



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1993

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STATEMENT ON NAVAL BASE REMOVAL

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IN RESPONSE TO A STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE CHINESE JLG OFFICE RELATING TO THE REMOVAL OF THE HMS TAMAR NAVAL BASE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

"THE CHINESE SIDE HAS KNOWN THIS DECISION TO RELOCATE THE ROYAL NAVY TO STONECUTTERS SINCE 1989. WE ARE THEREFORE MYSTIFIED BY THE CHINESE STATEMENT."

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NEW DIRECTOR FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT MR LAU KAM-HUNG HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO SUCCEED DR C C GREENFIELD AS DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1.

DR GREENFIELD HAS PROCEEDED ON LEAVE ON COMPLETION OF HIS SERVICE WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

MR LAU, AGED 47, JOINED THE CIVIL SERVICE AS AN EXECUTIVE OFFICER II IN 1969.

IN THE SAME YEAR, HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE ASSIGNMENT OFFICER GRADE, WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY RETITLED AS ANALYST/PROGRAMMER.

MR LAU WAS PROMOTED TO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES IN JANUARY 1990 AND HAD BEEN ACTING AS DIRECTOR SINCE JUNE 1 LAST YEAR.

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COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL TO BE GAZETTED TOMORROW

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THE GOVERNMENT IS INTRODUCING CHANGES TO REVISE THE EXISTING PROVISIONS ON DISQUALIFICATION OF COMPANY DIRECTORS TO PROVIDE MORE EXTENSIVE AND MORE EFFECTIVE SANCTIONS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

THE AMENDMENTS WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (THURSDAY) AS COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1993.

"THE AMENDMENTS ARE NECESSARY TO FULFIL THE NEED FOR MORE EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO DEAL WITH COMPANY DIRECTORS WHO ABUSE THEIR OFFICE OR FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THEIR STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE EXISTING SECTIONS 157E AND 157F OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE WHICH EMPOWER COURTS TO DISQUALIFY DIRECTORS ON A DISCRETIONARY BASIS ARE BASED ON SIMILAR PROVISIONS IN THE UK COMPANIES ACT 1981 AND THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1976.

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"THESE UK PROVISIONS HAVE SINCE BEEN REPEALED BY THE INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPANY DIRECTORS DISQUALIFICATION ACT 1986. THE CURRENT AMENDMENTS ARE BASED ON THIS LATTER ACT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHANGES UNDER THE CURRENT PROPOSALS IS THAT THE HIGH COURT WILL, UPON APPLICATION, BE REQUIRED TO DISQUALIFY A PERSON FROM BEING A DIRECTOR, LIQUIDATOR OR RECEIVER OR FROM TAKING PART IN THE PROMOTION, FORMATION OR MANAGEMENT OF A COMPANY FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR IF THAT PERSON IS OR HAS BEEN A DIRECTOR OF A COMPANY WHICH HAS BECOME INSOLVENT AND HIS CONDUCT AS A DIRECTOR OF THAT COMPANY, IN THE OPINION OF THE COURT, MAKES HIM UNFIT TO BE CONCERNED IN THE MANAGEMENT OF A COMPANY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE BILL ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY TO APPLY FOR A DISQUALIFICATION ORDER IF IT APPEARS, FROM AN INSPECTOR'S REPORT, UNDER SECTION 146 OF THE ORDINANCE, FOLLOWING AN INVESTIGATION, OR FROM DOCUMENTS OBTAINED UNDER SECTIONS 152A OR B, THAT IT IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT A PERSON SHOULD BE DISQUALIFIED, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE EXISTING GROUNDS ON WHICH APPLICATIONS FOR DISQUALIFICATION ORDERS MAY BE MADE, E.G. FOLLOWING CONVICTION OF AN INDICTABLE OFFENCE OR AS A RESULT OF PERSISTENT BREACHES IN COMPLYING WITH PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE, OR FRAUDULENT TRADING UNCOVERED DURING THE COURSE OF THE COMPANY'S LIQUIDATION, ARE RETAINED.

THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION GIVES MORE GUIDANCE TO THE COURTS IN A NEW SCHEDULE AS TO WHAT CONDUCT MIGHT RENDER A PERSON UNFIT TO BE A DIRECTOR AND IT ALSO CLARIFIES THE POWER OF THE COURT UNDER CERTAIN PROVISIONS, TO MAKE A DISQUALIFICATION ORDER ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE.

THE OPPORTUNITY IS ALSO TAKEN TO TRANSFER CERTAIN POWERS WITH LITTLE OR NO POLICY CONTENT, FROM THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TO THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES.

A FURTHER PROPOSED AMENDMENT IS THE REMOVAL OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR ACCOUNTS SUBMITTED BY LIQUIDATORS ON COMPANIES WOUND UP BY THE COURT TO BE VERIFIED BY STATUTORY DECLARATION.

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NEW PROVISIONS TO TIDY UP EDUCATION ORDINANCE

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THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 WHICH SEEKS TO UP-DATE THE EDUCATION ORDINANCE BY REMOVING A NUMBER OF REDUNDANT AND OBSOLETE PROVISIONS AS WELL AS PROPOSING NEW ONES TO CATER FOR THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE EDUCATION FIELD, WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR GENERAL INFORMATION IN THE GAZETTE TOMORROW (THURSDAY).

UNDER THE BILL, THE PRESENT DEFINITIONS OF THE NURSERY, KINDERGARTEN, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ARE MODIFIED SO AS TO GIVE A BETTER IDEA OF THE USUAL AGE OF ENTRY AND DURATION OF COURSES AT EACH LEVEL OF EDUCATION.

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THERE IS RISING CONCERN IN RECENT YEARS ABOUT UNREGISTERED TUTORIAL CENTRES FOUND OPERATING IN UNSUITABLE PREMISES.

TO SAFEGUARD THE INTERESTS OF PARENTS AND STUDENTS, THE DEFINITION OF SCHOOL WILL BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE ANY TEACHING OPERATION PROVIDING EDUCATION TO EIGHT OR MORE STUDENTS AT ANY ONE TIME TO REGISTER WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SO THAT THEIR PREMISES WILL HAVE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF REGISTRATION IN TERMS OF SAFETY AND HYGIENE.

"HOWEVER, THE PRESENT FLEXIBILITY OF ALLOWING OPERATORS TO HAVE A MAXIMUM OF 19 STUDENTS ON ANY ONE DAY WITHOUT HAVING TO BE REGISTERED, WILL REMAIN UNCHANGED," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

"THUS OPERATORS CAN RUN TWO OR MORE TUTORIAL SESSIONS PER DAY, WITH NOT MORE THAN SEVEN STUDENTS PER SESSION, WITHOUT HAVING TO BE REGISTERED.

"INSPECTORS OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT WILL, UNDER A NEW PROVISION, BE EMPOWERED TO INSPECT AND REMOVE DOCUMENTS FROM SUSPECTED UNREGISTERED SCHOOL PREMISES."

THE BILL ALSO PROPOSES TO MAKE IT AN OFFENCE FOR SCHOOL OPERATORS WHO, IN ADVERTISEMENTS, FALSELY CLAIM TO BE REGISTERED WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT.

TO ENABLE STUDENTS OR THEIR PARENTS TO EASILY VERIFY A SCHOOL'S CREDENTIALS, SCHOOLS WILL IN FUTURE BE REQUIRED TO STATE THEIR REGISTRATION OR PROVISIONAL REGISTRATION NUMBER ON ANY ADVERTISEMENT.

THE BILL FURTHER PROPOSES TO SIMPLIFY THE PROCEDURES FOR REGISTRATION OF SCHOOL MANAGERS.

SECTION 7 OF THE EDUCATION ORDINANCE WHICH SETS OUT THE CONSTITUTION AND POWERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WILL ALSO BE AMENDED TO UPDATE ITS ROLE IN KEEPING WITH THE PRESENT FUNCTIONS OF OTHER ADVISORY BODIES WITHIN THE EDUCATION FIELD.

A NEW PROVISION IS PROPOSED TO RECOGNISE THE ROLE OF SPONSORING BODIES AND TO SPELL OUT CLEARLY THEIR RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS IN RELATION TO SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES IN THE RUNNING OF SCHOOLS.

ANOTHER NEW PROVISION WILL BE ADDED TO IMPROVE PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING CHANGES TO SCHOOL NAMES.

THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 WILL BE INTRODUCED TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL FOR FIRST AND SECOND READING ON APRIL 21.

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SIX QUEEN'S COUNSEL APPOINTED

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THE CHIEF JUSTICE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE QUEEN HAS APPOINTED MR KENNETH KWOK, MS AUDREY EU, MR GEOFFREY MA, MR GARY ALDERDICE, MR GARY PLOWMAN, AND MR CLIVE GROSSMAN AS HER MAJESTY'S COUNSEL FOR HONG KONG.

THE APPOINTMENT IS TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY AND A CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN NO. 1 COURT OF THE SUPREME COURT AT 11 AM ON SATURDAY, APRIL 17, TO CALL WITHIN THE BAR THE SIX NEW QUEEN'S COUNSEL.

THE COURT, WHICH WILL INCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE BENCH AT ALL LEVELS, WILL BE PRESIDED OVER BY THE CHIEF JUSTICE, SIR TI LIANG YANG.

MR KENNETH KWOK IS 43 YEARS OF AGE AND GRADUATED FROM HONG KONG UNIVERSITY. HE WAS CALLED TO THE HONG KONG BAR IN 1974 - THE FIRST LOCALLY TRAINED LAWYER TO BE SO CALLED. HIS WORK IS PREDOMINANTLY CIVIL - COMMERCIAL, LAND, DEFAMATION AND PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE.

HE WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY DISTRICT JUDGE IN AUGUST 1985. HE IS A MEMBER OF BOARD OF REVIEW (INLAND REVENUE), THE JOINT EXAMINATION BOARD AND THE BAR COUNCIL.

MS AUDREY EU IS 39 YEARS OF AGE AND HAS BEEN IN PRACTICE SINCE 1978. HER WORK IS MOSTLY COMMON LAW, CHANCERY, AND COMMERCIAL, INCLUDING ARBITRATION AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE. SHE HAS SAT FOR BRIEF PERIODS AS A DEPUTY DISTRICT JUDGE.

SHE WAS EXTERNAL EXAMINER, P.C.L.L., OF UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, AND CITY POLYTECHNIC, IN 1991/1992. SHE IS A MEMBER OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL, HOUSING AUTHORITY (HOME OWNERSHIP), BOARD OF EDUCATION, AND LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

MR GEOFFREY MA IS 36 YEARS OF AGE AND HAS BEEN IN PRACTICE SINCE 1978. SEVENTY PER CENT OF HIS WORK IS COMMERCIAL, INCLUDING ARBITRATION, BANKING, CONFLICT OF LAWS, INSURANCE, SALE OF GOODS AND SECURITIES.

HE ALSO DOES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF SHIPPING WORK AND OCCASIONALLY SOME LAND OR LAND-RELATED WORK AND EMPLOYMENT.

HE IS THE CHAIRMAN OF BUILDINGS APPEAL TRIBUNAL, A MEMBER OF REGISTRATION OF PERSONS TRIBUNAL, THE CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION BOARD AND THE BAR COUNCIL.

MR GARY ALDERDICE IS 48 YEARS OF AGE AND WAS CALLED TO THE HONG KONG BAR IN 1984. DURING HIS SERVICE WITH THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT BETWEEN 1973 TO 1984, HE WAS IN THE PROSECUTIONS DIVISION DEALING EXCLUSIVELY WITH CRIMINAL WORK.

HE ENTERED PRIVATE PRACTICE IN JULY 1984 AND HAS BEEN PRINCIPALLY ENGAGED IN CRIMINAL WORK AT ALL LEVELS. THIS INCLUDES ADVISORY AND OPINION WORK, SETTING GROUNDS OF APPEAL AND CONDUCTING CASES IN THE MAGISTRACY, DISTRICT AND HIGH COURTS AND THE COURT OF APPEAL.

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MR GARY PLOWMAN IS 47 YEARS OF AGE AND WAS CALLED TO THE HONG KONG BAR IN 1984. HE SERVED IN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT BETWEEN 1978-1984, DURING WHICH HE WAS ENGAGED SOLELY IN THE PROSECUTIONS DIVISION. HE HELD THE SUBSTANTIVE POST OF DEPUTY PRINCIPAL CROWN COUNSEL AT THE TIME OF HIS DEPARTURE.

HE THEN ENTERED PRIVATE PRACTICE AND HAS BEEN ENGAGED ALMOST ENTIRELY IN CRIMINAL TRIALS, MOSTLY IN THE HIGH COURT AND THE COURT OF APPEAL. OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, MOST OF HIS PRACTICE WAS IN THE AREA OF COMPLEX COMMERCIAL FRAUD AND RELATED OFFENCES.

MR CLIVE GROSSMAN WAS BORN IN 1940 AND WAS ADMITTED TO THE BAR IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA (NOW ZIMBABWE) IN 1967, WHERE HE PRACTISED AS A BARRISTER FROM 1970 TO 1980.

HE JOINED THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT, HONG KONG, IN 1983, SPECIALISING IN COMMERCIAL CRIME. HE NOW HEADS THE COMMERCIAL CRIME UNIT OF THE PROSECUTIONS DIVISION AS A DEPUTY CROWN PROSECUTOR. HE HAS REPRESENTED THE CROWN OF HONG KONG IN ALL COURTS, INCLUDING THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

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SMOOTH REPATRIATION WELCOMED

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THE REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR, MR BRIAN BRESNIHAN, TODAY (WEDNESDAY) WELCOMED THE SMOOTH REPATRIATION OF 57 VIETNAMESE NON-REFUGEES UNDER THE ORDERLY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME (ORP).

"TODAY'S FLIGHT, WHICH IS THE 10TH FLIGHT SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE ORP AGREEMENT ON OCTOBER 29, 1991, HAS AGAIN BEEN UNEVENTFUL. WE HAVE RETURNED A TOTAL OF 513 NON-REFUGEES TO VIETNAM ON THESE ORP FLIGHTS".

TODAY'S GROUP OF 57 NON-REFUGEES COMPRISED 52 WOMEN, FOUR BOYS AND ONE GIRL FROM GREEN ISLAND RECEPTION CENTRE AND NEI KWU CHAU DETENTION CENTRE.

THE HIGH PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN IS MERELY A REFLECTION OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC STRUCTURE OF THE ORIGINAL CAMP FROM WHICH THEY CAME.

ALL HAD BEEN SCREENED OUT AS NON-REFUGEES.

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APPLICATIONS FOR STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME

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THE STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY (SFAA) WHICH ADMINISTERS THE GOVERNMENT'S LOCAL STUDENT FINANCE SCHEME (LSFS) TODAY (WEDNESDAY) ANNOUNCED THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPLICATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE 1993/94 ACADEMIC YEAR.

THE SCHEME WHICH IS MEANS-TESTED, PROVIDES FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE FORM OF A COMBINATION OF GRANTS AND LOANS TO NEEDY STUDENTS ATTENDING FULL-TIME COURSES AT THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, THE LINGNAN COLLEGE, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG.

THE SCHEME WILL BE EXTENDED TO STUDENTS ATTENDING FULL-TIME COURSES AT THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (CHAI WAN) AND THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (TSING YI) AS FROM THE 1993/94 ACADEMIC YEAR.

APPLICANTS MUST EITHER HAVE THE RIGHT OF ABODE IN HONG KONG OR HAVE RESIDED OR HAD THEIR HOME IN HONG KONG CONTINUOUSLY FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE START OF THEIR COURSES.

POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AND STUDENTS TAKING HIGHER DEGREE OR DIPLOMA COURSES WHO WILL NOT HAVE EXCEEDED THEIR MINIMUM PRESCRIBED PERIOD OF REGISTRATION BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1993 ARE ALSO ELIGIBLE TO APPLY. (THE MINIMUM PERIOD OF REGISTRATION FOR A MASTER DEGREE IS NORMALLY TWO YEARS AND FOR A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE, THREE YEARS.)

CURRENT STUDENTS MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE INSTITUTIONS.

PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS WHO SATISFY THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS OF, AND HAVE APPLIED FOR ADMISSION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE SAID INSTITUTION, ON PRODUCTION OF THE RESULT SLIPS OF THEIR ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION.

THEY SHOULD, HOWEVER, SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN OFFERED ADMISSION.

NEW STUDENTS ADMITTED BY THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, LINGNAN COLLEGE, THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (CHAI WAN) AND THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (TSING YI) MAY OBTAIN APPLICATION FORMS FROM THE INSTITUTIONS CONCERNED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.

STUDENTS SHOULD SUBMIT THEIR APPLICATIONS TO THE SFAA VIA THEIR RESPECTIVE INSTITUTIONS EXCEPT FOR THOSE CURRENT STUDENTS WHOSE SIBLINGS ARE ALSO CURRENT STUDENTS AND WHO ARE APPLYING FOR THE LSFS.

FOR THIS CATEGORY OF CURRENT STUDENTS, THEIR APPLICATIONS, TOGETHER WITH THOSE OF THEIR SIBLINGS, SHOULD BE FORWARDED EITHER BY MAIL OR IN PERSON DIRECT TO THE SFAA ADDRESS OF WHICH IS PROVIDED BELOW.

/APPLICANTS WHO

APPLICANTS WHO WISH TO APPLY FOR STUDENT TRAVEL SUBSIDY SHOULD DO SO BY COMPLETING THE APPROPRIATE SECTION IN THE SAME APPLICATION FORM.

THE CLOSING DATES FOR APPLICATIONS ARE:-

CURRENT STUDENTS	: APRIL 26, 1993
NEW STUDENTS :	
CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG/ HONG KONG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	: SEPTEMBER 10, 1993
HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE/ HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC/ LINGNAN COLLEGE	: OCTOBER 8, 1993
CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG	: THE SECOND FRIDAY AFTER THE START OF THE FIRST SCHOOL TERM (1993/94)
UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG	: 21 DAYS FROM DATE OF OFFER OF ADMISSION
HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (CHAI WAN)/ HONG KONG TECHNICAL COLLEGE (TSING YI)	: 2 WEEKS AFTER THE START OF THE FIRST SCHOOL TERM (1993/94)

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR APPLICANTS IS ASSESSED ON THE BASIS OF THEIR FAMILY INCOME AND ASSETS LESS PERMITTED DEDUCTIONS TO ARRIVE AT THEIR ANNUAL DISPOSABLE INCOME WHICH WILL DETERMINE THEIR GRANT/LOAN ENTITLEMENTS.

IF NECESSARY, THE APPLICANT AND/OR AN ADULT MEMBER OF HIS HOUSEHOLD WHO IS FULLY AWARE OF THE FAMILY'S CIRCUMSTANCES MAY BE INVITED TO ATTEND AN INTERVIEW AT THE STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGENCY TO CLARIFY INFORMATION REPORTED IN THE APPLICATION.

THE AGENCY'S SPOKESMAN SAID INCORRECT OR INACCURATE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN APPLICATIONS NOT ONLY WOULD LEAD TO REJECTION OF THE APPLICATIONS BUT MIGHT ALSO GIVE RISE TO CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE APPLICANTS.

ENQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE SFAA AT QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, 66, QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG (TEL : 867 2738) UNTIL APRIL 17, WHEN THE OFFICE WILL MOVE TO NINTH FLOOR, NATIONAL MUTUAL CENTRE, 151 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG (TEL : 802 1666)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 1993

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DB CHAIRMEN SEE FIRE SERVICES OPERATION

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TEN DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMEN TODAY (WEDNESDAY) VISITED THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES HOW THE DEPARTMENT RESPONDS TO FIRE AND EMERGENCY CALLS.

THEY TOURED THE COMMUNICATION CENTRE WHICH OPERATES ROUND-THE-CLOCK, AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE WORK OF THE COMPUTERISED MOBILISING SYSTEM.

THEY ALSO SAW A FIRE-FIGHTING DEMONSTRATION AND A DISPLAY OF AMBULANCE EQUIPMENT IN TSIM TUNG FIRE STATION.

THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR LAM CHEK-YUEN, AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

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ROLE FOR LOG INDUSTRY CONTINUING

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THERE IS A CONTINUING ROLE FOR THE LOG INDUSTRY IN HONG KONG, ACCORDING TO A RECENT SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT.

AT A MEETING THIS (WEDNESDAY) AFTERNOON, AN ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF INDUSTRY, MR GAVIN URE, EXPLAINED THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY TO LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBER, MR ALBERT CHAN WAI-YIP; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON TIMBER MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION, MR WAI KAM-CHIU, AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ASSOCIATION.

THE SURVEY, TARGETED AT ALL LOG POND TENANTS, MAJOR IMPORTERS OF LOGS AND SAWMILL OPERATORS, WAS CARRIED OUT TO EXAMINE THE IMPORTANCE AND OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE LOG INDUSTRY.

A TOTAL OF 122 QUESTIONNAIRES WERE SENT OUT. OF THE 62 THAT WERE RETURNED, 43 WERE SUITABLE FOR ANALYSIS.

MR URE SAID THE SURVEY SHOWED THAT THE YAM O LOG PONDS STORED ABOUT 60 PER CENT OF THE LOGS IMPORTED ANNUALLY INTO HONG KONG.

"THEY ARE A MAJOR SOURCE OF SUPPLY TO THE LOCAL SAWMILLS WHO SUPPLY MOST OF THE LOCAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SAWWOOD.

"THE SURVEY ALSO SHOWS THAT THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IS THE MAJOR BUYER OF LOCALLY SAWN LOGS, ABSORBING SOME 84 PER CENT OF THE LOGS SAWN ANNUALLY.

"THE NEED FOR LONG-TERM REPROVISIONING OF ALL THE LOG PONDS IN YAM O IS NOW BEING CONSIDERED BY THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THIS SURVEY," MR URE SAID.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

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\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,420
REVERSAL OF LAF	+730
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,150
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-400
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,750
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 113.0 **0.0* 7.4.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.00 PCT	13 MONTHS	2405	5.50	102.39	3.32
1 MONTH	2.87 PCT	16 MONTHS	2408	4.375	101.18	3.51
3 MONTHS	2.90 PCT	19 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.49	3.69
6 MONTHS	3.07 PCT	22 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.56	3.91
12 MONTHS	3.30 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 13,827MN

CLOSED 7 APRIL 1993

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