



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1992

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1992

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COMMITTEE IS RIGHT PLACE TO DISCUSS AIRPORT: GOVERNOR
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THE RIGHT WAY TO DISCUSS MATTERS CONCERNING THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECT IS IN THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE AND IT WILL BE A VERY SENSIBLE IDEA FOR THE COMMITTEE TO MEET SOON, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER A VISIT TO SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT, MR PATTEN SAID HE WAS SURE THAT ISSUES CONCERNING FINANCING THE AIRPORT AND THE AIRPORT RAILWAY WOULD BE SOLVED ON THEIR MERITS.

"I'M SURE THAT THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE USEFUL PROGRESS WHENEVER IT MEETS," HE SAID.

"WE HAVE, ALL OF US, IN HONG KONG AND IN CHINA AN INTEREST IN RESOLVING THESE MATTERS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AND I THINK THAT WE'RE ALL SINCERELY COMMITTED TO THE MOST COST-EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED," HE ADDED.

ASKED WHAT HE WOULD BE DISCUSSING WITH MR ALASTAIR GOODLAD, FCO MINISTER WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, THE GOVERNOR SAID HE WOULD TALK TO HIM ABOUT A RANGE OF ISSUES AFFECTING THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG AND THE REGION, FROM TRADE TO THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

COMMENTING ON CONCERNS EXPRESSED TO HIM ABOUT THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT IN SHAM SHUI PO, MR PATTEN SAID: "I THINK THAT IT'S EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT WE ENSURE LAW AND ORDER THROUGHOUT OUR COMMUNITY AND I DO UNDERSTAND THE CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY ORDINARY DECENT FAMILIES WHEN THEIR COMMUNITIES ARE AFFECTED BY EITHER PROSTITUTION OR THE SALE OF PORNOGRAPHY ON STREETS AND IN SHOPS WHICH YOUNG CHILDREN GO INTO."

"SO I HOPE THAT WE'LL BE ABLE TO WORK WITH THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER; WITH THE POLICE AND WITH THE WHOLE COMMUNITY TO TACKLE PROBLEMS WHICH CAUSE UNDERSTANDABLE CONCERN TO DECENT FAMILIES," HE SAID.

EARLIER THIS AFTERNOON THE GOVERNOR TOURED MEI FOO SUN CHUEN, ONE OF THE TERRITORY'S EARLIEST AND LARGEST PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES, AND MET A FAMILY THERE.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ADJACENT TO THE ESTATE, INCLUDING THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION, CONTAINER TERMINAL 8 AND ROUTE 3.

MR PATTEN THEN PROCEEDED TO NAM CHEONG STREET AND WALKED THROUGH A SECTION OF PEI HO STREET TO FAMILIARISE HIMSELF WITH THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS CREATED BY HAWKERS AND TRAFFIC PROBLEMS IN THE AREA.

HE WAS TOLD THAT THE SITUATION WOULD IMPROVE SOON WHEN SOME OF THE HAWKERS WOULD BE MOVED TO NEARBY TEMPORARY MARKETS IN OCTOBER.

/BEFORE ENDING

BEFORE ENDING HIS VISIT, THE GOVERNOR MET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND URBAN COUNCILLORS IN THE NAM CHEONG COMMUNITY CENTRE.

MR PATTEN WAS ACCOMPANIED ON THE VISIT BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY (HONG KONG AND KOWLOON), MR PAUL WONG; SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICER, MR ALAN FUNG, AND DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND CHOI.

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FEEs FOR DEGREE, SUB-DEGREE COURSES TO GO UP
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT FEES FOR DEGREE AND SUB-DEGREE COURSES IN INSTITUTIONS FUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE WILL BE INCREASED FROM THE 1993-94 ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE NEW FEE FOR DEGREE COURSES WILL BE \$17,000 AND THAT FOR SUB-DEGREE COURSES WILL BE \$12,750. THESE COMPARE WITH \$11,600 AND \$9,000 RESPECTIVELY FOR 1992-93.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE ADJUSTMENT FOLLOWED A POLICY DECISION IN JANUARY LAST YEAR TO GRADUALLY INCREASE THE COST RECOVERY RATE OF DEGREE COURSES TO REACH 18 PER CENT BY THE END OF THE 1995-98 TRIENNium AND THAT THE FEE FOR SUB-DEGREE COURSES SHOULD BE 75 PER CENT OF THAT FOR DEGREE COURSES.

"IT WAS ANNOUNCED THEN THAT THE INDICATIVE FEE FOR 1993-94 SHOULD BE \$17,000 WHICH IS EQUIVALENT TO A COST RECOVERY RATE OF 12.1 PER CENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"HOWEVER, HAVING REVIEWED THE UP-TO-DATE COST FIGURES, IT IS FOUND THAT \$17,000 ONLY REPRESENT 10.6 PER CENT COST RECOVERY RATE.

"INSTEAD OF INCREASING THE 1993-94 FEE LEVEL FURTHER TO MAINTAIN THE ORIGINALLY FORECASTED COST RECOVERY RATE, THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO GO FIRM ON \$17,000 SO AS TO AVOID PASSING THE FULL IMPACT OF INFLATION ON TO STUDENTS."

THE INDICATIVE FEES FOR THE THREE ACADEMIC YEARS 1994-97 ARE:

	INDICATIVE FEE (DEGREE)	RECOVERY RATE	INDICATIVE FEE (SUB-DEGREE)
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1994-95	\$24,000	13.5	\$18,000
1995-96	\$31,000	16	\$23,250
1996-97	\$36,000	17	\$27,000

/THE INCREASE

THE INCREASE IN FEES SHOULD NOT CAUSE HARDSHIP TO STUDENTS AS CORRESPONDING ADJUSTMENT IN STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE WILL BE MADE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"IT IS GOVERNMENT POLICY THAT NO STUDENT SHOULD BE DENIED ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION BECAUSE OF LACK OF MEANS," HE ADDED.

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COMMITTEE MEETS TO DISCUSS PROPERTY MARKET

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MEASURES TAKEN TO CURB PROPERTY SPECULATION INCLUDING THE TIGHTENING OF THE LENDING POLICIES IN LATE 1991 AND THE ENACTMENT OF THE STAMP DUTY (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1992 IN JANUARY ARE GRADUALLY TAKING EFFECT.

THIS WAS STATED IN THE HALF-YEARLY REPORT ON THE PROPERTY MARKET TABLED AT THE MEETING OF THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LBAC) THIS (WEDNESDAY) MORNING.

THE REPORT, COMPILED BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT ON A SIX-MONTH BASIS, GIVES A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROPERTY MARKET INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL AND OFFICE SECTORS AS WELL AS THE LAND SALES SITUATION.

THE MEETING, WHICH WAS CHAIRED BY MR CHENG HON-KWAN, NOTED THAT THE PROPERTY MARKET DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR, LED BY STRONG DEMAND IN THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR, STRENGTHENED AT A SLOWER PACE OWING TO THE MEASURES TO DAMPEN SPECULATION.

LAND OFFICE STATISTICS INDICATED A DECREASE OF ABOUT 30.7 PER CENT IN THE NUMBER OF SALES AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS LODGED IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AS COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS SIX MONTHS ENDING DECEMBER 1991.

THE CORRESPONDING AVERAGE DECREASE IN THE URBAN AREA WAS 12.5 PER CENT.

IN VALUE TERMS, THERE WAS A SLIGHT INCREASE OF 6.2 PER CENT IN THE URBAN AREA WHILE A DECREASE OF 13.7 PER CENT WAS RECORDED FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR CONTINUED TO REMAIN BUOYANT WITH STRONG DEMAND PARTICULARLY IN THE SMALL TO MEDIUM SIZED FLATS WHILE THE LUXURY RESIDENTIAL SECTOR SHOWED STEADY GROWTH.

THE COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTORS REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE WITH THE SITUATION BASICALLY UNCHANGED AS COMPARED WITH THE LAST SIX-MONTH PERIOD.

THE OFFICE SECTOR IS HOWEVER, STILL CONFRONTED WITH AN OVERSUPPLY SITUATION WHICH SHOULD CONTINUE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THIS YEAR.

/THE INDUSTRIAL

THE INDUSTRIAL MARKET CONTINUED TO SHOW POSITIVE SIGNS HAVING REGARD TO THE INTEREST IN NEW DEVELOPMENTS OFFERED DURING THIS PERIOD AND RECENT AUCTION RESULTS.

ON LAND SALES, MEMBERS WERE INFORMED THAT ABOUT 14.24 HECTARES OF LAND WAS OFFERED FOR SALE EITHER AT AUCTION OR BY TENDER.

THIS COMPRISED 10.64 HECTARES FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL USE, 2.38 HECTARES FOR INDUSTRIAL/GODOWN USES, 1.12 HECTARES FOR NON-INDUSTRIAL USE (COMMERCIAL AND/OR RESIDENTIAL) AND 0.1 HECTARE FOR OTHER USES.

"THE PRICES ACHIEVED PARTICULARLY IN THE RESIDENTIAL SECTOR EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS AND REFLECTED THE COMPETITIVE DEMAND IN THE MARKET," MR CHENG SAID.

"OVERALL THE PROPERTY MARKET REMAINS STABLE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE RESIDENTIAL-LED. THIS SITUATION IS LIKELY TO REMAIN FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR UNLESS THE CURRENT INTEREST RATE TREND IS REVERSED," HE SAID.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WERE ALSO BRIEFED ON THE KEY FEATURES OF THE INDUSTRIAL LAND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STUDY BEING CARRIED OUT AS PART OF THE TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.

THE STUDY PROJECTS THE AMOUNT, TYPE AND LOCATION OF INDUSTRIAL LAND NEEDED UP TO 2011.

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LABOUR IMPORTATION SCHEME: AN UPDATE

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID OF THE 12,000 FOREIGN WORKERS ALLOWED TO ENTER UNDER THE 1992 GENERAL LABOUR IMPORTATION SCHEME, THE DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED ABOUT 10,000 VISA APPLICATIONS.

SO FAR 2,524 VISA APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED, 14 REFUSED AND 15 WITHDRAWN. THE REMAINDER ARE BEING PROCESSED.

THE DEADLINE FOR VISA APPLICATIONS FOR SOME 790 FOREIGN WORKERS WILL NOT EXPIRE UNTIL AROUND THE END OF THE YEAR.

IN THESE CASES, THE RELEVANT QUOTAS WERE APPROVED ONLY RECENTLY, FOLLOWING CONSIDERATION OF APPEALS FROM EMPLOYERS AGAINST THE EARLIER REFUSAL OF THEIR APPLICATIONS FOR QUOTAS.

"ANY REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE DEADLINE FOR VISA APPLICATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED ON INDIVIDUAL MERITS. THE NUMBER OF SUCH REQUESTS IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE LARGE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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HONG KONG LIFE TABLES PUBLISHED

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A REPORT PUBLISHED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SHOWS THAT PEOPLE IN HONG KONG LIVE LONGER NOWADAYS.

BETWEEN 1986 AND 1991, THE EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT BIRTH FOR MALES INCREASED FROM 74 TO 75 YEARS; THAT FOR FEMALES, FROM 79 TO 81 YEARS.

THE REPORT "HONG KONG LIFE TABLES 1986-2011" DESCRIBES THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE MORTALITY CONDITIONS IN HONG KONG.

IT INDICATES THAT THE MORTALITY RATE IN HONG KONG IS VERY LOW BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID A FURTHER DECLINE IN THE MORTALITY RATE IN HONG KONG IN FUTURE WAS EXPECTED.

THIS IS ATTRIBUTED TO THE CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES AS WELL AS THE GROWING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BALANCED DIETS AND PHYSICAL FITNESS, HE SAID.

BY 2011, THE EXPECTATION OF LIFE AT BIRTH FOR MALES IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE TO 78 YEARS; THAT FOR FEMALES TO 83 YEARS.

THE REPORT ALSO DESCRIBES THE METHOD OF CONSTRUCTING A LIFE TABLE.

IT IS NOW ON SALE AT \$16.50 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND THE PUBLICATIONS OFFICE OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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REPORT ON ENERGY STATISTICS ON SALE

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED A STATISTICAL REPORT ENTITLED "HONG KONG ENERGY STATISTICS 1981 - 1991" WHICH DESCRIBES SITUATION OF ENERGY SUPPLY AND DEMAND IN HONG KONG.

THE REPORT CONTAINS COMPREHENSIVE STATISTICAL INFORMATION RELATING TO DIFFERENT FORMS OF ENERGY, INCLUDING OIL PRODUCTS, COAL PRODUCTS, ELECTRICITY AND TOWN GAS.

ALSO INCLUDED IS AN OVERALL ENERGY BALANCE WHICH SUMMARISES THE SOURCES AND USES OF THE DIFFERENT FORMS OF ENERGY, DEPICTING THEIR RELATIONSHIP IN THE ENERGY TRANSFORMATION PROCESSES.

/REGARDING VARIOUS

REGARDING VARIOUS OIL PRODUCTS, STATISTICS ON LIST PRICES, STORAGE CAPACITY, TANK STOCK, IMPORTS, RE-EXPORTS, RETAINED IMPORTS AVERAGE UNIT VALUES OF IMPORTS, AND QUANTITY OF SALES BY TYPE OF USER ARE PRESENTED IN THE REPORT.

FIGURES ON IMPORTS, RE-EXPORTS, RETAINED IMPORTS AND AVERAGE UNIT VALUES OF IMPORTS OF SELECTED COAL PRODUCTS ARE GIVEN.

ON ELECTRICITY AND TOWN GAS, THE REPORT SHOWS FIGURES ON TARIFF CHARGES, GENERATING CAPACITY, PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION BY TYPE OF USER.

ANNUAL FIGURES FOR THE YEARS 1981 TO 1991 ARE PROVIDED WITH RESPECT TO MOST OF THESE STATISTICS. IN ADDITION, QUARTERLY FIGURES FOR 1990 AND 1991 ARE PRESENTED FOR SELECTED ITEMS.

THE REPORT, AT \$20 A COPY, IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATION SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12, HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION ON 805 6441.

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NEW STAMPS ON CHINESE OPERA

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A SET OF SPECIAL STAMPS WILL BE ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 24 ON THE THEME OF CHINESE OPERA, THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MRS DORIS HO, ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THERE WILL BE FOUR DENOMINATIONS: 80 CENTS, \$1.80, \$2.30 AND \$5. THE STAMPS WERE DESIGNED BY MR IAN LEUNG AND PRINTED BY JOH.

ENSCHEDÉ OF THE NETHERLANDS.

THEY WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE, TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE AND SHA TIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE FROM SEPTEMBER 10.

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVERS, AT \$1 EACH WILL BE ON SALE AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE, FROM SEPTEMBER 10.

ADVANCE ORDERS FOR SERVICED FIRST DAY COVERS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM SEPTEMBER 10 TO 16. THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF COVERS PER ORDER IS FIVE.

FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF CUSTOMERS, FIRST DAY COVERS PRE-AFFIXED WITH A SET OF STAMPS AND CANCELLED WITH THE FIRST DAY OF ISSUE POSTMARK WILL BE AVAILABLE AT \$12.90 EACH AT THE FOLLOWING 27 POST OFFICES:

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HONG KONG ISLAND

BEACONSFIELD HOUSE POST OFFICE
CAUSEWAY BAY POST OFFICE
GENERAL POST OFFICE
HENNESSY ROAD POST OFFICE
KING'S ROAD POST OFFICE
PEAK POST OFFICE
QUEEN'S ROAD POST OFFICE
SAI YING PUN POST OFFICE
TSAT TSZ MUI POST OFFICE

KOWLOON

CHEUNG SHA WAN POST OFFICE
GRANVILLE ROAD POST OFFICE
KOWLOON BAY POST OFFICE
KOWLOON CENTRAL POST OFFICE
KWONG WAH STREET POST OFFICE
KWUN TONG POST OFFICE
LOK FU POST OFFICE
MONGKOK POST OFFICE
NGAU TAU KOK POST OFFICE
OI MAN POST OFFICE
TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE

NEW TERRITORIES

SHA TIN CENTRAL POST OFFICE
SHEK WU HUI POST OFFICE
TAI PO POST OFFICE
TSUEN WAN POST OFFICE
TSUEN WING STREET POST OFFICE
TUEN MUN CENTRAL POST OFFICE
YUEN LONG POST OFFICE

A HAND-BACK SERVICE WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL OFFICIAL AND PRIVATELY MADE COVERS BEARING THE "FIRST DAY" INDICATION ON SEPTEMBER 24 AT ALL POST OFFICES EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1992

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SALT WATER CUT IN HO MAN TIN
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN HO MAN TIN WILL GO OFF FROM 9.30 AM TO 5 PM ON FRIDAY (SEPTEMBER 4) TO FACILITATE CONNECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT HO MAN TIN HILL, WATERLOO ROAD HILL, OI MAN ESTATE, HO MAN TIN ESTATE, CHUN MAN COURT, VALLEY ROAD, SHEUNG SHING STREET, SHEK KU STREET, PERTH STREET, KING TAK STREET, TWEED ROAD, DUNBAR ROAD, GULLANE ROAD, SHEUNG LOK STREET, SHEUNG HING STREET, PUI CHING ROAD, GOOD SHEPHERD STREET AND CARMEL VILLAGE STREET.

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NO MAIL SERVICE DAY AFTER FESTIVAL
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THE ACTING POSTMASTER GENERAL, MRS DORIS HO, ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT THERE WOULD BE NO MAIL DELIVERY ON SEPTEMBER 12 (THE DAY FOLLOWING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL) AND THAT ALL POST OFFICES WOULD BE CLOSED ON THAT DAY.

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DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED
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THE GOVERNOR, AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ADVICE OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS DECIDED THAT THE DEATH SENTENCE PASSED ON HO KONG-SANG ON MAY 15, 1990 SHOULD BE COMMUTED TO A SENTENCE OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT.

HO WAS FOUND GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF WONG CHOR-WAH.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1992

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,500
REVERSAL OF LAF	NIL
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 108.3 *-0.2* 2.9.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS			HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS			
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.37 PCT	15 MONTHS	2311	6.25	103.47	3.32
1 MONTH	2.40 PCT	18 MONTHS	2402	5.50	102.72	3.60
3 MONTHS	2.45 PCT	21 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.73	3.87
6 MONTHS	2.64 PCT	24 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.73	4.02
12 MONTHS	3.10 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 6,876 MN

CLOSED 2 SEPTEMBER 1992

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