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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1993

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1993

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GOVERNOR VISITS THE UNITED STATES

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A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED DETAILS OF THE GOVERNOR'S PROGRAMME FOR HIS VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES.

THIS WILL BE MR CHRISTOPHER PATTEN'S FIRST VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES AS GOVERNOR OF HONG KONG.

MR PATTEN WILL BRIEF SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS ON THE LIKELY IMPACT ON HONG KONG OF NON-RENEWAL OR CONDITIONAL RENEWAL OF CHINA'S MOST FAVOURED NATION (MFN) TRADING STATUS.

HE WILL ALSO UNDERLINE THE STRONG ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL TIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND THE UNITED STATES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IN WASHINGTON MR PATTEN WILL BE SPEAKING TO THE NATIONAL PRESS CLUB AND THE ASIA SOCIETY AS WELL AS LEADING DISCUSSIONS AT THE CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND THE BROOKINGS INSTITUTION.

IN NEW YORK, MR PATTEN WILL GIVE SPEECHES TO THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON U.S.-CHINA RELATIONS AND THE COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

MR PATTEN WILL ALSO MEET THE EDITORIAL BOARDS OF THE WASHINGTON POST, THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, AS WELL AS GIVING TELEVISION, RADIO AND NEWSPAPER INTERVIEWS.

MR PATTEN WILL VISIT WASHINGTON BETWEEN MAY 2 TO 5 AND NEW YORK BETWEEN MAY 6 TO 8 BEFORE RETURNING TO HONG KONG ON MAY 9.

HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS PATTEN; HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, MR BOWEN LEUNG; HIS PERSONAL ADVISER, MR MARTIN DINHAM AND THE INFORMATION CO-ORDINATOR, MR MICHAEL HANSON.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL DEPART FOR THE UNITED STATES TOMORROW (FRIDAY) BY FLIGHT UA 002 (ETD 12.05 PM).

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES WHO WISH TO COVER THE GOVERNOR'S DEPARTURE SHOULD ASSEMBLE AT THE AIRPORT'S PRESS ROOM BY 11.20 AM TOMORROW.

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DATE SET FOR THIRD ROUND OF ELECTION TALKS

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THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT WAS ISSUED IN BEIJING AT 1600 HOURS TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE BRITISH SIDE AND THE CHINESE SIDE HAVE AGREED THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE, SIR ROBIN MCLAREN, BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO CHINA, AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE, MR JIANG ENZHU, VICE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WILL HOLD THEIR THIRD ROUND OF TALKS IN BEIJING BETWEEN 21 AND 23 MAY 1993 ON THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE 1994/95 ELECTIONS IN HONG KONG IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SINO-BRITISH JOINT DECLARATION, THE PRINCIPLE OF CONVERGENCE WITH THE BASIC LAW AND THE RELEVANT AGREEMENTS AND UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED BETWEEN BRITAIN AND CHINA.

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SES OUTLINES AGENDA FOR TELECOMS REFORMS

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THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR GORDON SIU, TODAY (THURSDAY) OUTLINED HIS AGENDA FOR REFORMS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY IN THE COMING FEW MONTHS.

SPEAKING FOR THE FIRST TIME AS THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MR SIU SAID THE FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA WAS TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY (OFTA) SHORTLY AND TO PUT INTO OPERATION OF THE TERRITORY'S LEGISLATIVE REFORMS.

HE TOLD PARTICIPANTS AT THE INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE THAT SUBJECT TO THE REQUISITE APPROVAL FROM LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE NEW BODY FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATION, TO BE STYLED OFTA, WOULD BE SET UP ON JULY 1.

THE SECOND ITEM WAS TO RESOLVE THE REMAINING POLICY ISSUES ATTACHED TO THE INTRODUCTION OF FIXED NETWORK COMPETITION, CLEARING THE WAY FOR LICENCES TO BE ISSUED BEFORE YEAR END, MR SIU SAID.

A THOROUGH REVIEW OF EXISTING TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION LEADING TO A NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS ORDINANCE TO GOVERN THE POST-1995 COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT WAS THE THIRD, HE SAID.

THE LAST, BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST, WAS THE PREPARATION AND ISSUE OF A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY STATEMENT TO ESTABLISH A REFERENCE FRAMEWORK FOR THE INDUSTRY OVER THE YEARS AHEAD, HE SAID.

TURNING TO THE FACTORS ON WHICH THE DECISION TO SET UP THE OFTA WERE BASED, MR SIU SAID THERE WAS THE NEED FOR A STRONG WELL-RESOURCED REGULATORY BODY TO ENSURE EVEN-HANDED AND EQUITABLE REGULATION OF THE NEWLY COMPETITIVE MARKET PLACE.

"THE REGULATOR MUST BE AND BE SEEN TO BE FULLY INDEPENDENT OF THE OPERATORS IT REGULATES," MR SIU SAID, ADDING THAT THE REGULATORY BODY, WHILE REMAINING AS A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT SHOULD HAVE A REASONABLE DEGREE OF AUTONOMY FROM CENTRAL GOVERNMENT," HE SAID.

MOREOVER, IT MUST HAVE CREDIBILITY IN THE EYES OF THE PUBLIC, LEGISLATORS AND DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN OPERATORS AS A FAIR AND UNBIASED REFEREE OF THE INDUSTRY AND AS A RELIABLE DEFENDER OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST, MR SIU SAID.

REVIEWING THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF HONG KONG'S NEW TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY INITIATIVES OVER THE PAST 10 MONTHS, MR SIU SAID AMENDMENTS TO THE TELEPHONE AND TELECOMMUNICATION ORDINANCES WERE INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL LAST YEAR AND WERE UNDER CONSIDERATION IN COMMITTEE.

IN ADDITION TO PAVING THE WAY FOR PRICE CAPPING AND THE ATTENDANT IDD REDUCTIONS, THE LEGISLATION ALSO PROVIDES AN IMPORTANT FOUNDATION FOR THE EFFECTIVE INTRODUCTION OF COMPETITION TO THE HONG KONG FIXED NETWORK MARKET, HE SAID.

"ANOTHER ISSUE WE ARE PROGRESSING IS THE INTRODUCTION OF NETWORK COMPETITION," MR SIU SAID.

ON FEBRUARY 1, THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS, THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY HAD RECEIVED SEVEN PROPOSALS, REFLECTING A GOOD MIX OF LOCAL AND OVERSEAS INTEREST.

THESE APPLICATIONS ARE CURRENTLY BEING EVALUATED. THEY HAVE THROWN UP A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT POLICY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION, AMONG THEM:

- \* HOW CUSTOMER ACCESS SHOULD BE FACILITATED;
- \* THE QUESTION OF LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESALE OF LEASED CIRCUIT CAPACITY;
- \* NUMBERING ALLOCATION ISSUES;
- \* THE REGULATORY SAFEGUARDS TO BE APPLIED TO THE INCUMBENT OPERATOR, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE MONOPOLY INTERNATIONAL OPERATOR.

"HONG KONG TODAY STANDS AS A KEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTRE. WE REALISE THAT WE WILL HAVE TO WORK HARD TO MAINTAIN THIS POSITION," HE SAID.

MR SIU SAID HONG KONG'S PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE TELECOMMUNICATIONS OPERATORS PLAN INFRASTRUCTURAL INVESTMENT OF SOME \$60 BILLION OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS.

"THIS IS A POWERFUL VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN OUR POLICIES AND IN HONG KONG.

"THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BLUEPRINT WE HAVE SET OUT FOR THE INDUSTRY LIES AT THE HEART OF HONG KONG'S FUTURE PROSPERITY AND STABILITY.

"WE ARE CREATING THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT. IT IS NOW UP TO THE INDUSTRY TO SEIZE THESE OPPORTUNITIES AND PUT THEM TO WORK," HE SAID.

NEW COMPANIES, LAND REGISTRARS APPOINTED  
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT MR G W E JONES WILL BE APPOINTED AS THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES TO HEAD THE NEW COMPANIES REGISTRY AND MR KENNETH PANG TSAN-WING AS THE LAND REGISTRAR TO HEAD THE NEW LAND REGISTRY AS FROM MAY 1.

THE COMPANIES REGISTRY WILL TAKE OVER FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR INCORPORATING COMPANIES, ADMINISTERING AND ENFORCING THE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, REGISTERING DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY COMPANIES AND PROVIDING CORPORATE INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC.

IT WILL ALSO OPERATE A REGISTRY OF MONEY LENDERS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE MONEY LENDERS ORDINANCE.

THE LAND REGISTRY WILL TAKE OVER FROM THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAINTAINING UP-TO-DATE LAND REGISTERS AND PROVIDING FACILITIES FOR THE REGISTRATION OF LAND DOCUMENTS AND PUBLIC SEARCH OF THE LAND REGISTERS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND REGISTRATION ORDINANCE.

IN ADDITION, IT WILL OPERATE A REGISTRY OF OWNERS CORPORATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS (OWNERS INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE.

"IT IS THE INTENTION THAT LATER IN THE YEAR BOTH THE COMPANIES REGISTRY AND THE LAND REGISTRY WILL BE OPERATED ON A TRADING FUND BASIS," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

UPON THE SETTING UP OF THE TWO NEW REGISTRIES ON SATURDAY (MAY 1), THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT WILL CEASE TO EXIST.

THE PRESENT REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS BRANCH WITH EFFECT FROM THE SAME DATE TO ADMINISTER THE INTRODUCTION OF THE PROPOSED SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION OF TITLE TO LAND.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON THE TWO NEW REGISTRARS:

MR GORDON WILLIAM EWING JONES  
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MR JONES, AGED 41, JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN 1973 AND ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER STAFF GRADE B IN JANUARY 1992.

HE HAS SERVED IN A NUMBER OF DEPARTMENTS AND BRANCHES.

HIS RECENT POSTINGS INCLUDE ASSISTANT FINANCIAL SECRETARY (1986-89) AND PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT (1989-90).

MR JONES HAS BEEN THE HEAD (COMPANIES DIVISION) IN THE REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT SINCE DECEMBER 1990, AND HAS EXTENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGERIAL EXPERIENCE.

MR KENNETH PANG TSAN-WING  
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MR PANG, AGED 46, A CHARTERED SURVEYOR, JOINED THE VALUATION ASSISTANT GRADE IN THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IN SEPTEMBER 1967.

HE WAS PROMOTED TO PRINCIPAL RATING AND VALUATION SURVEYOR IN 1979, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION IN 1984, AND TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF RATING AND VALUATION IN 1989.

HAVING SERVED IN THE DEPARTMENT FOR OVER 20 YEARS, MR PANG HAS GAINED CONSIDERABLE EXPERIENCE IN LANDS MATTERS.

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DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED MUD ACCEPTABLE

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THE METHOD OF DISPOSING OF CONTAMINATED MUD IN PURPOSE-DREDGED PITS ON THE SEABED WAS EXPLAINED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS PANEL THIS (THURSDAY) MORNING. THE SAME SUBJECT WAS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S AGENDA IN THE AFTERNOON.

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED THAT THE EXISTING PIT IN EAST SHA CHAU HAS BEEN IN USE SINCE DECEMBER 1992 AND WILL SOON BE FULL.

A SECOND PIT WILL BE REQUIRED IN MID-JULY THIS YEAR TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTINUING DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED MUD WHICH IS BEING REMOVED AS A RESULT OF THE SEVERAL ONGOING INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

THE FINDINGS OF INTENSIVE STUDIES MADE BY THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT OF THE EAST SHA CHAU PIT SHOWED THAT THERE HAD BEEN MINOR LOSS OF SEDIMENT UNDER THE CURRENT OPERATING CONDITIONS.

TO MINIMISE FURTHER THE RISK OF CONTAMINATED MUD ESCAPING FROM THE EXISTING PIT, THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE LICENSING AUTHORITY UNDER THE DUMPING AT SEA ACT, HAS IMPOSED THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- (1) THERE SHOULD BE FULL-TIME STAFF TO SUPERVISE THE DUMPING OPERATIONS;
- (2) SILT CURTAINS SHOULD BE DEPLOYED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT THE DRIFTING OF FINE CONTAMINATED MATERIAL IS PREVENTED; AND
- (3) THE PIT SHOULD BE FILLED WITH A 3-METRE CAPPING LAYER IMMEDIATELY AFTER JULY 15 OR WHENEVER THE PIT HAS BEEN FILLED TO ITS PERMITTED LEVEL, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER.

FOR THE LICENSING OF FUTURE PITS, THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL SAFEGUARDS WOULD BE REQUIRED:

- (1) AS HAS BEEN CARRIED OUT FOR PIT I THERE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE INTENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING BEFORE THE PITS ARE USED, DURING THEIR OPERATIONAL LIFE AND IMMEDIATELY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN CAPPED. FURTHER MONITORING AROUND CAPPED PITS WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED;
- (2) THE PITS SHOULD BE AS SMALL AS PRACTICABLE IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE RISK OF LOSS OF CONTAMINATED MATERIAL DURING A STORM;
- (3) CLOSED PITS SHOULD BE PREVENTED FROM DAMAGE BY SHIPS BY DESIGNATING THE DISPOSAL SITES AS FOUL ANCHORAGES;
- (4) DUMPING OF HYDRAULICALLY DREDGED CONTAMINATED MUD IN SIGNIFICANT QUANTITY WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN PITS OF THE PRESENT BASIC DESIGN; AND
- (5) PITS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO APPROACH MAXIMUM FILLING LEVELS DURING THE TYPHOON SEASON.

THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WOULD STOP THE DUMPING OPERATION IF MONITORING RESULTS SHOWED THAT A SIGNIFICANT QUANTITY OF CONTAMINATED MATERIAL MIGHT ESCAPE FROM A PIT.

"ALL THESE MEASURES WOULD PROVIDE ADEQUATE SAFEGUARDS AGAINST ANY RISK OF CONTAMINATED MUD ESCAPING FROM A PIT," HE ADDED.

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PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR MARCH

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IN MARCH 1993, RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED TO SURGE, WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS REGISTERED A SMALL INCREASE.

AT THE SAME TIME, IMPORTS GREW MARKEDLY.

THESE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS IN MARCH 1993 ROSE BY \$12,246 MILLION OR 24% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO \$63,469 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY \$292 MILLION OR 1.7% TO \$17,343 MILLION.

TAKING RE-EXPORTS AND DOMESTIC EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN MARCH 1993 GREW BY \$12,538 MILLION OR 18% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO \$80,812 MILLION.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY \$12,983 MILLION OR 18% TO \$86,855 MILLION.

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AS THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS WAS SMALLER THAN THAT OF TOTAL IMPORTS, A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$6,043 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 7% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN MARCH 1993. THIS WAS BROADLY SIMILAR TO THE DEFICIT OF \$5,599 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 7.6% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED IN MARCH 1992.

IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS AMOUNTED TO \$174,198 MILLION, WHICH WAS \$34,586 MILLION OR 25% HIGHER THAN A YEAR EARLIER.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AT \$48,709 MILLION, WAS ABOUT THE SAME AS THAT IN THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

TAKING RE-EXPORTS AND DOMESTIC EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993, AT \$222,907 MILLION, WAS \$34,589 MILLION OR 18% HIGHER THAN A YEAR EARLIER.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY \$35,098 MILLION OR 18% TO \$233,054 MILLION.

A VISIBLE TRADE DEFICIT OF \$10,147 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 4.4% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, WAS RECORDED IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993. THIS COMPARED WITH A TRADE DEFICIT OF \$9,638 MILLION, EQUIVALENT TO 4.9% OF THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, RECORDED A YEAR EARLIER.

COMMENTING ON THE MARCH FIGURES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE STRUCTURAL SHIFT FROM DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO RE-EXPORTS CONTINUED.

AS RE-EXPORTS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY FASTER THAN DOMESTIC EXPORTS, THE FORMER'S SHARE IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE TO 78% IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993, COMPARED WITH THE 74% A YEAR AGO.

AT THE SAME TIME, RETAINED IMPORTS CONTINUED TO GROW STEADILY. IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993, THE VALUE OF RETAINED IMPORTS WAS 7.5% HIGHER THAN A YEAR EARLIER, REFLECTING A SUSTAINED GROWTH IN DOMESTIC DEMAND.

THE FOLLOWING TABLE PRESENTS THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN MARCH 1993.

A MORE DETAILED ANALYSIS OF HONG KONG'S EXTERNAL TRADE IN MARCH 1993, BY COMMODITY AND COUNTRY, WILL BE RELEASED IN MID-MAY.

## PROVISIONAL FIGURES OF EXTERNAL TRADE FOR MARCH 1993

MERCHANDISE: DOMESTIC EXPORTS	:	\$17,343	MILLION
RE-EXPORTS	:	\$63,469	MILLION
TOTAL EXPORTS	:	\$80,812	MILLION
IMPORTS	:	\$86,855	MILLION
TRADE BALANCE	:	-\$6,043	MILLION

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COMPARATIVE FIGURES

LATEST 3 MONTHS	JAN 93 TO	JAN 92 TO	CHANGE	
	MAR 93	MAR 92	HK\$ MN	%
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	48,709	48,707	+3	+0.0
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(21.9%)	(25.9%)		
RE-EXPORTS	174,198	139,611	+34,586	+24.8
TOTAL EXPORTS	222,907	188,318	+34,589	+18.4
IMPORTS	233,054	197,956	+35,098	+17.7
TRADE BALANCE	-10,147	-9,638	-509	

  

SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	MARCH	MARCH	CHANGE	
	1993	1992	HK\$ MN	%
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	17,343	17,052	+292	+1.7
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(21.5%)	(25.0%)		
RE-EXPORTS	63,469	51,222	+12,246	+23.9
TOTAL EXPORTS	80,812	68,274	+12,538	+18.4
IMPORTS	86,855	73,873	+12,983	+17.6
TRADE BALANCE	-6,043	-5,599	-445	

  

LAST MONTH	MARCH	FEBRUARY	CHANGE	
	1993	1993	HK\$ MN	%
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	17,343	16,807	+537	+3.2
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(21.5%)	(21.4%)		
RE-EXPORTS	63,469	61,564	+1,904	+3.1
TOTAL EXPORTS	80,812	78,371	+2,441	+3.1
IMPORTS	86,855	82,848	+4,007	+4.8
TRADE BALANCE	-6,043	-4,477	-1,566	

  

LAST 12 MONTHS	APR 92 TO	APR 91 TO	CHANGE	
	MAR 93	MAR 92	HK\$ MN	%
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN		
DOMESTIC EXPORTS	234,126	231,251	+2,875	+1.2
(% OF TOTAL EXPORTS)	(24.4%)	(28.9%)		
RE-EXPORTS	725,416	570,092	+155,323	+27.2
TOTAL EXPORTS	959,542	801,344	+158,198	+19.7
IMPORTS	990,393	814,263	+176,130	+21.6
TRADE BALANCE	-30,851	-12,919	-17,932	

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REAR-MOUNTED ADVERTISING ON TAXIS APPROVED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN APPROVAL FOR TAXIS TO CARRY REAR-MOUNTED ADVERTISING SIGNS ON THE BOOT OF VEHICLES FROM MAY 1.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TAXI OWNERS APPLYING FOR ADVERTISING IN OR ON TAXIS FOR THE FIRST TIME SHOULD SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE PUBLIC VEHICLES SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT.

AN ADMINISTRATION FEE OF \$100 WILL BE CHARGED FOR PERMISSION TO DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENT ON EACH TAXI.

"FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY OBTAINED APPROVAL, THEY SHALL APPLY IN WRITING WITH COPIES OF THE CAR REGISTRATION DOCUMENT.

"A FRESH APPROVAL LETTER WHICH EXTENDS THE APPROVAL TO COVER THE BOOT PANEL ADVERTISEMENT WILL BE ISSUED AT NO EXTRA CHARGE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HE REMINDED TAXI OWNERS WHO WISHED TO INSTALL REAR-MOUNTED ADVERTISING SIGNS TO OBSERVE THE GUIDELINES LAID DOWN BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THE GUIDELINES SPECIFIED THAT THE MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF THE UPPERMOST PART OF THE SIGN BOARD SHALL NOT PROJECT MORE THAN 25MM ABOVE THE LOWEST TRANSPARENT POINT OF THE REAR WINDOW MEASURED HORIZONTALLY EXCLUDING THE BLACK-TINTED SURROUND. THE WIDTH OF THE STRUCTURE SHALL NOT EXCEED THE WIDTH OF THE BOOT PANEL.

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN SUBMIT THE DESIGN OF THE ADVERTISING SIGNBOARD TO THE VEHICLE EXAMINATION DIVISION OF TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR TYPE APPROVAL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

NO PARTY OR AGENT HAS BEEN GIVEN THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHT ON THE DESIGN OF THE BOOT PANEL ADVERTISING SIGN, HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ADVERTISEMENT AND STRUCTURE SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES IN A SOUND AND SAFE CONDITION.

THE INSTALLATION AND THE ADVERTISEMENT DISPLAYED WOULD BE CHECKED AT THE ANNUAL VEHICLE EXAMINATION OR HALF YEARLY INSPECTION, HE ADDED.

"THERE IS NO CHANGE TO THE CONDITIONS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS TO BE DISPLAYED UNDER THE EXISTING THREE METHODS, I.E. ON THE INTERIOR PARTS OF THE VEHICLE OR ON THE EXTERIOR FRONT AND/OR REAR DOOR PANELS OF THE VEHICLE BELOW THE SIDE WINDOWS AND ON THE ROOF OF THE VEHICLES." HE SAID.

IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S ANTI-SMOKING POLICY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID NO ADVERTISING OF TOBACCO AND TOBACCO-RELATED PRODUCTS SHOULD BE DISPLAYED ON THE REAR-MOUNTED ADVERTISING PANEL.

REGISTRATION OF TRADERS UNDER TTRS STARTS  
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THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WILL START TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION OF TEXTILES TRADERS UNDER THE TEXTILES TRADER REGISTRATION SCHEME (TTRS) FROM SATURDAY (MAY 1).

TRADERS ARE INVITED TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION EARLY IN ORDER TO BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE SCHEME STARTING JULY 1, 1993.

UNDER THE TTRS, IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS, MANUFACTURERS, CARRIERS AND FORWARDERS, ONCE REGISTERED WITH THE TRADE DEPARTMENT AND COMPLIED WITH THE CONDITIONS, WILL BE EXEMPTED FROM LICENSING REQUIREMENT IN RESPECT OF ALL TEXTILE IMPORTS, ALL TEXTILE RE-EXPORTS, TEXTILE EXPORTS OF HONG KONG ORIGIN TO NON-RESTRAINED MARKETS AND ALL TEXTILES TRANSHIPMENT CARGO.

THE CURRENT REGISTRATION FEE IS \$2,000 AND THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF A REGISTRATION IS 12 MONTHS.

AS A CONDITION OF EXEMPTION, REGISTERED TRADERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO NOTIFY THE TRADE DEPARTMENT OF THE PARTICULARS OF INDIVIDUAL SHIPMENT TO BE EXEMPTED FROM LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

NOTIFICATION FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT VIA THE CARRIERS AT THE TIME OF SHIPMENT OF THE TEXTILES PRODUCTS.

A TRADE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (THURSDAY) SAID THE BEAUTY OF THE NEW REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION SYSTEM WAS TO ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO CAPTURE CERTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ALL IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS OF TEXTILE PRODUCTS AND AT THE SAME TIME REMOVE ALL THE HASSLES FOR LICENSING.

"THOUGH IT MIGHT MEAN EXTRA WORK FOR FORWARDERS OR CARRIERS CURRENTLY USING THE TRANSHIPMENT CARGO EXEMPTION SCHEME (TCES), IT IS INEVITABLE AS THE GOVERNMENT MUST ENSURE THAT HONG KONG'S EXPORT CONTROL SYSTEM REMAINS EFFECTIVE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

REGISTERED TRADERS ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP PROPER BOOKS AND RECORDS ON SHIPMENTS EFFECTED UNDER THE TTRS.

AS FOR MANUFACTURERS REGISTERED UNDER THE SCHEME, THEY ARE REQUIRED TO KEEP PRODUCTION RECORDS, SHE SAID.

"THE REQUIREMENT TO NOTIFY THE DEPARTMENT OF EACH INDIVIDUAL CONSIGNMENTS WILL GREATLY ASSIST THE TRACKING OF ILLEGAL TRANSHIPMENT OF TEXTILES PRODUCTS."

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT WORKS CLOSELY WITH THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT TO ENSURE THE INTEGRITY OF THE TTRS.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL FURTHER STEP UP ITS EFFORT IN RESPECT OF CHECKING OF MANIFEST AND VERIFICATION OF SUBMITTED NOTIFICATIONS AND LICENCES AS MANY OF OUR STAFF CURRENTLY ENGAGED IN LICENSING WILL BE REDEPLOYED TO DO SO.

A COMPANY/REGISTERED BUSINESS WHICH COMMITS AN OFFENCE UNDER THE TTRS IS LIABLE UPON CONVICTION TO A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF A FINE OF \$500,000 AND TWO YEARS' IMPRISONMENT.

MOREOVER, THE TRADE DEPARTMENT MAY TAKE ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION AGAINST REGISTERED TEXTILE TRADERS WHO BREACH ANY OF THE CONDITIONS OF THE TTRS.

SUCH ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION MAY INVOLVE, BUT NOT CONFINED TO, THE SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF ANY EXEMPTION AND REGISTRATION GRANTED.

THE TRADE DEPARTMENT HAS PUBLISHED CIRCULARS GIVING OUT DETAILS OF THE TTRS. THESE CIRCULARS AND RELEVANT TTRS APPLICATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION FROM THE TRADE DEPARTMENT ENQUIRY COUNTER ON GROUND FLOOR, TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, 700 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

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EX-MENTALLY ILL FIT TO BE INTEGRATED INTO SOCIETY

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EX-MENTALLY ILL PEOPLE ARE DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS WHO ARE RECOMMENDED BY A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAM COMPRISING MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS AND SOCIAL WORKERS AS FIT TO BE INTEGRATED INTO SOCIETY, DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

HE MADE THE STATEMENT AFTER VISITING THE LOK KWAN HALF-WAY HOUSE AND THE LAI KWAN DAY TRAINING CENTRE, BOTH OPERATED BY THE BAPTIST OI KWAN SERVICE IN WAN CHAI, TO FAMILIARISE HIMSELF WITH THE REHABILITATION FACILITIES FOR DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS.

MR STRACHAN STRESSED THAT THE EX-MENTALLY ILL HAD THE RIGHT TO LIVE AND TO BE INTEGRATED INTO SOCIETY.

"WHEN THEY ARE DISCHARGED FROM HOSPITALS, THEY HAVE THE SAME RIGHTS AS ALL CITIZENS TO PARTICIPATE IN SOCIETY. IF WE WERE TO CONTINUE DETAINING THEM IN INSTITUTIONS OR TO HIDE THEM AWAY, THIS WOULD NOT HELP THEIR TOTAL REHABILITATION. IT WOULD ALSO REFLECT POORLY ON OUR SOCIETY," HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT 30 YEARS AGO PEOPLE IN WHEELCHAIRS OR SUFFERING FROM OTHER FORMS OF DISABILITY USED TO BE HIDDEN AWAY.

"OUR COMMUNITY NOW REALISE THAT THEY HAVE THE RIGHT TO BE AROUND LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE.

"IN A MODERN SOCIETY LIKE HONG KONG THIS RIGHT SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AWAY," HE ADDED.

HE SAID THE COMMUNITY HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP THE EX-MENTALLY ILL REHABILITATE.

DURING HIS VISIT MR STRACHAN WAS BRIEFED BY MRS LEUNG, DIRECTOR OF BAPTIST OI KWAN SOCIAL SERVICE ON HOW THE EX-MENTALLY ILL WERE TRAINED FOR EMPLOYMENT.

/HE PRAISED .....

HE PRAISED MRS LEUNG AND HER STAFF FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE REHABILITATION OF DISABLED PEOPLE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.

THE LAI KWAN DAY TRAINING CENTRE PROVIDES 50 PLACES FOR TRAINEES WHILE THE LOK KWAN HALF-WAY HOUSE PROVIDES 35 PLACES FOR RESIDENTS. THE BAPTIST OI KWAN SOCIAL SERVICE IS SUBVENTED AND OFFERS SERVICES TO DISCHARGED MENTAL PATIENTS WHO ARE IN STABLE CONDITION.

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FUNDING FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH ON RISE

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS OVER THE YEARS PROVIDED ENHANCED FUNDING TO SUPPORT ACADEMIC RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN THE LOCAL TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

THE PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACADEMIC SIGNIFICANCE OF SUCH ACTIVITIES AND THE IMPORTANT SUPPORTIVE ROLE THEY PLAY IN THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, MR JOHN CHAN, AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE PHASE II CAMPUS OF THE CITY POLYTECHNIC TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR CHAN NOTED THAT SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE RESEARCH GRANTS COUNCIL IN 1991, IT HAD APPROVED FUNDING FOR OVER 300 RESEARCH PROJECTS IN SUBJECTS RANGING FROM THE STUDY OF PAPER FOLK ART TO RESEARCH ON MODEL-BASED HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGING.

THE ANNUAL EARMARKED RESEARCH FUNDING OF THE COUNCIL WAS INCREASED BY 22 PER CENT TO \$147 MILLION IN 1992/93, AND SIMILAR INCREASES IN REAL TERMS WILL BE ACHIEVED BETWEEN NOW AND 1994/95.

THE TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS ALSO SPEND ABOUT TWO PER CENT OF THEIR RECURRENT BLOCK GRANTS TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE.

"OUR INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH WILL ASSIST THE INSTITUTIONS TO IMPROVE THEIR RESEARCH BASE, STIMULATE THEIR ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT, ATTRACT AND RETAIN HIGH CALIBRE STAFF, AND PROVIDE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE TRAINING OF ACADEMIC AND OTHER SKILLED MANPOWER NEEDED FOR THE FUTURE," MR CHAN SAID.

THE SECRETARY ALSO SPOKE ON THE RAPID EXPANSION FOR THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SECTOR IN HONG KONG.

HE NOTED THAT ABOUT 10 YEARS AGO, THERE WERE ONLY THREE DEGREE-AWARDING INSTITUTIONS OFFERING SOME 3,000 FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-DEGREE PLACES.

TODAY, THERE ARE NINE DEGREE-AWARDING INSTITUTIONS, OF WHICH SEVEN ARE FUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY AND POLYTECHNIC GRANTS COMMITTEE (UPGC).

/THESE SEVEN .....

THESE SEVEN INSTITUTIONS WILL TOGETHER PROVIDE 12,500 FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-DEGREE PLACES IN THE COMING YEAR AND 14,500 SUCH PLACES BY 1994/95.

"THE NEARLY FIVEFOLD INCREASE IN THE PROVISION OF FIRST-YEAR, FIRST-DEGREE PLACES WITHIN A SINGLE DECADE WILL BE A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT BY ANY STANDARD," SAID MR CHAN.

ON POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION, THERE WERE FEWER THAN 1,800 STUDENTS READING FOR HIGHER QUALIFICATIONS IN THE TWO UNIVERSITIES BACK IN 1984.

AS HIGHER DEGREE PROGRAMMES ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN SIX UPGC-FUNDED INSTITUTIONS, THE SIZE OF THE POST-GRADUATE STUDENT POPULATION IS EXPECTED TO REACH SOME 6,000 NEXT YEAR.

SPEAKING ON THE COMPLETION OF THE PHASE II CITY POLYTECHNIC CAMPUS, MR CHAN SAID IT WAS NO DOUBT A SOURCE OF GREAT PRIDE TO THE STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE POLYTECHNIC WHICH COULD NOW ACCOMMODATE 10,000 FULL-TIME STUDENTS.

THE ADDITIONAL FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED INCLUDE LECTURE THEATRES, STAFF OFFICES, LABORATORIES, LIBRARY AND SPORTS COMPLEX EXTENSIONS, A STAFF CLUB, A CHINESE RESTAURANT AND NEW ACCOMMODATION FOR THE STUDENTS' UNION.

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SURVEY ON PARENT-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION

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THE COMMITTEE ON HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION IS INVITING TENDERS TO COMMISSION A TERRITORY-WIDE SURVEY ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND SCHOOLS.

THE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MR TIK CHI-YUEN, SAID TODAY: "THE SURVEY IS TO INVESTIGATE CURRENT MODES OF HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION AND MEANS OF COMMUNICATION, ATTITUDES AND EXPECTATIONS OF DIFFERENT PARTIES IN THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN UP TO THE SECONDARY LEVEL.

"THE RESEARCH PROJECT WOULD INCLUDE DESIGNING SURVEY INSTRUMENTS, SAMPLING, FIELD WORK, ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS AND PRESENTING THE REPORT."

HE SAID THE SURVEY SHOULD HELP IMPROVE HOME-SCHOOL CO-OPERATION AS RECOMMENDED IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 5.

INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SURVEYS/INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE, ROOM 902, WEST COAST INTERNATIONAL BUILDING, 290 UN CHAU STREET, SHAM SHUI PO, KOWLOON, BEFORE FRIDAY, MAY 7, FOR TENDER DETAILS.

A BRIEFING SESSION OF TENDER DETAILS WILL BE HELD AT ROOM 1419, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, WU CHUNG HOUSE, 213 QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

PERSONS WISHING TO ATTEND SHOULD CONTACT MRS CONNIE Y C LAM ON TEL 304 3809.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1993

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QUARTERLY SURVEY OF SERVICE INDUSTRIES

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS NOW LAUNCHING FOR THE FIRST TIME A QUARTERLY SURVEY OF SERVICE INDUSTRIES.

THE SURVEY AIMS TO COLLECT QUARTERLY BUSINESS RECEIPTS DATA FOR COMPILATION OF SHORT-TERM INDICATORS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE SERVICE INDUSTRIES.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN ANALYSING THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, FORMULATING POLICIES AND MAKING BUSINESS DECISIONS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR FREDERICK HO WING-HUEN APPEALED TO THE MANagements OF ALL SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS TO RETURN THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES PROMPTLY AND TO CO-OPERATE WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF THE SURVEY.

MR HO STRESSED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE.

ONLY AGGREGATE INFORMATION, WHICH DOES NOT REVEAL DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS, WILL BE RELEASED.

ABOUT 1,200 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE SURVEY. THE SURVEY COVERS WHOLESALE, IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, HOTELS, TRANSPORT AND RELATED SERVICES, STORAGE, COMMUNICATIONS, FINANCING, INSURANCE AND BUSINESS SERVICES.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN MAILED EARILIER IN THE MONTH TO THE ESTABLISHMENTS SAMPLED FOR THE SURVEY.

THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT BY APRIL 30 1992.

IF REQUIRED, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS TO HELP THEM COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

THESE OFFICERS WILL CARRY GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS AND CERTIFICATES FOR CONDUCTING THE SURVEY WHILST ON DUTY, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION.

ANY ENQUIRIES REGARDING THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE BUSINESS SERVICES STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1368.

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BOE MEMBERS VISIT TEACHING AND RESOURCE CENTRES

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SIX BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS, LED BY ITS CHAIRMAN, MR TIMOTHY HA WING-HO, VISITED THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S TEACHING AND RESOURCE CENTRES AT HOK YUEN STREET IN HUNG HOM TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE MEMBERS WERE MISS BOW SUI-MAY, MR CHAN KIN-HUNG, MS AUDREY EU YUET-MEE, MRS MINNIE LAI WEI KIT-LIN AND MR ANDREW SO KWOK-WING.

THE GROUP WAS BRIEFED BY THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (CHIEF INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS), MR SIMON HO, BEFORE VISITING THE CENTRES CONTAINING TEACHING FACILITIES AND RESOURCES ON COMPUTER EDUCATION, ACTIVITY APPROACH, KINDERGARTEN TEACHING, THE RELIGIOUS, ETHICAL AND SEX EDUCATION, SOCIAL SUBJECTS, CIVIC EDUCATION, AND PRIMARY SOCIAL STUDIES AND HEALTH EDUCATION.

MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S ADVISORY INSPECTORATE OPERATES A NUMBER OF TEACHING AND RESOURCE CENTRES ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND IN KOWLOON TO PROMOTE QUALITY OF EDUCATION.

THESE CENTRES ARE SPECIFICALLY CATERED FOR TEACHERS OF A WIDE RANGE OF SUBJECTS WITHIN THE SCHOOL CURRICULUM AT DIFFERENT LEVELS.

THEY ALSO SERVE AS VENUES FOR IN-SERVICE TEACHER TRAINING AND AS PLACES WHERE TEACHERS CAN MEET INSPECTORS TO SHARE EXPERIENCES.

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MEDICAL LAB TECHNOLOGIST EXAM SET FOR SEPTEMBER

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THE MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS BOARD ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT PERSONS WHO WISH TO BE REGISTERED AS A PART II MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGIST BUT WHO DO NOT HOLD THE QUALIFICATIONS REGISTRABLE WITH THE BOARD MAY APPLY TO SIT FOR THE PART II REGISTRATION EXAMINATION TO BE HELD IN SEPTEMBER THIS YEAR.

ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD REACH THE BOARD SECRETARIAT ON OR BEFORE JUNE 16. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED.

A PREREQUISITE FOR ADMISSION TO THE EXAMINATION IS THAT THE APPLICANT SHOULD HAVE SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED A COURSE RELATED TO MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE AND RECOGNISED BY THE BOARD.

HOWEVER, THOSE WHO FAIL IN THE PART III EXAMINATION FOR PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION HELD ON AUGUST 27 LAST YEAR ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO SIT FOR THE EXAMINATION.

APPLICATION FORMS AND THE "GUIDE TO APPLICANTS" CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE BOARD SECRETARIAT IN PERSON OR BY WRITTEN REQUESTS.

THE ADDRESS OF THE BOARD SECRETARIAT IS MEDICAL LABORATORY TECHNOLOGISTS BOARD, SIXTH FLOOR, SUNNING PLAZA, 10 HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 890 0843 AND 890 0514.

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MUSIC GRANTS FOR 1993/94  
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ALL REGISTERED NON-PROFIT-MAKING ORGANISATIONS CAN NOW APPLY FOR GRANTS FROM THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND FOR THE YEAR 1993/94 WHICH ARE PRIMARILY FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE FIELDS OF MUSIC, DANCE AND OTHER ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES.

GRANTS WERE PREVIOUSLY MADE TO SCHOOLS AND MUSIC AND DANCE ORGANISATIONS FOR THE PURCHASE OR REPAIR OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, DANCE EQUIPMENT, MUSIC SCORES AND PARTS; PAYMENT OF INSTRUCTORS' FEES FOR TRAINING; AND ORGANISING MUSIC AND DANCE EVENTS SUCH AS CONCERTS, MUSIC CAMPS AND DANCE WORKSHOPS.

APPLICATIONS CAN BE MADE FOR GRANTS FOR OTHER PURPOSES THAT CONFORM TO THE OVERALL EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE FUND.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MUSIC FUND SAID GRANTS TOTALLING \$790,000 WERE APPROVED IN 1992/93 FOR 119 SCHOOLS AND ORGANISATIONS.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INFORMATION PAMPHLETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB MUSIC FUND SECRETARIAT, 40TH FLOOR, REVENUE TOWER, 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI; AND ALL MUSIC CENTRES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

FURTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED ON TEL 594 5628. THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MAY 31.

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CUSTOMS CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION ON MOVE  
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THE CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION OF THE CUSTOMS TRADE CONTROL BRANCH WILL MOVE TO A NEW OFFICE ON 16TH FLOOR, TRADE DEPARTMENT TOWER, 700 NATHAN ROAD, MONG KOK ON SATURDAY (MAY 1).

THE NEW HOT LINE FOR WEIGHTS AND MEASURES COMPLAINTS IS 398 5157 WHILE THAT FOR ENQUIRIES ON THE TOYS AND CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS SAFETY ORDINANCE IS 398 5158.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 1993

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
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	\$ MILLION
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OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,120
REVERSAL OF LAF	+30
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,150
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-130
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,020
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 111.9 *-0.1* 29.4.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.46 PCT	13 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.54	3.05
1 MONTH	2.66 PCT	16 MONTHS	2408	4.375	101.48	3.23
3 MONTHS	2.74 PCT	19 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.80	3.45
6 MONTHS	2.86 PCT	22 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.88	3.69
12 MONTHS	3.07 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 15,379 MN

CLOSED 29 APRIL 1993

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