



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GOVERNOR SETS DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING THE BILL

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THIS (MONDAY) EVENING SAID THE BILL ON THE VOTING METHODS AND VOTING AGE HAD TO BE COMPLETED BY FEBRUARY 23 IN ORDER TO HAVE THE TIME TO PUT IN PLACE THE VOTERS' REGISTER IN APRIL NEXT YEAR.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE PRESENTATION OF THE GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR INDUSTRY, MR PATTEN SAID: "I THINK EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT WE OUGHT TO GET THESE MEASURES ONTO THE STATUTE BOOK AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

"YOU CAN'T GO ON PUTTING OFF THINGS FOREVER.

"WE DON'T WANT TO PUSH THINGS FASTER OR FURTHER THAN WE NEED TO BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT THERE COMES A POINT WHEN WE'VE JUST GOT TO MOVE ON. AND THAT IS THE CASE THIS WEEK AS WAS LAST WEEK."

DEFENDING THE ROLE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNOR SAID THE RIGHT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE PRESENT CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, THE ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS AND LETTERS PATENT WAS ABSOLUTE CLEAR.

"IT'S THERE TO PERFORM THE ROLE OF ADVISING AND GIVING CONSENT BUT NOT JUST ADVISING, GIVING CONSENT AS WELL," MR PATTEN SAID.

"AND, ONE LOOKS TO THE FUTURE AND SEES ABSOLUTELY CLEARLY THAT UNDER THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW, UNDER, FOR EXAMPLE, ARTICLE 55 OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, UNDER ARTICLE 73 OF THE BASIC LAW, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS THE JOB OF AMENDING OR REPEALING OUR LAWS, OF WRITING OUR LAWS.

"IT'S THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO WHICH WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE. SO THOSE WHO PRETEND THAT LEGCO DOESN'T HAVE A ROLE, THOSE WHO PRETEND THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHOULD JUST BE THERE FOR PROVIDING THE SORT OF OFFICIAL CHOP ON DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE, HAVEN'T READ OR UNDERSTOOD THE JOINT DECLARATION TO WHICH BOTH BRITAIN AND CHINA PUT THEIR NAMES, HAVEN'T UNDERSTOOD THE BASIC LAW WHICH ARE OUR FUTURE CONSTITUTION."

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TRANSCRIPT OF REMARKS BY GOVERNOR TO MEDIA AFTER
PRESENTATION OF HIS AWARDS FOR INDUSTRY

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GOVERNOR: YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN LOOKING AROUND THOSE PRODUCTS. THEY ARE TERRIFIC EXAMPLES OF THE RANGE OF HONG KONG'S INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE AND DESIGN. ANYBODY WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER HONG KONG CAN STAY SUCCESSFUL, THEY SHOULD LOOK AT AN EXHIBITION LIKE THAT. ANY QUESTION? THERE AREN'T ANY?

QUESTION: SOME LEGISLATORS SAID THAT THEY ARE GOING TO DELAY THE BILL.....?

/GOVERNOR:

GOVERNOR: LEGISLATORS SAY QUITE A LOT OF THINGS. SOME LEGISLATORS WERE SAYING LAST WEEK THAT SINCE THE BILL WASN'T CONTROVERSIAL, THEY SHOULD GET TO MOVE ON WITH IT. AND I THINK EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT WE OUGHT TO GET THESE MEASURES ONTO THE STATUTE BOOK AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. WE'VE GOT TO COMPLETE THIS BILL BY THE END OF FEBRUARY, BY THE 23RD OF FEBRUARY, IN ORDER TO HAVE THE TIME TO PUT IN PLACE OR START PUTTING IN PLACE THE VOTERS' REGISTER IN APRIL. YOU CAN'T GO ON PUTTING OFF THINGS FOREVER. THE MOST UNCONTROVERSIAL OF ALL THE PROPOSALS THAT WE'VE PUT FORWARD WAS THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION BILL AND PEOPLE SAY THAT WON'T TAKE MUCH TIME IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. IT ACTUALLY TOOK FOUR AND A HALF MONTHS FOR US TO GET THAT THROUGH. THIS PARTICULAR BILL, WHILST IT DEALS WITH STRAIGHT-FORWARD ISSUES, HAS ALREADY DRAWN QUITE A LOT OF COMMENTS FROM LEGISLATORS. AT LEAST TWO GROUPS OF LEGISLATORS HAVE TALKED ABOUT AMENDING IT. ONE GROUP OF LEGISLATORS HAVE SAID THEY ARE NOT VERY KEEN AT THE MOMENT ON THE PROPOSAL WE'VE PUT FORWARD AS A GESTURE OF GOODWILL, TO MAKE MEMBERS OF THE PEOPLE'S CONGRESSES ELIGIBLE OF STANDING FOR DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS AND FOR LEGCO. SO, ALL THOSE MATTERS ARE GOING TO BE DEBATED, ARE GOING TO BE CONSIDERED. AND I THINK PEOPLE WHO SAY THAT IT COULD ALL BE DONE IN 48 HOURS, IT COULD BE DONE OVER A CUP OF TEA, ARE FRANKLY A LITTLE FAR FROM REALITY. WE DON'T WANT TO PUSH THINGS FASTER OR FURTHER THAN WE NEED TO BUT EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT THERE COMES A POINT WHEN WE'VE JUST GOT TO MOVE ON. AND THAT IS THE CASE THIS WEEK AS WAS LAST WEEK. JUST ONE OTHER POINT THAT I'D PUT BECAUSE I NOTICE IT'S BEEN DISCUSSED A BIT IN THE LAST FEW DAYS. THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN QUESTIONING THE ROLE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. FOR THE RIGHT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE PRESENT CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, THE ROYAL INSTRUCTIONS AND LETTERS PATENT IS ABSOLUTE CLEAR. IT'S THERE TO PERFORM THE ROLE OF ADVISING AND GIVING CONSENT, BUT NOT JUST ADVISING, GIVING CONSENT AS WELL. SO THAT FOR EXAMPLE, IT GIVES CONSENT TO LEGISLATION. SO FOR EXAMPLE, IT GIVES CONSENT TO THE BUDGET EVERY YEAR. THEORETICALLY, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COULD VOTE DOWN THE BUDGET. AND THEN, ONE LOOKS TO THE FUTURE AND SEES ABSOLUTELY CLEARLY THAT UNDER THE JOINT DECLARATION AND THE BASIC LAW, UNDER, FOR EXAMPLE, ARTICLE 55 OF THE JOINT DECLARATION, UNDER ARTICLE 73 OF THE BASIC LAW, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAS THE JOB OF AMENDING OR REPEALING OUR LAWS, OF WRITING OUR LAWS. IT'S THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO WHICH WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE. SO THOSE WHO PRETEND THAT LEGCO DOESN'T HAVE A ROLE, THOSE WHO PRETEND THAT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHOULD JUST BE THERE FOR PROVIDING THE SORT OF OFFICIAL CHOP ON DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXECUTIVE HAVEN'T READ OR UNDERSTOOD THE JOINT DECLARATION TO WHICH BOTH BRITAIN AND CHINA PUT THEIR NAMES, HAVEN'T UNDERSTOOD THE BASIC LAW WHICH ARE OUR FUTURE CONSTITUTION.

QUESTION: GOVERNOR, IF YOU ARE WILLING TO WAIT AFTER THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND IF LEGCO ISN'T GOING TO GIVE IT A SHOT, WHY DON'T YOU JUST CALL IT AN END TO A WHOLE DAY AND BRING THE WHOLE BILL FORWARD?

GOVERNOR: WELL, I SET OUT AT SOME LENGTH LAST WEEK WHY WE THOUGHT IT WAS SENSIBLE TO PUT FORWARD, FIRST OF ALL, THE RELATIVELY UNCONTROVERSIAL ISSUES. WE'VE DONE THAT IN GOOD FAITH IN ORDER TO TRY TO GIVE OURSELVES MORE TIME FOR DEALING WITH THE CONTROVERSIAL ONES AND I HOPE THAT RATHER THAN HEARING INACCURATE ACCOUNTS OF WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO HAVE SEEN MORE SUCCESSFUL THAN THEY HAVE BEEN, OR RATHER THAN LISTENING TO RATHER ABUSIVE REMARKS MADE ABOUT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN HONG KONG. I HOPE RATHER THAN THAT, WE'LL HEAR SOME CONSTRUCTIVE WAYS IN WHICH WE CAN MAKE WHAT REMAINS OF THE TALKS THE SUCCESS THAT WE ALL LIKE TO SEE. THANKS VERY MUCH.

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HK CAN BE MERCHANT BANK TO CHINA: GOVERNOR

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HONG KONG HAS THE POTENTIAL TO PLAY THE SAME PART IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHINA'S ECONOMY AS NEW YORK PLAYED IN THE GROWTH OF THE UNITED STATES' ECONOMY A CENTURY AGO, THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"THE MERCHANT BANK TO CHINA IF YOU LIKE," MR PATTEN SAID, AT THE OPENING OF THE ASIA PACIFIC ISSUERS AND INVESTORS FORUM.

FOR THAT HOPE TO BE REALISED, THE GOVERNOR SAID IT WAS ESSENTIAL THAT THE FORMULA THAT MADE HONG KONG WORK WAS MAINTAINED: FREE MARKET CAPITALISM WITHIN A RULE OF LAW THAT RESPECTED INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS AND ENFORCED CONTRACTS.

BUILT ON A FIRM FOUNDATION INHERITED FROM LONG INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPERIENCE, HONG KONG OFFERS AN IDEAL ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE, HE SAID.

MR PATTEN SAID HONG KONG'S TREMENDOUS ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS WERE MADE WITH THE HELP OF THE STRONG GROWTH OF ECONOMIES IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

HE SAID: "NOTABLY, OUR TRADE WITH OTHER ASIAN ECONOMIES GREW BY 24 PER CENT IN THE PAST YEAR, EVIDENCE OF THE GROWING INTERCHANGE BETWEEN ECONOMIES INSIDE THE REGION."

HONG KONG NOW HAS A WORLD-CLASS EQUITY MARKET WHICH IS WELL-REGULATED, AND WORTH THE RESPECT AND ATTENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL COMMUNITY.

MR PATTEN SAID: "THE FUNDAMENTAL SOUNDNESS OF THE MARKET HAS BEEN SHOWN BY THE FACT THAT, DESPITE THE OCCASIONAL AND FAIRLY REGULAR SQUALLS IN THE POLITICAL FRONT, OURS HAS BEEN POSSIBLY THE BEST PERFORMING STOCK MARKET IN THE WORLD THIS YEAR."

HE ADDED THAT THIS REFLECTED THE CONFIDENCE OF BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS ISSUERS AND INVESTORS IN THE MARKET, UNDERPINNED NOT ONLY BY STRONG ECONOMIC FUNDAMENTALS, BUT ALSO AS A RESULT OF A MUCH IMPROVED REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

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DON'T MISS HUGE OPPORTUNITIES HERE: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THERE WERE HUGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN HONG KONG.

"AND I AM CONFIDENT YOU WILL SEIZE THEM," MR PATTEN TOLD HIS AUDIENCE AT THE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF THE 1993 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY.

/HE SAID

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT ALSO HELPED THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR MOVE BEYOND COMPETENT MANUFACTURING OF OTHER PEOPLE'S INVENTIONS BY GIVING A MAJOR BOOST TO APPLIED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

THAT IS, THE PROCESS BY WHICH NEW AND BETTER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES CAN BE DEvised.

LAST YEAR, THE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE WAS ESTABLISHED TO NURTURE HIGH TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES DEVELOPING NEW AND IMPROVED PRODUCTS.

EARLIER THIS YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED A SPECIAL FUND TO SUPPORT INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

AND NEXT YEAR, IT WILL SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE FUNDING TO THE INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, TO ENABLE IT TO SUPPORT PROJECTS TO ENHANCE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

"TO CAPITALISE ON THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR JOINT RESEARCH WITH SCIENTISTS IN CHINA, WE ARE SEEKING TO ESTABLISH AN APPLIED RESEARCH CENTRE WHICH WILL SUPPORT COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS WHICH CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG AND CHINA," MR PATTEN ADDED.

MR PATTEN LATER PRESENTED THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY TO FIVE COMPANIES IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMANCE.

THEY ARE THE NUTS TECHNOLOGIES LTD FOR THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN CATEGORY; R & S MACHINERY EQUIPMENT LTD FOR THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN CATEGORY; MAXTOR (HONG KONG) LTD FOR THE PRODUCTIVITY AND QUALITY CATEGORIES; MOTOROLA SEMICONDUCTORS HONG KONG LTD FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE CATEGORY; AND TEAM CONCEPTS ELECTRONICS LTD FOR THE EXPORT MARKETING CATEGORY.

WINNERS OF THE AWARD ARE ENTITLED TO DISPLAY AN OFFICIAL LOGO ON THE COMPANY LETTERHEADS, ENVELOPES, COMPLIMENTARY SLIPS, PRESS ADVERTISING AND OTHER PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

THEY ALSO RECEIVE THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD TROPHY, A HANDSOME AND INDIVIDUALLY-CRAFTED SCULPTURE, AS A PERMANENT MEMENTO OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENT.

INTRODUCED IN 1989, THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY IS A MAJOR AWARD SCHEME TO RECOGNISE AND ENCOURAGE EXCELLENCE IN DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF INDUSTRIAL PERFORMANCE.

COMPETITIONS ARE HELD ANNUALLY IN EACH OF THE SIX AWARD CATEGORIES ORGANISED BY DIFFERENT LEADING ORGANISERS.

THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONSUMER PRODUCT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG FOR THE MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN CATEGORY; THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL FOR THE PRODUCTIVITY CATEGORY; THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT FOR THE QUALITY CATEGORY; THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE CATEGORY AND THE HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL FOR THE EXPORT MARKETING CATEGORY.

APART FROM THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR INDUSTRY, WHICH IS AWARDED TO THE MOST OUTSTANDING ENTRY IN EACH AWARD CATEGORY, EACH ORGANISER ALSO PRESENTS THE LEADING ORGANISER'S AWARD(S) AND CERTIFICATE(S) OF MERIT IN THE CATEGORY FOR WHICH IT IS RESPONSIBLE.

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CENTRAL MONEYMARKETS UNIT SERVICE LAUNCHED TODAY

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THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY (HKMA), MR JOSEPH YAM, ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THE LAUNCHING OF THE CENTRAL MONEYMARKETS UNIT (CMU) SERVICE.

MR YAM SAID THE CMU SERVICE PERFORMED THE ROLE OF A CENTRAL CUSTODIAN AND CLEARING AGENT FOR THE HONG KONG DOLLAR DEBT INSTRUMENTS ISSUED BY PRIVATE SECTOR ISSUERS.

"IT HANDLES DEBT INSTRUMENTS WHICH ARE EITHER IMMOBILISED OR DEMATERIALISED, AND TRANSFER OF TITLE IS EFFECTED BY COMPUTER BOOK ENTRY," MR YAM EXPLAINED.

"THE SERVICE OFFERS AN EFFICIENT, SAFE AND CONVENIENT CLEARING SYSTEM WHICH WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARDS REDUCING TRANSACTION COSTS AND SETTLEMENT RISK," HE SAID.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, WELCOMED THE SETTING UP ON THIS CMU WHICH WAS MENTIONED IN HIS LAST BUDGET SPEECH ON MARCH 3.

MR MACLEOD POINTED OUT THAT THE CMU SERVICE WAS PART OF THE CONTINUING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP HONG KONG'S DEBT MARKET, THROUGH WHICH THE COMPETITIVE EDGE OF HONG KONG AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE WOULD BE FURTHER ENHANCED.

IN DEVELOPING THE CMU SERVICE, THE HKMA HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH THE HONG KONG CAPITAL MARKETS ASSOCIATION TO ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE MARKET.

ELEVEN COMPANIES HAVE ALREADY SIGNED UP AS MEMBERS OF THE CMU SERVICE. THE NAMES OF THESE 11 FOUNDING MEMBERS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

BANK OF CHINA, HONG KONG BRANCH

JARDINE FLEMING BANK LIMITED

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LTCB ASIA LIMITED

OAKREED FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

SANWA INTERNATIONAL FINANCE LIMITED

SCHRODERS ASIA LIMITED

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK

STANDARD CHARTERED ASIA LIMITED

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED

UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND

WARDLEY LIMITED

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED WILL BE ENGAGED BY THE HKMA TO PROVIDE SAFE-KEEPING AND SUB-CUSTODIAN FUNCTION FOR THE CMU SERVICE.

AFTER THE FORMAL LAUNCHING OF THE CMU SERVICE, TRADING OPERATIONS WILL START SEVERAL WEEKS LATER ON JANUARY 31 NEXT YEAR. THE CMU MEMBERS WILL MAKE USE OF THIS INTERIM PERIOD TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR TRADING OPERATIONS.

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MORE HEALTH SERVICES FOR WOMEN URGED

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BIOMEDICAL AND BEHAVIOURAL RESEARCH SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO ENSURE A PROPER EMPHASIS ON THE CONDITIONS AND DISEASES THAT ARE UNIQUE TO WOMEN OF ALL AGE GROUPS, MRS PATTEN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SUCH WORK WOULD HELP TO UNDERSTAND BETTER THE STATUS OF WOMEN'S HEALTH IN HONG KONG, SHE ADDED.

AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION, MRS PATTEN SAID WOMEN IN THE TERRITORY GENERALLY ENJOYED GOOD HEALTH.

THE HIGH LEVELS OF EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND STANDARD OF LIVING AND THE QUALITY OF HEALTH CARE AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG ALL EXERT AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE ON WOMEN'S HEALTH, SHE SAID.

"BUT WE MUST NOT BECOME COMPLACENT. WE CAN ALWAYS IMPROVE OUR SERVICES.

"NEEDS AND DEMANDS CHANGE. AND, IN ADDITION, WE MUST KEEP AN EYE ON CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES AND ANTICIPATE FUTURE TRENDS."

/SHE FELT

SHE FELT THAT FUTURE STUDIES SHOULD ALSO FOCUS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE USE OF SERVICES AND THE ACTUAL NEEDS OF PATIENTS, HOW TO DELIVER EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE CARE AND HEALTH EDUCATION.

"THE FAMILY IS THE NUCLEUS OF SOCIETY. AND THE WOMAN TRADITIONALLY IS AT THE HEART OF THE FAMILY.

"BUT WOMEN'S HEALTH HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN GIVEN THE ATTENTION IT DESERVES," SHE SAID.

MRS PATTEN SAID THE FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN IMPROVING SUCH A SITUATION.

"THERE NOW EXISTS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR, A COMPLEMENTARY AND COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR WOMEN OF CHILD-BEARING AGE."

"HOWEVER, IN THE PREVENTIVE MEDICINE FIELD, OTHER CATEGORIES OF WOMEN ARE TOO OFTEN NOT BEING CATERED FOR," SHE SAID.

IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SET UP THREE WELL-WOMAN CLINICS IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS TO PROVIDE HEALTH PROMOTION AND SCREENING SERVICES TO WOMEN IN THE PERI AND POST-MENOPAUSAL AGE GROUPS.

THE FIRST WELL-WOMAN CLINIC WILL OPEN EARLY NEXT YEAR AT THE LAM TIN POLYCLINIC.

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2ND REVIEW ON ENVIRONMENT WHITE PAPER OUT TOMORROW

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THE SECOND REVIEW OF THE 1989 WHITE PAPER ON THE ENVIRONMENT WHICH CHARTS OUT THE FUTURE ACTION PLANS TO PROTECT HONG KONG'S ENVIRONMENT WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

ENTITLED "A GREEN CHALLENGE FOR THE COMMUNITY", THE REVIEW ALSO SEEKS TO EXAMINE THE PROGRESS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAMME AND TO GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF NEW INITIATIVES TO STRENGTHEN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WORK.

COPIES OF THE REVIEW AND A PAMPHLET HIGHLIGHTING MAIN POINTS OF THE REVIEW WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM DISTRICT OFFICES FROM WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 8).

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, WILL HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO LAUNCH THE REVIEW AT THE GIS PRESS CONFERENCE ROOM AT 3.30 PM.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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HK'S CONTAINER THROUGHPUT INCREASES SUSTAINED

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HONG KONG'S AVERAGE OVERALL CONTAINER THROUGHPUT FOR THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, HAS INCREASED BY 16.2 PER CENT, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MARINE, MR IAN DALE, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ANNOUNCING THE LATEST CONSOLIDATED THROUGHPUT FIGURES, MR DALE SAID:

"HONG KONG HANDLED 6,746,471 TEU'S (TWENTY-FOOT EQUIVALENT UNITS) IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR COMPARED TO 5,808,065 OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

"THESE FIGURES WILL KEEP HONG KONG AT THE HEAD OF THE WORLD CONTAINER HANDLING LEAGUE TABLE, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY THEY INDICATED SUSTAINED GROWTH IN DEMAND AND THE PORT'S ABILITY TO SERVICE THAT DEMAND."

CURRENT INCREASES IN THROUGHPUT ARE GENERALLY IN LINE WITH FORECASTS, WHICH FURTHER UNDERLINES THE NEED FOR PORT FACILITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME TO STAY ON SCHEDULE, HE ADDED.

THE COMPARATIVE CONTAINER STATISTICS IN TEU'S ARE:

	FIRST NINE MONTHS OF '92	FIRST NINE MONTHS OF '93	PERCENTAGES INCREASE
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KWAI CHUNG CONTAINER TERMINALS	3,714,958	4,222,751	+ 13.7%
STREAM AND ELSEWHERE	1,808,829	2,096,699	+ 15.9%
RIVER TRADE	298,724	435,740	+ 45.9%
TOTAL	5,808,065	6,746,471	+ 16.2%

NOTE: TO AVOID DOUBLE COUNTING, FIGURES ARE ADJUSTED DOWNWARDS BY 14,446 IN 1992 AND 8,719 IN 1993 BEING TEU'S HANDLED BY TERMINAL VESSELS CONTRACTED TO WORK IN THE STREAM.

HONG KONG IS THE BUSIEST CONTAINER PORT IN THE WORLD, HANDLING A RECORD OF 7.97 MILLION TEU'S LAST YEAR AND FORECAST TO HANDLE WELL IN EXCESS OF NINE MILLION TEU'S THIS YEAR.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS SECTION ON TEL 852 4423 AND 852 4425 DURING OFFICE HOURS OR 9493 8262 OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS.

Comparative Container Statistics for January – September 1993

	First 9-month 1992	First 9-month 1993	Change Percent
<u>KWAI CHUNG TERMINALS</u>			
Loaded Full (T.E.U.)	1 868 725	2 112 608	13.1%
Discharged Full (T.E.U.)	1 274 697	1 440 045	13.0%
Loaded Empty (T.E.U.)	86 438	126 235	46.0%
Discharged Empty (T.E.U.)	485 098	543 863	12.1%
Throughput			
a) T.E.U.	3 714 958	4 222 751	13.7%
b) Actual	2 371 500	2 670 797	12.6%
c) Ratio	1.57	1.58	
% of T.E.U. throughput being empty	15.38%	15.87%	
% of T.E.U. throughput being transhipment	17.10%	14.53%	
Container Tonnage (Tonnes)			
a) Loaded	12 281 386	13 135 224	7.0%
b) Discharged	12 351 531	13 214 634	7.0%
c) Total	24 632 917	26 349 858	7.0%
Average Weight per full T.E.U. (Tonnes)			
a) T.E.U. Loaded	6.57	6.22	
b) T.E.U. Discharged	9.69	9.18	
c) T.E.U. Total	7.84	7.42	
* <u>STREAM AND ELSEWHERE</u>			
Loaded Full (T.E.U.)	726 325	834 245	14.9%
Discharged Full (T.E.U.)	847 446	1 012 295	19.5%
Loaded Empty (T.E.U.)	137 679	128 806	-6.4%
Discharged Empty (T.E.U.)	97 379	121 353	24.6%
Throughput (T.E.U.)	1 808 829	2 096 699	-15.9%
<u>RIVER TRADE (Other than those handled at Kwai Chung Terminals)</u>			
Loaded Full (T.E.U.)	107 866	152 409	41.3%
Discharged Full (T.E.U.)	88 600	133 754	51.0%
Loaded Empty (T.E.U.)	37 446	64 926	73.4%
Discharged Empty (T.E.U.)	64 812	84 651	30.6%
Throughput (T.E.U.)	298 724	435 740	45.9%
# <u>THROUGHPUT (Kwai Chung Terminals + Stream & Elsewhere + River Trade)</u>			
Loaded Full (T.E.U.)	2 691 209	3 097 941	15.1%
Discharged Full (T.E.U.)	2 208 400	2 582 343	16.9%
Loaded Empty (T.E.U.)	261 391	319 830	22.4%
Discharged Empty (T.E.U.)	647 065	746 357	15.3%
Throughput (T.E.U.)	5 808 065	6 746 471	16.2%

* Figures include a total of 14 446 T.E.U. in 1992 and 8 719 T.E.U. in 1993 respectively handled by terminal vessels contracted to work in the stream.

To avoid double counting figures are adjusted downwards by 14 446 T.E.U. in 1992 and 8 719 T.E.U. in 1993 respectively handled by terminal vessels contracted to work in the stream

LBAC DISCUSSES LAND TITLES BILL

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THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LBAC) DISCUSSED AT ITS MEETING TODAY (MONDAY) THE MAIN PROPOSALS IN THE LAND TITLES BILL.

THE BILL SEEKS TO CONVERT THE EXISTING LAND REGISTRATION SYSTEM TO A TITLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM.

UNDER THE PROPOSED TITLE REGISTRATION SYSTEM, THE LAND REGISTERS KEPT AND MAINTAINED IN THE LAND REGISTRY WILL BE THE CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE OF PROPERTY OWNERSHIP.

THE COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY MR CHENG HON-KWAN, NOTED THAT THE LAW SOCIETY AND OTHER INTERESTED BODIES WERE BEING CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSALS BEFORE A SUBMISSION TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL EARLY NEXT YEAR.

THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO BRIEFED ABOUT THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD'S AGREEMENT THAT "COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AREA" (CDA) ZONING ON STATUTORY PLANS SHOULD NOT BE DEZONED AUTOMATICALLY WITHOUT A PROPER REVIEW AND THAT EACH EXISTING "CDA" SHOULD BE REVIEWED REGULARLY.

LBAC ALSO ENDORSED THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE TO FACILITATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR AUTHORISED PERSONS, REGISTERED STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS AND REGISTERED CONTRACTORS.

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS AIMED TO STREAMLINE THE PROCEDURES IN THE EXISTING REGISTRATION SYSTEM TO MAKE IT MORE EFFICIENT AND ECONOMICAL TO OPERATE.

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LATEST DRUG FIGURES RELEASED

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THE NUMBER OF PERSONS OF ALL AGES REPORTED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S COMPUTERISED CENTRAL REGISTRY OF DRUG ABUSE (CRDA) IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WAS 6,651, REPRESENTING A 17.2 PER CENT INCREASE WHEN COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD LAST YEAR.

MEMBERS OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN) WERE UPDATED AT THEIR MEETING TODAY (MONDAY) ON THE LATEST DRUG SITUATION IN HONG KONG.

ACCORDING TO THE QUARTERLY DRUG SITUATION REPORT ISSUED BY THE NARCOTICS DIVISION, THE NUMBER OF NEWLY REPORTED PERSONS OF ALL AGES REPORTED TO THE REGISTRY IN THIS QUARTER INCREASED BY 25.7 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR, TO STAND AT 982.

AMONG THE NEWLY REPORTED, 497 OF THEM WERE UNDER THE AGE OF 21, UP BY 24.6 PER CENT AS AGAINST THE SAME PERIOD OF LAST YEAR.

THIS IS THE SMALLEST QUARTERLY INCREASE THIS YEAR. THE INCREASES IN NEWLY REPORTED PERSONS UNDER 21 FOR THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD QUARTERS OF 1993 WERE 73.2 PER CENT, 62.3 PER CENT AND 24.6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTERS IN 1992.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS OF ALL AGES REPORTED TO THE CRDA OVER THE NINE MONTHS FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1993 WAS 14,228, COMPARED WITH 12,446 IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1992, A RISE OF 14.3 PER CENT.

THE NUMBER OF NEWLY REPORTED PERSONS OF ALL AGES ROSE FROM 2,109 IN THE FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1992 TO 2,922 IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1993, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 38.5 PER CENT.

FOR PERSONS AGED UNDER 21 NEWLY REPORTED TO THE CRDA DURING THE FIRST NINE MONTHS, IT REGISTERED AN INCREASE FROM 983 IN 1992 TO 1,529 THIS YEAR, REPRESENTING A 55.5 PER CENT RISE.

MEANWHILE, ACAN MEMBERS AT THE MEETING ENDORSED A PILOT SCHEME TO PROVIDE A NEW TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTRE FOR YOUNG MALE DRUG ADDICTS.

WHILE STILL SEEKING FUNDING FOR THE PROJECT, ACAN MEMBERS HOPE THAT AN ALTERNATIVE TREATMENT MODALITY WILL HELP MALE OPIATE ABUSERS UNDER THE AGE OF 25 TO KICK THEIR HABIT.

AS PROPOSED BY THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS (SARDA), THE NEW CENTRE WILL BE LOCATED IN SUBURBAN AREA WHERE HELP SEEKERS WILL UNDERGO AN IN-PATIENT PROGRAMME OF NOT LESS THAN EIGHT WEEKS FOR DETOXIFICATION AND PSYCHO-SOCIAL REHABILITATION.

TO BE STAFFED BY SARDA'S HONG KONG SOCIAL SERVICE CENTRE AT SOUTHERN CENTRE IN WAN CHAI, AN OUT-PATIENT COUNSELLING PROGRAMME OF A MAXIMUM OF 18 MONTHS WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED TO THOSE WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE IN-PATIENT PROGRAMME.

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GOVERNOR VISITS PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL VISIT TWO PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES IN EAST KOWLOON TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO SEE FOR HIMSELF PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT THERE.

HE WILL FIRST VISIT THE LOWER NGAU TAU KOK ESTATE, WHERE HE WILL RECEIVE A BRIEFING ON THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MARK IV-V ESTATES, VISIT A FAMILY AND A MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE (MAC) OFFICE.

HE WILL THEN GO TO SEE A NEWLY BUILT ESTATE IN DIAMOND HILL, FUNG TAK ESTATE, WHERE HE WILL VISIT SOME SHELTERED HOUSING UNITS FOR THE ELDERLY AND TOUR A COMMERCIAL CENTRE.

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PING SHAN HERITAGE TRAIL TO OPEN SOON

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THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LORD WILSON HERITAGE TRUST, MR EDWARD HO, TODAY (MONDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT THE PING SHAN HERITAGE TRAIL, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG, WILL BE OPEN VERY SOON.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE RESULTS OF THE LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION ORGANISED BY THE TRUST AND ITS OTHER WORK SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN DECEMBER LAST YEAR, MR HO SAID THE OPENING OF THE TRAIL WOULD BE A SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT FOR HERITAGE PRESERVATION IN HONG KONG.

MR HO SAID THE TRAIL LINKED UP A NUMBER OF TYPICAL TRADITIONAL CHINESE STRUCTURES WITHIN EASY WALKING DISTANCE, THUS PROVIDING THE PUBLIC WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO RECAPTURE THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES IN THE PAST CENTURIES IN A CONVENIENT HALF-DAY EXCURSION.

HE SAID THE PROJECT WAS MADE POSSIBLE WITH A SUM OF \$1 MILLION DONATED BY THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB FOR MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT AND PROVISION OF DIRECTIONAL SIGNS, INFORMATION BOARDS AND EXPLANATORY PLAQUES ALONG THE TRAIL.

THE LORD WILSON HERITAGE TRUST HAD ALSO ALLOCATED A TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$642,000 TO PUBLISH AN INFORMATION PAMPHLET INTRODUCING THE FEATURES ALONG THE TRAIL, SET UP MINI DISPLAYS AT MAJOR POINTS OF INTEREST AND ORGANISE PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES.

TO ENCOURAGE MORE PEOPLE TO VISIT THE TRAIL, MR HO SAID A DRAWING COMPETITION AND A PHOTO ALBUM GAME WOULD BE ORGANISED BY THE COUNCIL EARLY NEXT YEAR.

MR HO SAID TO PROJECT THE IMAGE OF THE TRUST, A LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION HAD BEEN ORGANISED.

THE WINNER OF THE COMPETITION WAS MR YIP PO-HOI, AND THE OTHER FINALISTS WERE MR LEUNG CHIU, MR LOK CHUN-WA, MR CHIU CHI-ON AND MR YICK TAI-WA. MR YIP AND THE OTHERS WERE PRESENTED WITH PRIZES AT THE CONFERENCE BY MR HO.

IN ADDITION, IN ORDER TO AROUSE YOUTH AWARENESS OF HERITAGE PRESERVATION, AND TO SYSTEMATICALLY PASS ON HERITAGE INFORMATION TO THE YOUNGER GENERATION, THE TRUST HAD RECENTLY COMMISSIONED THE DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM STUDIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG TO COMPILE A LEARNING PACKAGE ON LOCAL HISTORY, WITH EMPHASIS ON HERITAGE PRESERVATION, FOR USE AS REFERENCE MATERIALS BY JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, MR HO SAID.

THE LEARNING PACKAGE WILL BE COMPLETED BY MID-1994.

MR HO NOTED THE COUNCIL HAD SO FAR APPROVED SEVERAL APPLICATIONS FOR GRANT, WITH A TOTAL AMOUNT OF OVER \$0.5 MILLION APPROVED FOR HERITAGE RELATED PROJECTS.

THE TRUST WELCOMED APPLICATIONS FROM BONA FIDE ORGANISATIONS IN HONG KONG FOR FUNDING SUPPORT TO ORGANISE HERITAGE-RELATED ACTIVITIES, SUBJECT TO FUND AVAILABILITY AND THAT THE PROPOSED PROJECTS ARE FOUND ACCEPTABLE TO THE COUNCIL OF THE TRUST, HE ADDED.

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BETTER FIRE AND EMERGENCY COVERAGE FOR WEST TUEN MUN
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ADEQUATE AND NECESSARY FIRE COVERAGE WILL BE PROVIDED TO TUEN MUN, CASTLE PEAK BAY AND TAP SHEK KOK AREAS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES FOLLOWING THE COMMISSIONING OF THE PILLAR POINT FIRE STATION.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW FIRE STATION TODAY (MONDAY), THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (HEADQUARTERS), MR HENRY TANG SIU, SAID ITS OPERATION WOULD ENABLE THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO FULFIL THE PERFORMANCE PLEDGE OF ACHIEVING THE TARGET RESPONSE TIME.

NOTING THAT THE NEW TERRITORIES HAD BECOME MORE AND MORE DEVELOPED IN THE PAST DECADE AND THE POPULATION IN TUEN MUN HAD GROWN UP TO OVER 403,000, MR TANG SAID THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT TO PROVIDE FIRE AND EMERGENCY COVER WAS CRUCIAL TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS AND INDUSTRIES.

THE PILLAR POINT FIRE STATION SERVES AN AREA OF ABOUT 24 SQUARE KILOMETRES IN THE WESTERN PART OF TUEN MUN WITH INDUSTRIES SUCH AS TAP SHEK KOK POWER STATION, CHINA CEMENT COMPANY AND THE BLACK POINT POWER STATION WHICH IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION.

"THERE ARE ALSO SOME POTENTIAL FIRE RISKS WITHIN THE REGION, SUCH AS THE BBC RELAY STATION AND PILLAR POINT REFUGEE CENTRE," HE ADDED.

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SLOTS ALLOCATED TO ROAD TEST REPEATERS BY BALLOT
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES TODAY (MONDAY) THAT EMPTY SLOTS WILL BE ALLOCATED TO ROAD TEST REPEATERS BY BALLOTING FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE SLOTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE BECAUSE OF POSTPONEMENT OF TESTS BY APPLICANTS.

THE SYSTEM WAS INTRODUCED ON DECEMBER 1 ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID BECAUSE THE DEMAND HAD BEEN GREATER THAN THE SUPPLY, CROWD CONTROL PROBLEM AROSE.

UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENT, ROAD TEST REPEATERS CAN SEND IN THEIR INITIAL APPLICATIONS IN PERSON IN THE MORNING UP TO 11 AM FROM MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS.

AT 2.30 PM RESULTS OF BALLOTING WILL BE POSTED ON THE NOTICE BOARD OF THE LICENSING OFFICES.

THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED AN APPOINTMENT ARE REQUIRED TO BRING ALONG THEIR DOCUMENTS AND COMPLETE THE APPLICATION BEFORE CLOSE OF OFFICE AT 4 PM EACH DAY.

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SPECIAL TOPICS REPORT NO. IX ON SOCIAL STATISTICS PUBLISHED

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED A REPORT: "SPECIAL TOPICS REPORT NO. IX" CONTAINING THE FINDINGS OF FIVE SPECIAL TOPICS ENQUIRIES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT FROM OCTOBER 1991 TO MARCH 1992 VIA THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY.

THE FIVE TOPICS COVERED IN THE REPORT ARE:

- DOMESTIC HELPERS;
- HIGHER EDUCATION ATTAINED OUTSIDE HONG KONG;
- TAXI WAITING TIME;
- OCCUPATIONAL MOBILITY;
- USE OF TELEVISION SETS AND VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDERS.

THE REPORT IS NOW ON SALE AT \$42 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, OR AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, HONG KONG.

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CARE IN PREPARING HOTPOTS

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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD ADOPT PROPER FOOD HYGIENE PRACTICES WHEN PREPARING HOTPOTS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH (HYGIENE), DR MAHOMMED ALI, SAID.

MAKING THE APPEAL, DR ALI ALERTED RESIDENTS OF THE POSSIBLE FOOD-BORNE DISEASES SUCH AS FOOD POISONING AND HEPATITIS A.

"RESTAURANT STAFF SHOULD ALWAYS OBSERVE HYGIENE PRACTICES IN PREPARING FOOD FOR HOTPOTS," HE SAID.

"CUSTOMERS, ON THE OTHER HAND, SHOULD MAKE SURE THAT THE FOOD IS ADEQUATELY COOKED BEFORE CONSUMPTION."

RESIDENTS SHOULD ALSO TAKE EXTRA CARE WHILE PREPARING HOTPOTS AT HOME.

DR ALI REMINDED RESIDENTS TO OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING PREVENTIVE MEASURES:

FOR SHELLFISH

- * USE ONLY WHOLESOME AND PREFERABLY LIVE ONES;

/* REMOVE THE

- * REMOVE THE DIRT WITH A BRUSH AND RINSE SHELLFISH THOROUGHLY IN CLEAN WATER;
- * DISCARD THE INTESTINES AND OTHER DUBIOUS OR INEDIBLE PARTS SUCH AS SHELLS;
- * COOK THOROUGHLY BEFORE CONSUMPTION; AND
- * KEEP UNDER REFRIGERATION IF NOT FOR IMMEDIATE CONSUMPTION.

FOR VEGETABLES

- * DO NOT PATRONISE ILLEGAL HAWKERS;
- * DO NOT BUY THOSE WITH A STRANGE SMELL;
- * REMOVE THE OUTER LEAVES;
- * WASH WELL AND DIP IN CLEAN WATER FOR ONE HOUR;
- * BLANCH WITH BOILING WATER; AND
- * COOK THOROUGHLY.

FOR MEAT

- * ALWAYS BUY FROM LICENSED FRESH PROVISIONS SHOPS AND MARKET STALLS;
- * DO NOT BUY WITH EXCEPTIONALLY LOW PRICE; AND
- * ALWAYS CLEAN, WASH AND COOK THOROUGHLY, ESPECIALLY FOR PORK.

DR ALI ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT AT ONCE IN CASE OF DISCOMFORT AFTER TUCKING INTO HOTPOTS.

"WHOLESOME RAW MATERIALS, PROPER WASHING AND HANDLING, AND THOROUGH COOKING ARE THE BEST MEASURES AGAINST GASTRO-INTESTINAL DISEASES. THESE HYGIENE PRACTICES SHOULD BE ADOPTED AT ALL TIMES," DR ALI SAID.

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TWO MOTION DEBATES ON LEGCO AGENDA

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL HOLD TWO MEMBERS' MOTION DEBATES ON THE GREEN PAPER ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN, AND CARE AND ATTENTION HOMES THIS WEDNESDAY (DECEMBER 8).

THE FIRST MOTION WILL BE MOVED BY THE HON MRS PEGGY LAM. THE OTHER WILL BE PROPOSED BY THE HON HUI YIN-FAT.

MEMBERS WILL ALSO ASK 20 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER SEVEN BILLS.

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OF THE SEVEN BILLS, THREE WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. DEBATES ON THEM ARE DUE TO BE ADJOURNED.

THEY ARE CONSUMER GOODS SAFETY BILL, AIR POLLUTION CONTROL (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1993 AND PROTECTION OF WAGES ON INSOLVENCY (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1993.

DEBATES ON THE OTHER FOUR BILLS WILL BE RESUMED. THEY ARE DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THEY ARE: BILLS OF LADING AND ANALOGOUS SHIPPING DOCUMENTS BILL, QUARANTINE AND PREVENTION OF DISEASE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993, CENSUS AND STATISTICS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 AND A PRIVATE BILL BY THE HON RONALD ARCULLI ON BISHOP OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN HONG KONG INCORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993.

THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER, RESPECTIVELY, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE AND PNEUMOCONIOSIS (COMPENSATION) ORDINANCE.

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

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 76.5 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 448.348 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 377.306 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 64.4 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	3,190
REVERSAL OF LAF	-190
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	3,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+240
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	3,240
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 113.7 *-0.1* 6.12.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.61 PCT	15 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.33	3.63
1 MONTH	2.91 PCT	18 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.86	3.89
3 MONTHS	2.97 PCT	21 MONTHS	2508	4.625	100.97	4.07
6 MONTHS	3.16 PCT	24 MONTHS	2511	4.15	99.98	4.20
12 MONTHS	3.49 PCT	35 MONTHS	3610	4.20	98.92	4.65
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 9,729 MN						
CLOSED 6 DECEMBER 1993						

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