



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1991

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TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1991

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR APRIL RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN APRIL 1991, AT \$125,524 MILLION, GREW BY 28% IN VALUE AS COMPARED WITH APRIL 1990, ACCORDING TO THE DETAILED FIGURES ON THE VALUE OF TRADE IN APRIL 1991 RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 11% TO \$18,193 MILLION, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 35% TO \$41,513 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 26% TO \$59,707 MILLION. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 30% TO \$65,817 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY TO APRIL 1991, AT \$441,048 MILLION, INCREASED BY 22% AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 6% TO \$66,683 MILLION, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 28% TO \$145,873 MILLION.

THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 20% TO \$212,556 MILLION. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 25% TO \$228,492 MILLION.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING APRIL 1991 WITH APRIL 1990, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, CHINA, THE NETHERLANDS, THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE AND JAPAN INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY, BY 45%, 34%, 30%, 29%, 24%, 23% AND 17% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE USA, CANADA AND TAIWAN DECREASED BY 13%, 7% AND 1% RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, SINGAPORE, THE NETHERLANDS, THE UNITED KINGDOM, CHINA AND FRANCE, BY 39%, 39%, 28%, 21%, 16% AND 13% RESPECTIVELY.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN AND JAPAN ALSO INCREASED BY 9% AND 6% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA AND THE USA BOTH DECREASED BY 14%.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

/COMPARING JANUARY

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (BY \$1,161 MILLION OR 25%); CLOTHING (BY \$1,085 MILLION OR 6%); ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$805 MILLION OR 16%); AND PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$561 MILLION OR 10%).

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF TEXTILES INCREASED BY \$22 MILLION OR LESS THAN 0.5% IN VALUE.

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$837 MILLION OR 11%), AND FOOTWEAR (BY \$93 MILLION OR 29%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING APRIL 1991 WITH APRIL 1990, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM MOST MAJOR SUPPLIERS.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE USA, TAIWAN, JAPAN, CHINA, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND SINGAPORE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 40%, 35%, 33%, 32%, 31%, 27% AND 24% RESPECTIVELY. THOSE FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND ITALY ALSO INCREASED BY 12% AND 5% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM SWITZERLAND DECREASED BY 6%.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM SINGAPORE, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, TAIWAN, JAPAN, THE UNITED KINGDOM, CHINA AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 46%, 33%, 30%, 29%, 29%, 26% AND 21% RESPECTIVELY.

THOSE FROM THE USA, SWITZERLAND AND ITALY INCREASED BY 12%, 8% AND 2% RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 4 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$5,209 MILLION OR 28%); TEXTILES (BY \$4,186 MILLION OR 18%); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$4,152 MILLION OR 31%); AND CLOTHING (BY \$4,123 MILLION OR 29%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR NON-METALLIC MINERAL MANUFACTURES (BY \$137 MILLION OR 2%), AND RAW HIDES, SKINS AND FURSKINS (BY \$106 MILLION OR 18%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

COMPARING APRIL 1991 WITH APRIL 1990, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO MOST MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, CHINA AND ITALY, BY 80%, 58%, 48% AND 45% RESPECTIVELY. THOSE TO JAPAN, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE USA, TAIWAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA INCREASED BY 34%, 27%, 17%, 17% AND 12% RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE DECREASED BY 12%.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO MOST MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, ITALY, CHINA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, BY 88%, 48%, 47%, 34% AND 32% RESPECTIVELY.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN, TAIWAN, THE USA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA INCREASED BY 24%, 24%, 14% AND 5% RESPECTIVELY. HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE DECREASED BY 10%.

TABLE 6 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO APRIL 1991 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990, CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$5,131 MILLION OR 41%); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$3,410 MILLION OR 26%); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$2,741 MILLION OR 29%); AND TEXTILES (BY \$2,585 MILLION OR 20%).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN FISH, CRUSTACEANS AND MOLLUSCS, AND PREPARATIONS THEREOF (BY \$152 MILLION OR 10%), AND RAW HIDES, SKINS AND FURSKINS (BY \$55 MILLION OR 22%).

ALL THE TRADE STATISTICS DESCRIBED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON.

A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN APRIL 1991 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY JULY 1991.

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE PUBLISHED IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

THE APRIL 1991 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN APRIL 1991 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AROUND JUNE 20 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$33.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 823 4915).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1991 (HKD MN)	APR 91 OVER APR 90 (%)	JAN-APR 1991 (HKD MN)	JAN-APR 91 OVER JAN-APR 90 (%)
USA	4,270	- 13	15,948	- 14
CHINA	4,750	+ 30	14,986	+ 16
FR OF GERMANY	1,475	+ 34	6,379	+ 39
UK	1,026	+ 24	4,109	+ 21
JAPAN	1,013	+ 17	3,648	+ 6
SINGAPORE	733	+ 45	2,784	+ 39
TAIWAN	546	- 1	1,997	+ 9
NETHERLANDS	454	+ 29	1,851	+ 28
CANADA	312	- 7	1,345	- 14
FRANCE	331	+ 23	1,205	+ 13

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1991 (HKD MN)	APR 91 OVER APR 90 (%)	JAN-APR 1991 (HKD MN)	JAN-APR 91 OVER JAN-APR 90 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,552	+ 2	19,506	+ 6
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	2,080	- 1	7,052	- 11
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,755	+ 28	6,119	+ 10

/ELECTRICAL MACHINERY,

ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,616	+ 18	5,855	+ 16
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	1,511	+ 20	5,783	+ 25
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,560	+ 11	5,186	*

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	APR 1991 (HKD MN)	APR 91 OVER APR 90 (%)	JAN-APR 1991 (HKD MN)	JAN-APR 91 OVER JAN-APR 90 (%)
CHINA	23,663	+ 32	80,837	+ 26
JAPAN	10,545	+ 33	37,677	+ 29
TAIWAN	6,258	+ 35	20,952	+ 30
USA	5,610	+ 40	18,660	+ 12
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	3,249	+ 31	10,836	+ 33
SINGAPORE	2,381	+ 24	10,245	+ 46
UK	1,522	+ 27	5,545	+ 29
FR OF GERMANY	1,423	+ 12	5,024	+ 21
SWITZERLAND	987	- 6	3,646	+ 8
ITALY	1,039	+ 5	3,548	+ 2

TABLE 4: IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1991 (HKD MN)	APR 91 OVER APR 90 (%)	JAN-APR 1991 (HKD MN)	JAN-APR 91 OVER JAN-APR 90 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	8,703	+ 25	27,156	+ 18

/ELECTRICAL MACHINERY,

ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	6,339	+ 22	23,540	+ 28
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	5,048	+ 28	18,396	+ 29
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	5,107	+ 36	17,691	+ 31
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	4,335	+ 26	14,589	+ 20
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3,300	+ 31	11,559	+ 24

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	APR 1991 (HKD MN)	APR 91 OVER APR 90 (%)	JAN-APR 1991 (HKD MN)	JAN-APR 91 OVER JAN-APR 90 (%)
CHINA	12,599	+ 48	41,441	+ 34
USA	7,329	+ 17	26,345	+ 14
FR OF GERMANY	2,592	+ 80	10,441	+ 88
JAPAN	2,256	+ 34	8,682	+ 24
TAIWAN	2,074	+ 17	7,807	+ 24
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,298	+ 12	4,445	+ 5
UK	992	+ 27	3,736	+ 32
SINGAPORE	960	- 12	3,553	- 10
FRANCE	794	+ 58	2,598	+ 48
ITALY	683	+ 45	2,403	+ 47

/TABLE 6:

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	APR 1991 (HKD MN)	APR 91 OVER APR 90 (%)	JAN-APR 1991 (HKD MN)	JAN-APR 91 OVER JAN-APR 90 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,277	+ 33	17,745	+ 41
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	5,027	+ 33	16,582	+ 26
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4,846	+ 31	15,819	+ 20
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	3,373	+ 9	12,708	+ 13
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,609	+ 32	12,159	+ 29
FOOTWEAR	1,484	+ 55	6,053	+ 69

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PUBLIC TRANSPORT TO BE STRENGTHENED
DURING PERIOD OF REDUCED TAXI SERVICE

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT THIS (TUESDAY) EVENING ANNOUNCED THAT PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES WILL BE STRENGTHENED DURING THE PERIOD OF REDUCED TAXI SERVICE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

TAXI DRIVERS ARE EXPECTED TO STOP WORK BETWEEN 2 PM AND 4 PM.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF KEY LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY WHERE TAXI DEMAND IS USUALLY HIGH AND WHERE SPECIAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICE WILL BE PUT INTO SERVICE.

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID VARIOUS PUBLIC TRANSPORT OPERATORS HAVE BEEN VERY CO-OPERATIVE IN COMING UP WITH SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS AT SHORT NOTICE.

HE REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO URGENTLY REQUIRED TAXI SERVICE TO HIRE TAXIS THROUGH THE RADIO CALL SYSTEM.

DETAILS OF THE SPECIAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

AIRPORT

BUS ROUTES A1, A2 AND A3 WILL BE STRENGTHENED WITH DEPARTURES FROM EVERY 15 MINUTES TO EVERY 10 MINUTES.

TWO SPECIAL AIRPORT SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE KMB. AIR-CONDITIONED DOUBLE-DECKERS WILL BE USED AND WILL DEPART KOWLOON TONG MTR STATION AND PRINCE EDWARD MTR STATION EVERY 10 MINUTES BETWEEN 1.30 PM AND 6.30 PM.

THESE AIRPORT BUS SERVICES WILL TAKE BOTH PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGES.

KOWLOON KCR STATION

BUS ROUTES STARTING FROM THIS STATION, INCLUDING 1K, 2K, 5C, 5K, 8, 11K AND 21, WILL BE STRENGTHENED.

GMB ROUTE NO. 6 OPERATING BETWEEN TSIM SHA TSUI AND WHAMPOA AS WELL AS KCR FEEDER BUS NO. 16 WILL ALSO BE STRENGTHENED.

NOTICES WILL BE PUT UP AT THESE LOCATIONS TO ADVISE PASSENGERS.

TAXI STANDS

FERRY-PASSENGERS FROM STAR FERRY ON THE HONG KONG SIDE ARE ADVISED TO TAKE BUSES AND MINI-BUSES AT THE EXCHANGE SQUARE BUS TERMINUS. THEY CAN ALSO MAKE USE OF THE GMB SERVICE AT THE CITY HALL OR THE STRENGTHENED MTR AND TRAM SERVICES.

AT ADMIRALTY, THE MTR WILL PROVIDE FREE FEEDER BUS SERVICES FROM ADMIRALTY MTR STATION TO MACDONNELL ROAD AND RETURN SERVICES TO ADMIRALTY VIA KENNEDY ROAD.

MEANWHILE, THREE RESIDENTIAL BUS SERVICES DEPARTING FROM ADMIRALTY -- 37R (TO CHI FU), 90R (TO AP LEI CHAU ESTATE) AND 97R (TO LEI TUNG ESTATE) -- WILL BE EXTENDED THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

COMMUTERS AND VISITORS TO THE PEAK ARE ADVISED THAT DEPARTURES OF THE PEAK TRAMS AS WELL AS THE SERVICES OF CMB ROUTE NO. 15 AND GMB ROUTE NO. 1 WILL BE STRENGTHENED.

AT KOWLOON TONG MTR STATION, RESIDENTIAL BUS SERVICE NO. 62R AND OTHER FRANCHISED BUS SERVICES NO. 80M, 81M, 82M, 84X AND 88M WILL BE STRENGTHENED.

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FREQUENCIES FOR GMB ROUTES NO. 29 AND 61M WILL ALSO BE INCREASED.

AT MACAU FERRY TERMINAL, PASSENGERS ARE ADVISED TO MAKE USE OF THE BUS SERVICES OF ROUTE NO. 2, 109, 111, 119, 141, 182 AND A2 DEPARTING FROM A NEARBY BUS TERMINUS OR THE MTR SERVICE.

AT CHINA FERRY TERMINAL IN KOWLOON, PASSENGERS ARE ADVISED TO TAKE BUS NO. 3C, 12, 14 AND 238X AND GMB ROUTE NO. 6 HEADING FOR WHAMPOA.

IN THE MEANTIME, THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT APPEALED TO AIR PASSENGERS LEAVING HONG KONG TOMORROW AFTERNOON TO ALLOW EXTRA TIME TO GET TO THE AIRPORT BY PUBLIC TRANSPORT.

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PUBLIC URGED TO SAVE WATER

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THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WONG KWOK-LAI, TODAY (TUESDAY) APPEALED TO THE PUBLIC TO EXERCISE MAXIMUM ECONOMY IN THE USE OF WATER.

THE APPEAL CAME IN THE LIGHT OF THE CURRENT LOW LEVEL OF WATER STORAGE AND THE BELOW AVERAGE RAINFALL FORECAST BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, MR WONG SAID THE RESERVOIR STORAGE AS AT 9 AM TODAY STOOD AT 154.3 MILLION CUBIC METRES OR 26.3 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY, INCLUDING 26 MILLION CUBIC METRES YIELDED FROM THE RAINFALL IN THE PAST FEW DAYS.

THIS COMPARED WITH 255.4 MILLION CUBIC METRES OR 43.6 PER CENT OF THE FULL CAPACITY AT THE SAME TIME LAST YEAR.

"ALTHOUGH THE RECENT RAINFALL HAS HELPED THE GENERAL STORAGE POSITION SLIGHTLY, THE CURRENT LEVEL IS STILL A RECORD LOW FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.

"HONG KONG'S WATER SUPPLY SITUATION IN THE FORTHCOMING MONTHS DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON THE RAINFALL TO BE RECEIVED IN THE REMAINDER OF THE WET SEASON.

"IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE MUST LOOK FOR WAYS TO CUT DOWN WATER CONSUMPTION AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CONSERVE WATER AND AVOID WASTE," MR WONG SAID.

QUOTING EXAMPLES, HE SAID PEOPLE SHOULD USE SHOWERS INSTEAD OF BATHS; AND REDUCE THE NUMBER OF TIMES FOR WATERING PLANTS, FOR CAR WASHING, FOR AQUARIUM REFILLING AND FOR FLOOR CLEANSING. CHECKS SHOULD ALSO BE MADE FOR OVERFLOWING TANKS, WORN TAP WASHERS AND OTHER POSSIBLE DEFECTS.

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ON THE POSSIBILITY OF WATER RESTRICTIONS, MR WONG REITERATED THAT MUCH WOULD DEPEND ON THE WEATHER CONDITION AND THE YIELD FROM THE RAINFALL AS WELL AS DRAW-OFF FROM RESERVOIRS.

"HOWEVER, THE PRESENT FULL SUPPLY WOULD BE MAINTAINED AT LEAST BEFORE AUGUST WHEN A FURTHER REVIEW OF THE OVERALL WATER SITUATION WOULD BE MADE.

"BUT IN THE UNFORTUNATE EVENT THAT RAINFALL THIS YEAR IS AGAIN UNSATISFACTORY, THE POSSIBILITY OF IMPOSING WATER RESTRICTIONS LATER IN THE SUMMER CANNOT BE RULED OUT," HE SAID.

IF SUCH SITUATION AROSE, HE ADDED, THE PUBLIC WOULD BE GIVEN AMPLE NOTICE OF IT BEFOREHAND.

ON WATER FROM CHINA, MR WONG SAID UNDER THE CURRENT AGREEMENT WITH CHINA, THE COUNTRY WOULD SUPPLY 570 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER TO HONG KONG BETWEEN MARCH THIS YEAR AND THE END OF FEBRUARY 1992.

AT HONG KONG'S REQUEST, CHINA HAD ALSO AGREED TO SUPPLY AN ADDITIONAL 70 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER IN THE CURRENT SUPPLY PERIOD.

"IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION, WE ARE STILL NEGOTIATING WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES WITH A VIEW TO INCREASING THE ADDITIONAL SUPPLY," HE ADDED.

MEANWHILE, THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IS STEPPING UP ITS PUBLICITY EFFORTS WITH A VIEW TO AROUSING PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS ON THE NEED TO SAVE WATER.

AS A START, LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO ALL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER PUBLIC ORGANISATIONS ENLISTING THEIR CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT IN THE CURRENT SAVE WATER DRIVE.

IN ADDITION, A NEW TV-API (ANNOUNCEMENT IN PUBLIC INTEREST) AND RADIO ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE BEING PRODUCED. POSTERS SUGGESTING WAYS IN WHICH THE PUBLIC COULD HELP SAVE WATER ARE ALSO BEING DISTRIBUTED TO ALL OFFICES, SCHOOLS, POSTER SITES AND HOUSING ESTATES.

"WATER IS A VERY PRECIOUS RESOURCE IN HONG KONG AND I WOULD URGE ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO MAKE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT TO SAVE WATER TO TIDE OVER THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD," MR WONG SAID.

FIRST LDC DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN APPROVED

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THE QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL/JUBILEE STREET DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN, WHICH IS THE FIRST OF ITS KIND PREPARED BY THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF URBAN RENEWAL, HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL RECENTLY.

THE PLAN IS PREPARED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ORDINANCE.

IT IS TO PROVIDE A FRAMEWORK FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL/JUBILEE STREET AREA BY RESTRUCTURING THE EXISTING LAND USE PATTERNS AND PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS.

THE PLAN COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 0.87 HECTARE LOCATED AT THE FRINGE OF CENTRAL DISTRICT AND TO THE WEST OF THE CENTRAL MARKET. THE AREA IS BOUNDED BY JUBILEE STREET, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, GILMAN'S BAZAAR AND DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL.

IT HAS A CHARACTER CREATED BY NARROW LANEWAYS AND THE SPECIALISED TRADING ACTIVITIES ALONG THEM, MOST NOTABLY THE CLOTH-SELLING ALLEY IN WING ON STREET.

EXISTING BUILDINGS WITHIN THE AREA ARE GENERALLY THREE-STOREY PRE-WAR SHOPS/RESIDENCES IN POOR CONDITION, MANY LACKING BASIC FACILITIES.

ACCORDING TO THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN, THE AREA WILL BE REDEVELOPED FOR OFFICE DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATING OPEN SPACES AND A RANGE OF GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES FOR THE SHEUNG WAN AREA, SUCH AS COOKED FOOD CENTRE, HAWKER BAZAAR, DAY NURSERY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

THE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME PLAN WAS EXHIBITED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION AND OBJECTION IN MARCH LAST YEAR.

PRIOR TO ITS EXHIBITION, THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT BOARD WAS ALSO CONSULTED ON THE PLAN.

DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS HAD NO OBJECTION TO THE PLAN, RECOGNISING THAT COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT WOULD PROVIDE THE MUCH-NEEDED GOVERNMENT, INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND IMPROVE THE GENERAL ENVIRONMENT.

BEFORE SUBMITTING THE PLAN TO GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL, THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD HAD FULLY CONSIDERED THE OBJECTIONS LODGED, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF THOSE AFFECTED AND THE PUBLIC GAINS WHICH WOULD ONLY BE ACHIEVED THROUGH COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT AND REPLANNING OF THE AREA.

/AT PRESENT,

AT PRESENT, THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION IS ACQUIRING AFFECTED PROPERTIES THROUGH NEGOTIATION WITH THE PROPERTY OWNERS.

SHOULD IT BE UNABLE TO ACQUIRE ALL THE AFFECTED PROPERTIES ON TERMS THAT ARE FAIR AND REASONABLE, THE CORPORATION MAY REQUEST THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS TO RECOMMEND RESUMPTION UNDER THE CROWN LANDS RESUMPTION ORDINANCE.

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HK A BIG INCENTIVE TO POTENTIAL OVERSEAS INVESTORS

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HONG KONG ITSELF IS A BIG INCENTIVE TO POTENTIAL OVERSEAS INVESTORS, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ON "HONG KONG - A BASE FOR INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE" AT THE LYON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN LYON, FRANCE.

MR BARMA SAID: "WHILE THE OPENING UP OF EASTERN EUROPE AND THE PROSPECTS OF THE SINGLE EUROPEAN MARKET HAVE OBVIOUSLY ATTRACTED EUROPEAN INVESTORS, IT WOULD BE A PITY IF THEY MISSED OUT ON THE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES OFFERED BY THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION, WHICH IS NOT STANDING STILL."

HE SAID A NUMBER OF DEVELOPMENTS HAD REINFORCED THE FACT THAT THIS WAS ONE OF THE FASTEST GROWING AREAS IN THE WORLD.

"HONG KONG, WITH ITS SOUND ECONOMIC FOUNDATION AND EXCELLENT BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE, FREE TRADE AND FREE ENTERPRISE POLICY, HARDWORKING AND EFFICIENT LABOUR FORCE, LOW TAXATION RATE AND EXCELLENT COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK, HAS BEEN - AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE - THE HUB FOR DOING BUSINESS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID AS WITH OTHER ECONOMIES HONG KONG WAS NOW EXPERIENCING A SLOWDOWN IN GROWTH, BUT BOTH LOCAL AND OVERSEAS INVESTORS WERE STILL CONFIDENT OF THE BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR DOING PROFITABLE BUSINESS THERE.

"INDEED, PAST EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT THE ECONOMY OF HONG KONG IS EXTREMELY RESILIENT.

"WHENEVER THERE WAS A GLOBAL ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN, HONG KONG WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO BOUNCE BACK QUICKLY - WITH ENHANCED VIGOUR," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID ACCORDING TO RESULTS OF THE LATEST SURVEY ON OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES TOTAL INVESTMENT FROM ALL SOURCES AT THE END OF 1989 WAS US\$3,812 MILLION, 13.6 PER CENT UP FROM 1988 AND MORE THAN DOUBLE (260 PER CENT) THE FIGURE RECORDED IN 1984.

"INVESTMENT FROM EEC COUNTRIES HAS ALSO BEEN INCREASING STEADILY, AND THE VALUE OF GROSS ADDITIONS TO FIXED ASSETS IN 1989 BY EEC COUNTRIES (WHICH INCLUDES PURCHASE OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT, LAND AND BUILDINGS, AND OTHER ASSETS) AMOUNTED TO US\$68 MILLION AND WAS 12.7 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THAT RECORDED IN 1988," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WAS THAT MOST OF THE PRODUCTS MADE IN THE TERRITORY WERE FOR EXPORT RATHER THAN FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION.

"INDEED, AS MUCH AS 90 PER CENT OF OUR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION IS EVENTUALLY EXPORTED.

"OUR DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN 1990 AMOUNTED TO HK\$226 BILLION, WHICH REPRESENTS 41.4 PER CENT OF OUR GDP AT CURRENT PRICES.

"IN 1989 HONG KONG WAS THE WORLD'S 11TH LARGEST EXPORTER," HE SAID.

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SHARK HUNTING DANGEROUS

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SHARK HUNTING IS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS UNLESS THE HUNTERS ARE WELL-EXPERIENCED AND EQUIPPED WITH THE PROPER GEAR AND EQUIPMENT, THE SENIOR CAPTURE FISHERIES OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, DR PAUL MAK, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

DR MAK WAS COMMENTING ON REPORTS THAT SOME PEOPLE HAD EMBARKED ON "SHARK HUNTING MISSIONS" IN SAI KUNG IN THE WAKE OF THE TRAGEDY LAST SATURDAY MORNING IN WHICH A WOMAN SWIMMER FELL PREY TO A KILLER SHARK OFF SILVERSTRAND BAY.

"THE SITUATION IS PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS IN THIS CASE BECAUSE THE SHARK HAS ALREADY KILLED ONCE AND AVAILABLE EVIDENCE INDICATES THAT IT IS BIG, BETWEEN FIVE TO SIX METRES LONG.

"FURTHERMORE, SOME OF THE SHARK SIGHTINGS REPORTED BY THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT STAFF SEEM TO SUGGEST THAT MORE THAN ONE SHARK IS AROUND," DR MAK SAID.

"ORDINARY FISHING EQUIPMENT, SPEARGUNS AND DIVERS' KNIVES ARE DEFINITELY INADEQUATE TO CATCH SHARKS OF SUCH A BIG SIZE. I WOULD THEREFORE STRONGLY ADVISE ANGLERS, DIVERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC NOT TO ENGAGE IN SHARK HUNTING OPERATIONS IN THE INTEREST OF THEIR OWN SAFETY," HE SAID.

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FREE RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES
TO CELEBRATE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY
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A DAY-LONG PROGRAMME OF FREE RECREATIONAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR THIS SATURDAY (JUNE 15) TO CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, WILL JOIN THE PARTICIPANTS TO ENJOY A SERIES OF FUNFUL EVENTS TO BE HELD AT VICTORIA PARK IN THE MORNING. ACCOMPANYING HIM WILL BE THE CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, DR RONALD LEUNG, THE DIRECTOR OF URBAN SERVICES, MR HAIDER BARMA, AND OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR TI LIANG YANG, WILL ATTEND THE CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES AT MORSE PARK WHERE HE WILL BE JOINED BY THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE URBAN COUNCIL, MR LO KING-MAN, AND THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S DEPUTY DIRECTOR (LEISURE SERVICES), MR PETER NG.

"LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 12 300 PEOPLE TOOK PART IN THE CELEBRATION, AND MORE ARE EXPECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS YEAR'S EVENT," A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

"THE PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES IS SPECIALLY DESIGNED TO MEET THE ASPIRATION OF DIFFERENT GROUPS OF PEOPLE INCLUDING CHILDREN, SENIOR CITIZENS AND THE DISABLED," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE PONY RIDES FOR CHILDREN, MINI TRAIN RIDES FOR FAMILIES, A GATEBALL FUN DAY FOR THE ELDERLY, A SOCCER COMPETITION FOR THE DEAF, AS WELL AS SWIMMING GALA, CANOE POLO COMPETITION AND LEARN-TO-SWIM SESSIONS.

TO CATER FOR THE INTEREST OF THE YOUNGSTERS, THERE WILL ALSO BE A SERIES OF BALL GAMES AND COMPETITIONS INCLUDING BASKETBALL, MINI-SOCCER, HANDBALL AND VOLLEYBALL.

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN TAKING PART IN THESE EVENTS ARE REMINDED TO OBTAIN FREE COUPONS FROM VARIOUS DISTRICT RECREATION, AMENITIES AND SPORTS OFFICES OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

"A LIMITED NUMBER OF COUPONS ARE STILL AVAILABLE AND WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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IMPROVED APPLICATION FIGURES FOR POLICE RECRUITMENT
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IMPROVED FIGURES OF APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECORDED FOR RECRUITMENT AS CONSTABLES IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE.

WHILE HALF OF THE APPLICANTS SAY THE ATTRACTIVE SALARY WAS THEIR FIRST CONSIDERATION THE SEARCH FOR A STABLE JOB IN A CHALLENGING CAREER WAS AT THE TOP OF THE MINDS OF MANY.

THE NUMBER OF POLICE CONSTABLE APPLICATIONS IN MARCH-APRIL THIS YEAR WAS ALMOST TRIPLE THOSE DURING THE SAME MONTH LAST YEAR.

INSPECTORATE RECRUIT APPLICATIONS FOLLOW THE SAME TREND.

EXPLAINING THE BACKGROUND TO NEW ENCOURAGING INDICATIONS IN RECRUITMENT, SENIOR STAFF OFFICER (RECRUITMENT) ERIC LEUNG SAID: "IN RECENT YEARS RECRUITMENT HAS BEEN A BIG PROBLEM FOR EMPLOYERS IN HONG KONG, NOT LEAST THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE. THE BOOMING ECONOMY HAS CREATED MANY JOBS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

"PREMATURE WASTAGE IN THE FORCE HAS ALSO BEEN AT A HIGHER LEVEL AS OFFICERS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUTSIDE OPPORTUNITIES.

"ALSO, BECAUSE OF THE NEED FOR EXPANSION, POLICE RECRUITMENT TARGETS HAVE RISEN MORE THAN TWO-FOLD FROM 1,000 IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1986-87 TO 2,310 IN 1988-89 AND ONWARDS.

"AS A RESULT, THE POLICE RECRUITMENT PROBLEM HAS BEEN INTENSIFIED OVER PAST YEARS."

MR LEUNG SAID APPLICATIONS TO JOIN THE FORCE AT CONSTABLE LEVEL BEFORE SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR WERE CONSISTENTLY DOWN ON THE CORRESPONDING PERIODS FOR THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

AFTER THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A PAY RISE FOR JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS THERE WAS AN ENCOURAGING INCREASE OF 28 PER CENT BETWEEN SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR BUT BY DECEMBER APPLICATIONS HAD ALMOST FALLEN BACK TO THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S LEVEL.

MR LEUNG SAID: "SINCE JANUARY THIS YEAR APPLICATIONS TO JOIN THE FORCE HAVE MORE THAN DOUBLED. FOLLOWING A RELATIVELY QUIET PERIOD BEFORE THE FESTIVE SEASON IN FEBRUARY APPLICATIONS INCREASED STILL FURTHER IN MARCH AND APRIL. TRADITIONAL JOB SWITCHING AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR IS A REGULAR SEASONAL FACTOR."

MR LEUNG SAID CONVERSATIONS WITH CONSTABLE APPLICANTS SHOWED THAT PAY REMAINED AN IMPORTANT ATTRACTION. ALMOST HALF SAID SALARY WAS THEIR FIRST CONSIDERATION.

AVERAGE SALARY OF APPLICANTS WAS AROUND \$5,500 COMPARED WITH THE REVISED ENTRY SALARY OF \$7,500-\$7,965 FOR RECRUIT CONSTABLES, WHICH ARE MORE ATTRACTIVE FOLLOWING A PAY REVIEW LAST YEAR.

"BUT IF PAY HAS INDEED BEEN THE ONLY INFLUENCE," MR LEUNG SAID, "APPLICATIONS SHOULD HAVE BUILT UP TO A GREATER EXTENT AFTER SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR LIKE THE DRAMATIC INCREASE AT THE TURN OF THE YEAR.

"CERTAINLY RECENT WORLD EVENTS LIKE THE GULF WAR HAVE LED TO WORRIES AND UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT THE ECONOMY AND THIS HAD LED TO PEOPLE SEARCHING FOR MORE STABLE AND SECURE JOBS SUCH AS IN THE POLICE FORCE.

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"WHAT IS MORE PLEASING HOWEVER IS THAT MANY APPLICANTS NOW HAVE A MUCH MORE POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE FORCE AS A CHALLENGING AND WORTHWHILE CAREER."

MR LEUNG SAID THIS IMAGE HAD BEEN ENHANCED BY RECENT SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME AND SMUGGLING AND BY INCREASED CO-OPERATION AND LIAISON WITH THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, IN PARTICULAR THE VISIT TO PEKING BY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE MR LI KWAN-HA.

MEANWHILE POLICE PUBLIC RELATIONS BRANCH HAD STEPPED UP PUBLICITY, ESPECIALLY THROUGH THE MASS MEDIA, IN AN EFFORT TO ENCOURAGE MORE YOUNG PEOPLE TO CONSIDER THE POLICE AS A CAREER.

RECRUITING CENTRE STAFF AT QUEENSWAY, TSIM SHA TSUI, MONG KOK, WONG TAI SIN AND SHA TIN HAD BEEN MAKING A SPECIAL EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE POSITIVE IMAGE OF THE FORCE BY MAKING THEMSELVES APPROACHABLE AND CONCERNED.

"THEY ARE ACTIVELY ASSISTING APPLICANTS WITH THEIR APPLICATIONS AND OTHER RECRUITMENT GROUP STAFF ARE ENSURING THAT APPLICATIONS ARE DEALT WITH AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE," MR LEUNG SAID.

"AS A RESULT SOME POTENTIAL RECRUITS ARE NOW BEING INTERVIEWED ONLY FOUR DAYS AFTER ATTENDING A RECRUITING CENTRE."

LAST YEAR LETTERS WERE SENT TO ALL FORM FIVE STUDENTS ENCOURAGING THEM TO CONSIDER THE POLICE AS A CAREER. THIS WAS ALSO A MEANS, SAID MR LEUNG, OF SECURING THE ATTENTION OF AN IMPORTANT TARGET GROUP AND IT HAD CONTINUED INTO THE CURRENT YEAR.

OTHER MEASURES INCLUDED THE HOLDING OF CAREER EXHIBITIONS AT WHICH APPLICATIONS COULD BE MADE ON THE SPOT AND LIAISON VISITS WITH SCHOOL CAREERS MASTERS.

"THE RESULT OF THE RECENT UPSURGE IN APPLICATIONS HAS BEEN THAT IN THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR 181 CONSTABLES WERE TAKEN ON STRENGTH, AN INCREASE OF ALMOST 50 PER CENT OVER THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR," MR LEUNG SAID. "THERE IS HOWEVER STILL A SHORTFALL."

"NOT ONLY THIS BUT THE QUALITY HAS ALSO SHOWN A MARKED IMPROVEMENT. AMONG THE NEW RECRUITS NO LESS THAN 38 PER CENT HAVE FIVE OR MORE SUBJECTS PASSED IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION, COMPARED WITH ONLY 23 PER CENT IN 1989-90."

MR LEUNG ADDED THAT THE NUMBERS OF OFFICERS RECRUITED AT INSPECTORATE LEVEL HAD NEVER BEEN A PROBLEM BUT IN TERMS OF CURRENT FIGURES THE TREND OF INSPECTORATE RECRUITMENT FOLLOWED THE SAME PATTERN AS FOR JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS.

"SUPPLYING THE RIGHT NUMBER OF INSPECTORS FLUCTUATES AND IS INDICATED BY VACANCIES AVAILABLE NOT BY RECRUITING FIGURES. BUT THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INSPECTORATE OFFICERS APPLYING LOCALLY," SAID MR LEUNG.

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THERE WERE HOWEVER FIGURES SHOWING THAT THE EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF INSPECTORATE RECRUITS WAS IMPROVING. INSPECTORATE OFFICER RECRUITS WITH DEGREES LAST YEAR WAS 53.8 PER CENT. IN THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS THIS YEAR THE FIGURE STOOD AT 60 PER CENT.

MR LEUNG CONCLUDED: "PAY IS THE GATEWAY TO RECRUITMENT BUT IT IS CERTAINLY NOT THE ONLY ATTRACTION.

"DESPITE THE RECENT IMPROVEMENT THE FORCE AT THIS MOMENT STILL HAS SOME WAY TO GO TOWARDS MEETING THE RECRUITMENT TARGET.

"BUT IT IS MAKING HEADWAY; A CORNER HAS BEEN TURNED AND IN MAY THIS YEAR OUR RECRUITMENT BALANCED WASTAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY MONTHS."

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TWO NEW DRAGON BOATS TO BE LAUNCHED IN TAI PO

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AN EYE-DOTTING CEREMONY TO LAUNCH TWO NEW DRAGON BOATS WILL BE HELD TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) MORNING AT THE TAI WONG YEH SHRINE IN YUEN CHAU TSAI, TAI PO.

THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN "EXHIBITION RACE" AMONG THE WINNERS IN LAST YEAR'S TAI PO DRAGON BOAT RACE.

THE DISTRICT OFFICER, MR PO PUI-LEONG, AND THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, DR LAWRENCE LEE, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE EYE-DOTTING CEREMONY AT THE TAI WONG YEH SHRINE IN YUEN CHAU TSAI, TAI PO AT 10 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

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ACTION ON UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS IN NORTH POINT

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE CERTAIN UNAUTHORISED BUILDING WORKS IN NORTH POINT SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

THE STRUCTURES ARE LOCATED AT THE SERVICE LANE BETWEEN 6, 6A, 6B, 6C AND 8 WHARF ROAD AND 3 AND 3A JAVA ROAD.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON OCTOBER 11 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURES TODAY (TUESDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS GRANTED.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1991

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EARLIER WELFARE PAYMENT

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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MAY HAVE THEIR WELFARE PAYMENT ADVANCED IF THEIR PAY DAY FALLS ON THE COMING HOLIDAYS.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) PAYMENTS WHICH FALL ON JUNE 15, 16, 17 AND 18 WILL BE ADVANCED TO JUNE 11, 12, 13 AND 14 RESPECTIVELY.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR RECIPIENTS TO RECEIVE THEIR PAYMENTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE POST OFFICES AND TREASURY SUB-OFFICES.

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BOARDS PAY \$5.7M IN INJURIES COMPENSATION

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THE CRIMINAL AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES COMPENSATION (CLEIC) BOARDS PAID OUT \$5.7 MILLION IN COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OR THEIR DEPENDENTS IN 1989-90, ACCORDING TO THE BOARDS' 1989-90 ANNUAL REPORT.

THESE PAYMENTS WERE AWARDED TO 981 CRIMINAL INJURIES CASES AND FOUR LAW ENFORCEMENT INJURIES CASES.

THEY ALSO BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS AWARDED SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE CLEIC SCHEME IN 1973 TO \$49.21 MILLION.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARDS, MR ROBERT C. TANG, SAID A TOTAL OF 1,025 APPLICATIONS FOR COMPENSATION WERE RECEIVED IN THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW, REPRESENTING 10.2 PER CENT OF THE 10,049 REPORTED CASES OF CRIMINAL INJURIES DURING THE PERIOD.

VICTIMS OF ASSAULT AND WOUNDING AS WELL AS ROBBERY, THEFT AND BURGLARY MADE UP THE MAJORITY OF THE APPLICATIONS.

OF THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR, 797 WERE REFERRED BY THE POLICE, 221 SUBMITTED BY THE VICTIMS THEMSELVES OR THEIR FAMILIES, AND THE REST REFERRED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS, MR TANG SAID.

DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW, THE HIGHEST SINGLE PAYMENT WAS \$79,480, WHICH WAS AWARDED TO THREE SURVIVING DEPENDENTS OF A GOVERNMENT SERVANT WHO WAS KILLED DURING HIS ATTEMPT TO ARREST ROBBERS. THE LOWEST AWARD WAS \$375.

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TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1991

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PROPER LABELLING FOR PREPACKAGED FOOD

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FOOD MANUFACTURERS AND RETAILERS ARE TODAY (TUESDAY) REMINDED TO PROPERLY LABEL OR MARK PREPACKAGED FOOD ITEMS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH STRESSED THAT FOOD ITEMS IN PREPACKAGED FORM, WHETHER COMPLETELY OR PARTIALLY PACKED, HAD TO BE PROPERLY MARKED AS REQUIRED BY THE THIRD SCHEDULE OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS (COMPOSITION AND LABELLING) REGULATIONS.

CONTRAVENTION OF THE REGULATIONS MAY LEAD TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$25,000 AND SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT.

THE APPEAL FOLLOWED RECENT COURT CASES IN WHICH TWO COMPANIES WERE CONVICTED OF SELLING IMPROPERLY LABELLED PREPACKAGED FOOD ITEMS AND FINED A TOTAL OF \$5,500.

IN THE FIRST CASE, A CHINESE HERBS AND PROVISION COMPANY WAS CONVICTED OF SELLING IMPROPERLY LABELLED PREPACKAGED FOOD ITEMS AT ITS TWO BRANCH STORES IN CAUSEWAY BAY AND MONG KOK. IT WAS FINED A TOTAL OF \$4,500.

IN THE OTHER CASE, A RETAIL OUTLET IN WESTERN DISTRICT WAS FINED \$1,000 FOR COMMITTING SIMILAR OFFENCES.

THE FOOD ITEMS INVOLVED IN THE TWO CASES WERE DRIED MUSHROOMS, PISTACHIOS AND SHARK'S FINS.

THEY DID NOT HAVE THE NAME OR DESIGNATION OF THE FOOD, THE LIST OF INGREDIENTS, AN INDICATION OF MINIMUM DURABILITY, THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE MANUFACTURER OR PACKER OF THE FOOD AND THE NUMERICAL COUNT OF THE CONTENTS OR THE NET WEIGHT OF THE FOOD AS STIPULATED IN THE THIRD SCHEDULE OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS (COMPOSITION AND LABELLING) REGULATIONS.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

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EXCHANGE FUND BILLS TENDER RESULTS --- TUESDAY 11 JUNE 1991

ISSUE NUMBER	Q124	H166
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 1,360 MN	HKD 848 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 400 MN	HKD 200 MN
AVERAGE ACCEPTED YIELD	7.55 PCT	7.53 PCT
HIGHEST ACCEPTED YIELD	7.55 PCT	7.53 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	FULLY ALLOTTED	FULLY ALLOTTED

/HONG KONG

TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 1991

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

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NEXT TENDER OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS --- WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 1991

ISSUE NUMBER	Q125	Y191
ISSUE DATE	20 JUNE 91	20 JUNE 91
MATURITY DATE	18 SEP 91	17 JUNE 92
TENOR	90 DAYS	363 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD 400 + 80 MN	HKD 200 + 60 MN

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	10.6.91	380
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	11.6.91	+30
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-30
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX	114.5 *+0.0* 11.6.91	

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND BILLS
11 JUNE 1991

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

MATURING IN	1 WEEK	7.80 PCT
	1 MONTH	7.65 PCT
	3 MONTHS	7.50 PCT
	6 MONTHS	7.52 PCT
	12 MONTHS	7.52 PCT

TOTAL BILL TRANSFER - 2,816 MN

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