 PASSAGE TAX.

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REVISED FEE FOR VALUATION LIST DATA
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THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES AS THE COLLECTOR OF RATES TODAY (FRIDAY) SAID THE FEE FOR THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN A VALUATION LIST IN FORCE ON THE ADDRESS OR DESCRIPTION, AND THE RATEABLE VALUE OF ANY TENEMENT, WILL BE REVISED TO \$50 FROM AUGUST 1.

THE REVISION HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY IN A NOTICE GAZETTED ON JULY 24.

SECTION 15(4) OF THE RATING ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH FEE.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,988
REVERSAL OF LAF	-1,000
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	988
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+1,000
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,988

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 109.8 *-0.1* 31.7.92

/HONG KONG

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.73 PCT	15 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.38	3.58
1 MONTH	2.56 PCT	18 MONTHS	2402	5.50	102.37	3.94
3 MONTHS	2.49 PCT	21 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.37	4.15
6 MONTHS	2.71 PCT					
12 MONTHS	3.28 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 5,705 MN

CLOSED 31 JULY 1992

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