



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER POSTINGS ANNOUNCED
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THE FOLLOWING ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER POSTINGS:

MR RICHARD HOARE, DEPUTY HEAD, CENTRAL POLICY UNIT, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR CLINTON LEEKS AS PRIVATE SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT HOUSE IN JULY.

OWING TO THE INCREASING WORKLOAD, IT IS ALSO PLANNED TO STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE SECRETARIAT WITH ADDITIONAL DIRECTORATE SUPPORT THROUGH THE CREATION OF A NEW POST OF DEPUTY PRIVATE SECRETARY LATER IN THE YEAR.

MR CLINTON LEEKS, PRIVATE SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT HOUSE, WILL TAKE OVER FROM MR MIKE HANSON AS REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR.

MR MIKE HANSON, REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR, WILL SUCCEED MR RICHARD HOARE AS DEPUTY HEAD, CENTRAL POLICY UNIT.

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\$289M PROJECT FOR AIRPORT PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING
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THE GOVERNMENT IS SPENDING \$289 MILLION TO REFURBISH THE OLD SECTION OF THE PASSENGER TERMINAL BUILDING AT THE HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

THE REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME IS TO ENABLE KAI TAK TO MEET FORECAST AIR PASSENGER DEMANDS OVER THE NEXT SEVEN YEARS.

IT WILL ALSO UPGRADE THE STANDARD OF EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES TO THAT PROVIDED IN THE NEW EXTENSION WHICH WAS COMPLETED IN DECEMBER 1988.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT DUE TO THE EXTENSIVE NATURE AND URGENCY OF THE REFURBISHMENT PROGRAMME, IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CLOSE VARIOUS TERMINAL FACILITIES DURING THE COURSE OF THE WORK.

"HOWEVER, PLANNING FOR THE PROJECT, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE AIRLINE OPERATORS COMMITTEE, HAS SOUGHT TO KEEP INCONVENIENCE TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC AND DISRUPTION TO TERMINAL OPERATIONS TO THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM.

"A PHASED APPROACH WILL BE ADOPTED WITH THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN IN FIVE SEPARATE STAGES EACH LASTING APPROXIMATELY FIVE AND A HALF MONTHS.

/"THE PROGRAMME

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"THE PROGRAMME ALSO ENSURES THAT ALL TERMINAL FACILITIES WILL BE REINSTATED TO CATER FOR THE TRADITIONAL LUNAR NEW YEAR PEAK PERIODS IN 1991 AND 1992."

AS WELL AS INTERNAL RENOVATION OF BUILDING FINISHES, INCLUDING CEILINGS AND FLOORS, AND IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING LIGHTING, THE PROJECT WILL ALSO REFURBISH AND UPGRADE THE VARIOUS SYSTEMS ESSENTIAL TO THE OPERATION OF THE TERMINAL BUILDING.

THE AIR CONDITIONING SYSTEM WILL BE IMPROVED TO PROVIDE A MORE BALANCED COVERAGE AND VARIOUS BUILDING SERVICES, SUCH AS THE FIRE PROTECTION, DRAINAGE, PLUMBING AND POWER SUPPLIES, WILL BE UPGRADED.

THE DEPARTURE AND INTERLINE BAGGAGE HANDLING SYSTEM WILL BE IMPROVED TO FURTHER ENHANCE BAGGAGE DESPATCH RELIABILITY WHILE AN ELECTRONIC CHECK-IN ISLAND DISPLAY SYSTEM WILL BE INTRODUCED TO IMPROVE DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION TO PASSENGERS.

PASSENGER ACCESS BETWEEN ARRIVALS, DEPARTURES AND THE MULTI-STOREY CARPARK WILL BE IMPROVED BY THE INSTALLATION OF ADDITIONAL LIFTS AND ESCALATORS.

THE WHOLE REFURBISHMENT PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED AROUND THE MIDDLE OF 1992.

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OMELCO REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND NATIONALITY DEBATE

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OMELCO WILL SEND TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ON THE BRITISH NATIONALITY (HONG KONG) BILL 1990 SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON APRIL 19 (THURSDAY).

THE TWO REPRESENTATIVES ARE: THE HON MRS ROSANNA TAM, CONVENER OF THE OMELCO SPECIAL WORKING GROUP ON NATIONALITY, AND THE HON MR RONALD ARCULLI.

THE RECOMMENDATION WAS MADE AT THE WORKING GROUP'S MEETING TODAY (THURSDAY), AND ENDORSED BY THE TWO SENIOR MEMBERS, THE HON DAME LYDIA DUNN AND THE HON MR ALLEN LEE.

/EXPLAINING THE

EXPLAINING THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT, MRS TAM SAID: "THE NATIONALITY BILL IS VERY IMPORTANT TO HONG KONG; ITS PASSAGE WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS REDUCING THE BRAIN DRAIN WHICH THREATENS TO UNDERMINE CONFIDENCE IN THE TERRITORY. WE WANT TO BE THERE WHEN IT IS BEING DEBATED TO SHOW OUR CONTINUOUS INTEREST AND CONCERN."

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NOTE:

THE HON MRS ROSANNA TAM AND THE HON MR RONALD ARCULLI WILL LEAVE FOR LONDON EARLY NEXT WEEK AND ARE EXPECTED TO RETURN OVER THE WEEKEND.

DURING THEIR STAY, THEY CAN BE CONTACTED THROUGH MR ROSS CLARKE OF THE OMELCO LONDON OFFICE.

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OVERSEAS INVESTMENT IN HK REMAINS STRONG

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OVERSEAS INTEREST AND INVESTMENT REMAINS STRONG IN HONG KONG, PARTICULARLY FROM JAPAN, BUT ALSO FROM THE U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES, THE DIRECTOR OF HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO, MR PETER JOHNSON, SAID IN LOS ANGELES YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY).

ADDRESSING AN AUDIENCE OF BUSINESS EXECUTIVES AT THE CALIFORNIA-ASIA TRADE CONFERENCE ORGANISED BY THE OFFICE OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN AND THE CALIFORNIA STATE WORLD TRADE COUNCIL, MR JOHNSON SAID THERE HAD BEEN SUBSTANTIAL RECOVERY FROM THE SHORT TERM NEGATIVE IMPACT OF THE EVENTS IN CHINA LAST SUMMER.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NEW AIRPORT TO REPLACE THE PRESENT KAI TAK, AND A FIVE-FOLD EXPANSION OF HONG KONG'S CONTAINER PORT FACILITIES WOULD CREATE CONSIDERABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OVERSEAS COMPANIES IN A VAST RANGE OF DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES.

"WE EXPECT SUBSTANTIAL PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION AND THERE IS ALREADY A NUMBER OF AMERICAN COMPANIES INVOLVED.

"INDEED, A U.S. COMPANY, BECHTEL - BASED IN SAN FRANCISCO - HAS JUST THIS WEEK BEEN APPOINTED PROJECT MANAGER FOR THE WHOLE DEVELOPMENT. AND FIVE OF THE EIGHT COMPANIES SHORTLISTED TO PRODUCE A MASTERPLAN FOR THE NEW AIRPORT ARE FROM THE U.S.

"U.S. INTERESTS ARE ACTIVE IN OTHER AREAS TOO. U.S. WEST HAS A 25 PER CENT STAKE IN OUR NEW CABLE TV NETWORK, CITICORP IS TAKING A 10 PER CENT STAKE IN A US\$700 MILLION DEVELOPMENT IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA, MOTOROLA IS DEVELOPING A HUGE NEW FACILITY, AND THERE ARE SEVERAL SMALLER DEVELOPMENTS."

/MR JOHNSON

MR JOHNSON ALSO NOTED THAT HONG KONG'S LEADING BUSINESSMAN, MR LI KA-SHING, HAD RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT HIS GROUP WOULD INVEST OVER US\$5 BILLION OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS IN A NEW CONTAINER TERMINAL, POWER GENERATION AND A NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS.

TURNING TO JAPANESE INVESTMENT, MR JOHNSON POINTED OUT THAT THE JAPANESE INTEREST COVERED REAL ESTATE, MANUFACTURING AND RETAIL STORES. IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT JAPANESE-OWNED STORES ACCOUNT FOR ABOUT 40 PER CENT OF ALL DEPARTMENT STORE BUSINESS IN HONG KONG, HE SAID.

"THEY ARE ALSO EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING AND HAVE PLAYED THE LEADING ROLE IN SUCH PROJECTS AS THE US\$450 MILLION SECOND HARBOUR TUNNEL AND THE BANK OF CHINA'S NEW 71-STORY BUILDING."

MR JOHNSON ALSO CLARIFIED SOME MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT SOME OF THE BASIC ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH HONG KONG'S REVERSION TO CHINA.

"A GREAT DEAL HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE, WITH THE FULL AGREEMENT, CO-OPERATION AND SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRC, TO GIVE HONG KONG ITS OWN SEPARATE IDENTITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL TRADING, FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS SCENE, IN A WAY THAT WILL CONTINUE BEYOND 1997.

"SO HONG KONG CONTINUES TO OFFER OPPORTUNITIES IN ALMOST EVERY FIELD; RETAILING, IMPORT AND EXPORT, MANUFACTURING, PARTICULARLY DESIGN AND OTHER SUPPORT SERVICES, THE FINANCIAL SECTOR, THE PROFESSIONS, INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER EQUIPMENT, AND EVERYTHING TO DO WITH HUGE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS PLANNED FOR THE NEXT DECADE AND BEYOND," MR JOHNSON SAID.

ANOTHER HONG KONG SPEAKER AT THE CONFERENCE WAS HONG KONG TRADE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE, MR ALAN WONG.

GOVERNOR GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN OF CALIFORNIA DELIVERED THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS.

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN FEBRUARY 1990, AT \$78,229 MILLION, INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1989, ACCORDING TO THE DETAILED FIGURES ON THE VALUE OF TRADE IN FEBRUARY 1990 RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 5 PER CENT TO \$13,311 MILLION IN FEBRUARY 1990.

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ON THE OTHER HAND, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 9 PER CENT TO \$24,446 MILLION, THUS BRINGING THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY 1990 TO \$37,757 MILLION, WHICH REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 4 PER CENT OVER FEBRUARY 1989.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT TO \$40,473 MILLION.

CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN INTERPRETING THE TRADE FIGURES FOR THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF THE YEAR IN ISOLATION, AS THEY ARE LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS. THUS FIGURES ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR THE MONTHS OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY COMBINED.

TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1990, AT \$163,918 MILLION, INCREASED BY 1 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT TO \$29,948 MILLION WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT TO \$52,406 MILLION. THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT TO \$82,354 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF IMPORTS, AT \$81,564 MILLION, SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

COMPARING FEBRUARY 1990 WITH FEBRUARY 1989, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO MOST MAJOR MARKETS DECREASED, PARTICULARLY THOSE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM (-27 PER CENT), CANADA (-20 PER CENT), AUSTRALIA (-18 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (-17 PER CENT) AND THE USA (-14 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, A SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN AND SINGAPORE, BY 53 PER CENT AND 43 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA ALSO INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, IMPORTS FROM ITALY, CHINA, SINGAPORE, TAIWAN AND SWITZERLAND INCREASED BY 23 PER CENT, 20 PER CENT, 20 PER CENT, 11 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE TERMS. HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, JAPAN, THE USA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM DECREASED BY 16 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT, 2 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, TAIWAN, CANADA, SINGAPORE AND THE USA INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS IN FEBRUARY 1990 OVER FEBRUARY 1989, BY 38 PER CENT, 28 PER CENT, 27 PER CENT, 24 PER CENT AND 17 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THOSE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND JAPAN INCREASED BY 6 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND CHINA DECREASED BY 8 PER CENT, 8 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, A SUBSTANTIAL GROWTH WAS RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN BY 53 PER CENT. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE ALSO INCREASED BY 17 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

HOWEVER, THOSE TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, CANADA, AUSTRALIA, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, JAPAN, THE USA AND THE NETHERLANDS DECREASED BY 23 PER CENT, 14 PER CENT, 13 PER CENT, 9 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA SHOWED NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE.

IMPORTS IN JANUARY TO FEBRUARY 1990 FROM MANY MAJOR SUPPLIERS DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, JAPAN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM DECREASED BY 16 PER CENT, 14 PER CENT, 11 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, IMPORTS FROM CHINA, ITALY AND THE USA INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN VALUE TERMS.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, CANADA AND THE USA INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS, BY 41 PER CENT, 34 PER CENT AND 26 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. INCREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED FOR THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, TAIWAN, SINGAPORE, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA, BY 18 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THOSE TO CHINA AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA DECREASED BY 14 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF COMPARISON TO THE 12 MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1990 WITH THE 12 MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1989, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT TO \$222,749 MILLION, WHILE RE-EXPORTS, AT \$350,172 MILLION, WAS UP BY 21 PER CENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, TOTAL EXPORTS ROSE BY 13 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS TO \$562,739 MILLION. THE VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT.

ALL TRADE STATISTICS PRESENTED 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 FEBRUARY 1990 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY MAY 1990.

THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, INCREASES IN VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY \$180 MILLION OR 70 PER CENT); TEXTILES (BY \$159 MILLION OR 7 PER CENT); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$92 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT); AND MISCELLANEOUS EDIBLE PRODUCTS AND PREPARATIONS (BY \$15 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$381 MILLION OR 4 PER CENT); AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$369 MILLION OR 14 PER CENT).

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

THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS FROM HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE RECORDED IN MOST MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS. NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR CLOTHING (BY \$997 MILLION OR 18 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$923 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (BY \$566 MILLION OR 54 PER CENT) AND TEXTILES (BY \$310 MILLION OR 3 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$767 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT) AND NON-FERROUS METALS (BY \$597 MILLION OR 40 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST TWO MONTHS OF 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, NOTABLE INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$1,668 MILLION OR 39 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$1,290 MILLION OR 25 PER CENT); FOOTWEAR (BY \$659 MILLION OR 62 PER CENT) AND TEXTILES (BY \$321 MILLION OR 6 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED FOR NON-FERROUS METALS (BY \$474 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT) AND TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$467 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT).

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

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE PUBLISHED IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS. THE FEBRUARY 1990 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSIS ON IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN FEBRUARY 1990 WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SALE AROUND APRIL 18, AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$27 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	FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	FEB 90 OVER FEB 89 (%)	JAN-FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 90 OVER JAN-FEB 89 (%)
USA	3,666	- 14	8,943	- 5
CHINA	2,915	+ 19	5,667	*
F.R. OF GERMANY	980	- 17	2,293	- 9
UK	724	- 27	1,681	- 23
JAPAN	693	- 8	1,590	- 7
SINGAPORE	472	+ 43	944	+ 17
CANADA	347	- 20	871	- 14
TAIWAN	351	+ 53	794	+ 53
NETHERLANDS	344	*	728	- 3
AUSTRALIA	247	- 18	571	- 13

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	FEB 90 OVER FEB 89 (%)	JAN-FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 90 OVER JAN-FEB 89 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	3,628	- 19	9,595	- 4

/MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED

MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	1,651	+ 4	3,595	- 2
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,226	- 5	2,728	*
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,098	+ 13	2,323	+ 7
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,123	- 6	2,263	- 14
OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT	1,075	+ 8	2,100	*

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	FEB 90 OVER FEB 89 (%)	JAN-FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 90 OVER JAN-FEB 89 (%)
CHINA	12,444	+ 20	28,487	+ 13
JAPAN	7,286	- 5	12,998	- 11
USA	3,626	- 2	7,177	+ 5
TAIWAN	3,517	+ 11	7,020	- 2
SINGAPORE	1,880	+ 20	3,426	- 2
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,779	- 12	3,393	- 16
UK	1,080	- 2	1,966	- 9
F.R. OF GERMANY	904	- 16	1,845	- 14
SWITZERLAND	897	+ 4	1,508	+ 1
ITALY	812	+ 23	1,503	+ 12

TABLE 4: IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	FEB 90 OVER FEB 89 (%)	JAN-FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 90 OVER JAN-FEB 89 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	4,833	+ 15	9,584	+ 3
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	4,002	- 8	7,824	- 9
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	2,738	+ 19	6,494	+ 18
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,033	+ 18	5,945	+ 7
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	2,612	+ 37	5,381	+ 21
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	2,313	- 5	4,559	- 3

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	FEB 90 OVER FEB 89 (%)	JAN-FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 90 OVER JAN-FEB 89 (%)
CHINA	7,070	- 2	13,959	- 14
USA	4,631	+ 17	10,876	+ 26
JAPAN	1,537	+ 5	3,267	+ 7

/TAIWAN 1,447

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TAIWAN	1,447	+ 28	2,758	+ 12
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,084	+ 38	2,534	+ 41
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	951	- 8	1,946	- 4
SINGAPORE	888	+ 24	1,813	+ 12
UK	541	+ 6	1,274	+ 18
AUSTRALIA	407	- 8	932	+ 4
CANADA	388	+ 27	920	+ 34

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	FEB 90 OVER FEB 89 (%)	JAN-FEB 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-FEB 90 OVER JAN-FEB 89 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	2,524	+ 4	6,393	+ 25
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	2,477	+ 33	5,954	+ 39
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	2,866	+ 15	5,814	+ 6
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	2,479	*	5,049	- 3
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	1,822	+ 13	4,070	+ 12
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,057	+ 20	2,060	+ 9

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

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TWO BANKING LICENCES GRANTED
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NISHI-NIPPON BANK, LIMITED AND RABOBANK NEDERLAND HAVE BEEN GRANTED BANKING LICENCES TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN HONG KONG, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

NISHI-NIPPON BANK, LIMITED IS THE 40TH LARGEST BANK IN JAPAN, AND THE 240TH IN THE WORLD BY CAPITAL. RABOBANK NEDERLAND IS THE LARGEST BANK IN THE NETHERLANDS AND THE 30TH IN THE WORLD BY CAPITAL.

THEY HAVE OPERATED A REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE IN HONG KONG SINCE 1985 AND 1986 RESPECTIVELY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CONTINUING INTEREST OF FOREIGN BANKS IN ENTERING THE LOCAL MARKET REFLECTED HONG KONG'S ROLE AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE.

"GIVEN THE IMPORTANCE OF HONG KONG'S BILATERAL TRADE WITH JAPAN AND THE NETHERLANDS, IT IS DESIRABLE THAT THESE COUNTRIES HAVE APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATION IN THE BANKING SECTOR OF HONG KONG," HE SAID.

THE GRANTING OF THE LICENCES BRINGS THE TOTAL NUMBER OF LICENSED BANKS TO 166, OF WHICH 135 ARE INCORPORATED OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

THE LICENCES ARE THE FIRST TWO GRANTED THIS YEAR.

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SALE OF EXCHANGE FUND'S REMAINING HK TELECOM SHARES
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THE SECRETARY FOR MONETARY AFFAIRS, MR DAVID NENDICK, ANNOUNCED THAT THE AGREEMENT REACHED ON APRIL 3 FOR THE SALE OF THE WHOLE OF THE EXCHANGE FUND'S REMAINING SHAREHOLDING IN HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS LIMITED ("HK TELECOM") - AMOUNTING TO 377,544,752 SHARES REPRESENTING APPROXIMATELY 3.4 PER CENT OF THE ISSUED SHARE CAPITAL OF HK TELECOM - TO SMITH NEW COURT SECURITIES PLC, A LEADING UK SECURITIES HOUSE, FOR A TOTAL CONSIDERATION OF APPROXIMATELY \$1.85 BILLION, WAS COMPLETED TODAY (THURSDAY).

AFTER THIS TRANSACTION, THE EXCHANGE FUND WILL NO LONGER HAVE ANY EQUITY INTERESTS IN HK TELECOM.

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DECEMBER EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS RELEASED

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IN DECEMBER 1989, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1988, WHILE EMPLOYMENT IN SERVICES SECTOR INCREASED, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT. THUS THE SHIFT IN EMPLOYMENT FROM MANUFACTURING TO SERVICES CONTINUED.

THERE WERE 791,500 PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN DECEMBER 1989, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 5.4 PER CENT IN COMPARISON WITH DECEMBER 1988.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AT 774,000 IN DECEMBER 1989, WAS 8.8 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN DECEMBER 1988.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AT 254,800, WAS UP BY 8.2 PER CENT.

EMPLOYMENT AT CONSTRUCTION SITES DECREASED BY 9.0 PER CENT COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1988.

THE OVERALL EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1989 IN THESE SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS, WITH COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1988 AND SEPTEMBER 1989, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	PERSONS ENGAGED (EMPLOYMENT) IN*			PERCENTAGE CHANGE**	
	DEC. 88	SEP. 89	DEC. 89	DEC. 89 ON DEC. 88	DEC. 89 ON SEP. 89
MANUFACTURING	837,100	803,000	791,500	-5.4	-1.4
CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS AT CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	76,300	67,500	69,500	-9.0	+2.9
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	711,300	757,700	774,000	+8.8	+2.2
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	235,500	249,500	254,800	+8.2	+2.1

* FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST HUNDRED.

** BASED ON UNROUNDED EMPLOYMENT FIGURES.

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COMPARING DECEMBER 1989 WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITES, THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS, THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS, INCREASED BY 2.9 PER CENT, 2.2 PER CENT, AND 2.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED BY 1.4 PER CENT.

A DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN SAID THE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN DECEMBER 1989 WERE DERIVED FROM THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THESE SECTORS COVER THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR. THERE IS A SEPARATE EMPLOYMENT SURVEY COVERING CONSTRUCTION SITES.

THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL ALSO PROVIDES VACANCY STATISTICS FOR THESE SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS (EXCEPT CONSTRUCTION SITES WHICH ARE COVERED IN A SEPARATE SURVEY).

THE VACANCY DATA TOGETHER WITH A COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 1988 AND SEPTEMBER 1989 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN*			PERCENTAGE CHANGE**	
	DEC. 88	SEP. 89	DEC. 89	DEC. 89 ON DEC. 88	DEC. 89 ON SEP. 89
MANUFACTURING	51,790	43,960	36,170	-30.1	-17.7
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	32,600	28,830	27,050	-17.0	- 6.2
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	10,640	10,850	10,520	- 1.1	- 3.1

* FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST TEN.

** BASED ON UNROUNDED VACANCY FIGURES.

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IN LINE WITH THE SLACKENING IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN THE LATTER HALF OF 1989, THE DEMAND FOR LABOUR WAS BECOMING LESS INTENSE. THE NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES FOR THE MANUFACTURING, THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS DECREASED BY 30.1 PER CENT, AND 17.0 PER CENT AND 1.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY DURING DECEMBER 1988 AND DECEMBER 1989.

COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, THE NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN THE MANUFACTURING, THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTORS DECREASED BY 17.7 PER CENT, 6.2 PER CENT AND 3.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN DECEMBER 1989.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE SURVEY ARE STATISTICS ON MONTHLY PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR. QUARTERLY TOTALS FOR EACH OF THESE SECTORS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	TOTAL QUARTERLY PAYROLL IN		% CHANGE*
	4TH QTR. 1988	4TH QTR. 1989	4TH QTR. 1989 ON 4TH QTR. 1988
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN	
MANUFACTURING	10,456	11,236	+ 7.5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	9,167	11,614	+26.7
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	5,239	6,547	+25.0

* BASED ON UNROUNDED PAYROLL FIGURES.

COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER A YEAR AGO, PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN THE ABOVE THREE SECTORS INCREASED BY 7.5 PER CENT, 26.7 PER CENT AND 25.0 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989.

AFTER ADJUSTMENT FOR VARIATIONS IN TOTAL MONTHLY PAYROLL OUTLAYS IN DECEMBER 1988 AND DECEMBER 1989, ARISING FROM CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT, A NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS OBTAINED.

/TO ALLOW

TO ALLOW FOR THE EFFECTS OF PRICE CHANGES, THE NOMINAL INDEX IS DEFLATED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) TO GIVE THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED. THESE TWO INDICES FOR DECEMBER 1988 AND DECEMBER 1989 ARE GIVEN IN THE TABLES BELOW:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100)		% CHANGE DEC. 89 ON DEC. 88
	DEC. 88	DEC. 89	
MANUFACTURING	307.4	355.0	+15.5
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	318.4	371.2	+16.6
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	358.1	405.1	+13.1

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (JUNE 1980 = 100)		% CHANGE DEC. 89 ON DEC. 88
	DEC. 88	DEC. 89	
MANUFACTURING	161.4	170.0	+5.3
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	167.1	177.5	+6.2
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	188.0	193.7	+3.0

BETWEEN DECEMBER 1988 AND DECEMBER 1989, AN INCREASE OF 15.5 PER CENT WAS REGISTERED IN THE NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 16.6 PER CENT AND FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 13.1 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 5.3 PER CENT FOR THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, 6.2 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AND 3.0 PER CENT FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS, DECEMBER 1989, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$11 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND AT THE SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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RESULTS OF 4TH QUARTER SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

* * * * *

THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989, ESTIMATED AT \$8,468 MILLION, WAS 13 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1988, WHILE THE VOLUME WAS 3 PER CENT LOWER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF TOTAL PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 WAS \$3,494 MILLION, WHICH WAS 11 PER CENT HIGHER IN VALUE TERMS THAN IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988.

ANALYSED BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE (33 PER CENT) IN THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988.

THESE WERE FOLLOWED BY NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (23 PER CENT), BARS (20 PER CENT), "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" - COMPRISING HERB TEA SHOPS, CREAMERIES AND OTHER OUTLETS SELLING BEAN CURD JELLY ETC. (13 PER CENT) AND CHINESE RESTAURANTS (8 PER CENT).

IN VOLUME TERMS, TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS, BARS AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS ROSE BY 16 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT AND 8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE FOR CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" BOTH DROPPED BY 8 PER CENT.

COMPARING 1989 WITH 1988, TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS INCREASED BY 16 PER CENT IN VALUE BUT REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN VOLUME; AND THE TOTAL PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS ROSE BY 13 PER CENT.

/IN VALUE

IN VALUE TERMS, FAST FOOD SHOPS RECORDED THE LARGEST GROWTH IN TOTAL RECEIPTS (27 PER CENT), FOLLOWED BY NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (19 PER CENT), CHINESE RESTAURANTS (14 PER CENT), "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" (13 PER CENT) AND BARS (6 PER CENT).

IN VOLUME TERMS, INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR FAST FOOD SHOPS AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS, AT 11 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. THOSE FOR BARS REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED WHILE DECREASES WERE NOTED FOR CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES", AT 3 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 WITH THE PREVIOUS QUARTER - AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON IS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS - TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS INCREASED BY 5 PER CENT IN VALUE AND 3 PER CENT IN VOLUME, WHILE THE VALUE OF PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS ROSE BY 6 PER CENT.

IN VALUE TERMS, TOTAL RECEIPTS OF BARS, CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS ROSE BY 20 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT, AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE FOR FAST FOOD SHOPS AND "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" DROPPED BY 1 PER CENT AND 14 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

IN VOLUME TERMS, BARS AND CHINESE RESTAURANTS INCREASED BY 19 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS, FAST FOOD SHOPS AND "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT, 3 PER CENT AND 17 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED FIGURES FOR THE TOTAL RECEIPTS AND TOTAL PURCHASES OF THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1989 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT FOR THE THIRD AND THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

ALSO TABULATED ARE COMPARISONS OF THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1989 AND FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1988. COMPARISONS OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1989 WITH THOSE FOR 1988 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1989 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$1 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 556 5240.

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

		3rd qtr. 1989 (Revised figures)	4th qtr. 1989 (Provisional figures)
Total restaurant receipts	(in HK\$ million)	8 063	8 468
Total purchases by restaurants	(in HK\$ million)	3 309	3 494

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS FOR 3RD QUARTER 1989 AND 4TH QUARTER 1989

(Quarterly average of October 84 - September 85 = 100)

Type of restaurant	Index of total restaurant receipts	3rd quarter	4th quarter	4th qtr. 1989 compared with 3rd qtr. 1989		4th qtr. 1989 compared with 4th qtr. 1988		1st-4th qtr. 1989 compared with 1st-4th qtr. 1988	
		1989 (Revised figures)	1989 (Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
Chinese restaurants	Value	166	178	+12	+7	+13	+8	+20	+14
	Volume	115	120	+5	+4	-11	-8	-3	-3
Non-Chinese restaurants	Value	183	184	+1	+1	+35	+23	+27	+19
	Volume	130	129	-1	-1	+10	+8	+5	+4
Fast food shops	Value	237	235	-2	-1	+58	+33	+46	+27
	Volume	179	174	-5	-3	+24	+16	+17	+11
Bars	Value	136	164	+28	+20	+27	+20	+7	+6
	Volume	110	131	+21	+19	+14	+12	*	*
Other eating and drinking places	Value	168	144	-24	-14	+16	+13	+18	+13
	Volume	121	101	-21	-17	-8	-8	-4	-4
Entire restaurant sector	Value	174	182	+9	+5	+21	+13	+23	+16
	Volume	123	126	+3	+3	-4	-3	*	*

Notes: 1. Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures.
2. * denotes a figure within ± 0.5 .

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

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TRANSFER OF VR CAMP MANAGEMENT TO HOUSING DEPT

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THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO REDESIGNATE THE TUEN MUN AND SAN YICK LIBERALISED CLOSED CENTRES FOR VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AS OPEN CENTRES TO BE MANAGED BY HOUSING DEPARTMENT STAFF.

THIS WILL TAKE SOME OF THE PRESSURE OFF THE HARD-PRESSED CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND FREE STAFF FOR REDEPLOYMENT ELSEWHERE.

MEMBERS OF THE TUEN MUN WORKING GROUP ON LIBERALISATION OF CLOSED CENTRES WERE TODAY (THURSDAY) BRIEFED ON DETAILS OF THE PLAN BY A SECURITY BRANCH OFFICIAL.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WOULD ASSIST THE SECURITY BRANCH IN THE DAY-TO-DAY MANAGEMENT OF THE CAMPS AS A TEMPORARY COMMITMENT.

"IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE OVER THE MANAGEMENT OF THE TWO CENTRES BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT MONTH," HE SAID.

"THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN THE RUNNING OF REFUGEE CAMPS BEFORE. IN 1979, IT MANAGED TUEN MUN AND ARGYLE STREET REFUGEE CENTRES WITH A TOTAL POPULATION OF UP TO 17,000."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS NOT EXPECTED THAT THE REDESIGNATION AND CHANGE OF MANAGEMENT AGENCY WOULD LEAD TO ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE WAY THE CENTRES WERE OPERATED.

"THE POLICE WILL CONTINUE THEIR PATROLS IN POTENTIAL CRIME BLACK SPOTS," HE SAID.

"FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRESENT POLICE POST OUTSIDE FU TEI VILLAGE NEAR THE TUEN MUN CAMP WILL CONTINUE TO BE MANNED ON A 24 HOUR BASIS.

"THE TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT WILL FREE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFF FOR REDEPLOYMENT TO THE MAIN DETENTION CENTRES FOR BOAT PEOPLE."

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT GIVEN THE PROJECTED DEPARTURE RATES FOR HONG KONG'S REFUGEES FOR 1990, THERE WAS EVERY REASON TO EXPECT THAT SAN YICK COULD BE CLOSED BY JULY THIS YEAR AND TUEN MUN BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

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ROUTE 5 TO BE OPENED ON APRIL 20

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IT WILL TAKE ONLY ABOUT 10 MINUTES FOR MOTORISTS TO DRIVE BETWEEN SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN WITH THE OPENING OF ROUTE 5 INCLUDING THE SHING MUN TUNNELS FROM APRIL 20.

THE REGIONAL HIGHWAY ENGINEER (NEW TERRITORIES), MR KWONG HON-SANG, OF THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT SAID THIS TODAY (THURSDAY) DURING A PRESS VISIT TO THE NEW ROAD FACILITIES.

MR KWONG SAID ROUTE 5 WAS A SEVEN-KILOMETRE LONG DUAL TWO-LANE HIGHWAY EXTENDING FROM TAI PO ROAD NEAR THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION SHA TIN STATION TO TSUEN KAM INTERCHANGE IN TSUEN WAN. IT FORMED PART OF THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ROAD WAS DIVIDED INTO THREE SECTIONS. CONSTRUCTION STARTED IN APRIL 1986 AND WAS COMPLETED IN FOUR YEARS AT A COST OF \$1.3 BILLION.

THE EASTERLY TWO-KILOMETRE SHA TIN CONNECTION AND THE WESTERLY 1.5-KILOMETRE TSUEN WAN CONNECTION WERE BUILT BY THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CENTRAL 3.5-KILOMETRE SHING MUN SECTION, OF WHICH 2.6-KILOMETRE WAS IN TUNNELS. THESE TUNNELS COMPRISING ONE TWO-LANE EASTBOUND TUBE AND ONE TWO-LANE WESTBOUND TUBE WERE NOW KNOWN AS THE SHING MUN TUNNELS.

MR KWONG SAID THE SHING MUN TUNNELS WERE NOT CONTINUOUS, BEING DIVIDED BY THE GORGE OF THE LOWER SHING MUN RIVER, WHERE THE CARRIAGEWAYS WERE SUPPORTED ON TWO CONCRETE BRIDGES, EACH ABOUT 100 METRES LONG.

THE SMUGGLERS RIDGE TUNNELS, TO THE WEST OF THE LOWER SHING MUN RIVER, WERE ABOUT ONE-KILOMETRE LONG AND THE NEEDLE HILL TUNNELS, TO THE EAST, WERE ABOUT 1.6-KILOMETRE LONG.

AT THE TSUEN WAN END OF THE SHING MUN TUNNELS, A TOLL PLAZA WITH 13 LANES WAS BUILT. THE TOLL WOULD BE \$3 PER TRIP.

MR KWONG SAID TO ENSURE THAT ALL ASPECTS OF THE TUNNEL OPERATIONS WERE MONITORED AND CONTROLLED EFFICIENTLY, A COMPUTERISED TUNNEL SUPERVISORY SYSTEM WAS INSTALLED.

THE TUNNELS AND APPROACHES WERE EQUIPPED WITH CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISIONS, A PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM AND EMERGENCY TELEPHONES, HE SAID.

EMERGENCY CROSS PASSAGES LINKING THE EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND TUBES WERE ALSO PROVIDED IN THE TUNNELS AT 100-METRE INTERVALS FOR PEDESTRIANS AND AT 600-METRE FOR LIGHT EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

/BOTH THE

BOTH THE LIGHTING AND VENTILATION SYSTEMS WERE CONTROLLED AUTOMATICALLY BY SENSORS INSTALLED INSIDE THE TUNNELS, MR KWONG SAID.

HE ADDED THAT NOT ONLY WOULD ROUTE 5 HELP MOTORISTS SAVE ABOUT 35 MINUTES IN TRAVELLING TIME BETWEEN THE SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN NEW TOWNS, IT WOULD ALSO HELP ALLEVIATE CONGESTION IN THE LION TUNNEL AND TAI PO ROAD.

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NEW AMENDMENTS TO IMPROVE SAFETY OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED SEVERAL LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS AIMED AT INTRODUCING SAFETY MEASURES TO TACKLE THE HIGH ACCIDENT RATE OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES.

ONE OF THE AMENDMENTS WILL MAKE IT MANDATORY TO INSTALL AND RETAIN A SAFETY PARTITION IN LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES BETWEEN THE PASSENGERS AND GOODS COMPARTMENTS, THUS ENHANCING THE PROTECTION OF THE DRIVER AND THE PASSENGERS IN THE SEATING ACCOMMODATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT NEWLY MANUFACTURED VAN-TYPE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES WERE INSTALLED WITH SUCH SAFETY PARTITIONS.

HOWEVER, MOST OPERATORS HAVE REMOVED THE PARTITIONS TO ALLOW FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN USING THE VEHICLE FOR PASSENGER AND GOODS CARRIAGE.

ANOTHER AMENDMENT PROHIBITS THE INSTALLATION OF SIDE WINDOWS IN THE GOODS COMPARTMENT OF VAN-TYPE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES.

THE AMENDMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES WOULD COME INTO OPERATION ON JULY 1 THIS YEAR BUT THERE WOULD BE A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR TO ENSURE THAT OWNERS OF EXISTING VEHICLES HAVE ADEQUATE TIME TO MAKE THE NECESSARY CONVERSION.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ALSO APPROVED THAT THE ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL, PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY, SHOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

UNDER THE BILL, THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME, WHEREBY ALL PRIVATE CARS OVER SIX YEARS OLD ARE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL INSPECTION, WILL BE EXTENDED TO COVER LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES NOT EXCEEDING 1.9 TONNES.

AT PRESENT, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT EXAMINES ANNUALLY ONLY GOODS VEHICLES OVER 12 YEARS OLD.

THE INSPECTION OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES NOT EXCEEDING 1.9 TONNES WOULD BE IMPLEMENTED ON JULY 1 THIS YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"VEHICLE EXAMINATION IS A MEANS OF ENSURING THE ROADWORTHINESS OF VEHICLES, THEREBY REDUCING THE LIKELIHOOD OF TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AND VEHICLE BREAKDOWNS CAUSING ROAD CONGESTION," THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

"THOSE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES INSPECTED AFTER ACCIDENTS, OR CALLED UP FOR INSPECTION BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT, ARE USUALLY FOUND TO BE POORLY MAINTAINED AND CONSEQUENTLY MAY POSE A DANGER TO OTHER ROAD USERS.

"DURING THE LAST TWO YEARS, OVER 3,600 LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES WERE REPORTED AS DEFECTIVE, CONSTITUTING 56 PER CENT OF ALL CLASSES OF VEHICLES CALLED UP BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT FOR INSPECTION," HE SAID.

THE AMENDMENT BILL WILL ALSO EMPOWER THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT TO SPECIFY THE REQUIREMENTS IN RESPECT OF MOTOR VEHICLES USED IN DRIVING TESTS FOR LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE LICENCES.

THE VEHICLE USED IN THE TEST IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A PERMITTED GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT OF AT LEAST 2.7 TONNES, WITH A DIMENSION OF NOT LESS THAN 4.65 METRES IN LENGTH AND 1.69 METRES IN WIDTH, AND CARRY A CERTAIN LOAD.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE REASON THAT THE GROSS WEIGHT WAS SET AT A MINIMUM OF 2.7 TONNES WAS TO TEST A DRIVER'S ABILITY TO DRIVE A MEDIUM SIZE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES SINCE THE GROSS WEIGHT OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES COULD RANGE FROM RELATIVELY LIGHT VAN-TYPE LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES UNDER 1.9 TONNES TO LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES UP TO 5.5 TONNES IN GROSS WEIGHT.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DRIVING STANDARD OF LIGHT GOODS VEHICLE DRIVERS AND THE SAFETY OF THE VEHICLES HAD BEEN A CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

DURING 1989, THERE WERE 5,061 ACCIDENTS INVOLVING LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES, ACCOUNTING FOR 31 PER CENT OF ALL TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS.

THE VEHICLE ACCIDENT INVOLVEMENT RATE FOR LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES WAS 69 PER THOUSAND LICENSED VEHICLES, NEARLY TWICE THE RATE FOR PRIVATE CARS FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES ALSO ACCOUNTED FOR 32 PER CENT OF ACCIDENTS INVOLVING FATALITIES DURING THE SAME PERIOD, THE HIGHEST AMONG ALL VEHICLE TYPES.

THE AMENDMENTS IN RESPECT OF THE SPECIFIED REQUIREMENTS FOR A TEST VEHICLE AND THE EXTENSION OF THE PRIVATE CAR INSPECTION SCHEME TO LIGHT GOODS VEHICLES WOULD COME INTO OPERATION ON JULY 1 THIS YEAR.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE BILL WOULD BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN MAY THIS YEAR.

PROPOSED DREDGING AT KELLETT BANK

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AUTHORISATION HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO CARRY OUT DREDGING WITHIN AN AREA OF ABOUT 296.75 HECTARES OF SEABED AT KELLETT BANK TO PROVIDE ANCHORAGE SPACE FOR THE SITING OF MOORING BUOYS.

WORKS ARE SCHEDULED TO COMMENCE IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS YEAR AND BE COMPLETED IN THE LATTER PART OF NEXT YEAR.

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE ABOVE UNDERTAKING MAY DELIVER TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION BY APRIL 11, 1991.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED IS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY (THURSDAY).

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ACTION ON UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE AT THE ROOF ABOVE THE SIXTH FLOOR OF 42 LEIGHTON ROAD, HAPPY VALLEY SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS AND TO THE PUBLIC.

THE CLOSURE FORMS PART OF AN EXERCISE TO ENFORCE AN ORDER ISSUED UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE IN OCTOBER 1988 REQUIRING THE REMOVAL OF THE STRUCTURE.

A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON JUNE 14, 1990 WAS POSTED ON A CONSPICUOUS PART OF THE PREMISES TODAY (THURSDAY).

IT IS EXPECTED THAT DEMOLITION WILL START IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSURE ORDER IS OBTAINED.

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RATEPAYERS GIVEN REMINDER ON SECOND QUARTER PAYMENT

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RATEPAYERS SHOULD BY NOW HAVE RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES FOR RATES FOR THE QUARTER APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1990 WHICH ARE DEMANDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RATING ORDINANCE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

ANY RATEPAYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A DEMAND NOTE MAY BRING A RATES DEMAND NOTE OF ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER AND MAKE PAYMENT AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * THE TREASURY CENTRAL COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OFFICE,
CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING),
11 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG;
- * THE NORTH POINT SUB-TREASURY, ODEON BUILDING,
FIRST FLOOR, 28 SHU KUK STREET, HONG KONG;
- * THE YAU MA TEI SUB-TREASURY, FOURTH FLOOR,
405 NATHAN ROAD (MARKET STREET ENTRANCE), KOWLOON;
- * THE KOWLOON CITY SUB-TREASURY, MAN SANG COMMERCIAL
BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 348-352 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD
(CORNER OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD),
KOWLOON.

ANY RATEPAYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A DEMAND NOTE AND CANNOT PRODUCE A RATES DEMAND NOTE FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER SHOULD INQUIRE AT THE TREASURY RATES SECTION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), NINTH FLOOR, 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG.

NON-RECEIPT OF THE DEMAND NOTE DOES NOT ALTER THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES MUST BE PAID BY 4 PM ON APRIL 30, 1990 AND UNLESS SO PAID MAY BE SUBJECT TO A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT IMPOSED UNDER SECTION 22 OF THE RATING ORDINANCE.

A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT MAY BE ADDED TO ACCOUNTS (INCLUDING THE NORMAL FIVE PER CENT SURCHARGE) WHICH REMAIN UNPAID SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

RATEPAYERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED A VALID DIRECT DEBIT AUTHORISATION SHOULD NOTE THAT PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE BY POST OR IN PERSON AS STIPULATED IN THE DEMAND NOTE UNLESS THE WORDING "PAYMENT TO BE MADE BY AUTOPAY" IS SHOWN IN THE DEMAND NOTE.

IN THIS CASE THEIR PAYMENT OF RATES WILL BE MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT TO THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS ON APRIL 30, 1990. RATEPAYERS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS CONTAIN THE NECESSARY FUNDS ON THAT DATE.

RATEPAYERS ARE ALSO ADVISED THAT THE AMOUNT PAYABLE ON OR BEFORE THE ABOVE-MENTIONED DATE IS INDICATED ON THE DEMAND NOTE BY AN ARROW-HEAD IN THE "TOTAL AMOUNT DUE" BOX.

RATES ARE PAYABLE ON VACANT PROPERTIES BUT ARE REFUNDABLE UNDER THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 30 OF THE ORDINANCE.

UNDER SECTIONS 30 (1A) AND (2A), HOWEVER, NO REFUNDS WILL BE PAYABLE IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES OR FOR PARKING OF VEHICLES (UNLESS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT).

TO AVOID THE POSSIBLE INCONVENIENCE OF QUEUEING, RATEPAYERS ARE URGED TO PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER SENT BY POST OR BY EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE OFFICES LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE DEMAND NOTE.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

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TIN HAU WORSHIPPERS URGED TO USE SEA TRANSPORT

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MORE THAN 60,000 WORSHIPPERS AND SIGHTSEERS ARE EXPECTED TO FLOCK TO THE TIN HAU TEMPLE AT JOSS HOUSE BAY, SAI KUNG, ON TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY (APRIL 17 AND 18) TO CELEBRATE THE SEA GODDESS FESTIVAL.

IN VIEW OF THE LARGE CROWD, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE TODAY (THURSDAY) URGED WORSHIPPERS TO MAKE USE OF SEA TRANSPORT.

HE POINTED OUT THAT SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE CARRIED OUT ALONG CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD, AND THE ACCESS TO PO TOI O VILLAGE WOULD BE CLOSED.

THERE WOULD BE NO PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE TIN HAU TEMPLE, WHILE THE PARKING SPACES OUTSIDE THE CLEAR WATER BAY GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB WOULD BE FOR AUTHORISED VEHICLES ONLY.

WORSHIPPERS SHOULD THEREFORE MAKE THEIR TRIPS BY FERRY, THE SPOKESMAN STRESSED.

THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY WILL ARRANGE SPECIAL FERRY SERVICES BETWEEN THE NORTH POINT EAST FERRY PIER AND JOSS HOUSE BAY.

THE FIRST FERRY WILL DEPART NORTH POINT EAST FERRY PIER AT 10 AM ON TUESDAY (APRIL 17) AND THE LAST FERRY WILL LEAVE JOSS HOUSE BAY AT THE END OF THE FESTIVAL AT 4 PM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 18).

THE FREQUENCIES OF THE SERVICE WILL RANGE FROM 45 MINUTES TO ONE AND A HALF HOUR. THERE WILL BE OVERNIGHT FERRY SERVICES ON TUESDAY.

THE SPOKESMAN REMINDED WORSHIPPERS TO TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO REDUCE FIRE RISKS.

HE SAID THE BURNING OF PAPER OFFERINGS AT, AND BRINGING MORE THAN THREE BURNING JOSS STICKS INTO, THE TEMPLE WOULD BE PROHIBITED. HOWEVER, SUFFICIENT INCINERATORS WILL BE PROVIDED OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE FOR THE PURPOSES.

THE REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL ARRANGE FOR GRASS-CUTTING IN THE VICINITY TO MINIMISE FIRE RISKS NEAR THE FERRY PIER AND THE ALONG ROUTES TO THE TEMPLE.

THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO PUT UP LITTER BINS FOR REFUSE AND INCENSE ASH, AS WELL AS TEMPORARY LATRINES.

THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL DEPLOY A FIRE BOAT TO THE VICINITY AND PROVIDE EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING 20 FIRE EXTINGUISHERS, TO THE TEMPLE.

/ADEQUATE POLICE

ADEQUATE POLICE AND MEDICAL FACILITIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE SCENE, WHILE SUPPLEMENTARY AMBULANCE SERVICES WILL BE ARRANGED BY THE SAI KUNG FIRE STATION.

THE PUBLIC ARE ALSO ADVISED NOT TO USE LOUD SPEAKERS OR BROADCAST CASSETTE TAPES WITHIN THE TEMPLE AREA.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE TIN HAU SEA GODDESS FESTIVAL, WHICH WILL BE PARTICIPATED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICER, MR FREDERICK TONG; AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN; ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 18).

A COACH FOR THE MEDIA WILL LEAVE THE CARPARK OF SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES AT 34 CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN AT 9.30 AM SHARP.

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SCS (DESIGNATE) VISITS SWD

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THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE (DESIGNATE), MR BARRIE WIGGHAM, WAS IMPRESSED BY THE EFFICIENCY AND STAFF MORALE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT DURING A VISIT TO THE DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY).

MR WIGGHAM, ON ARRIVING AT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS AT WORLD TRADE CENTRE, CAUSEWAY BAY, WAS GREETED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR M.D. CARTLAND.

HE MET DIRECTORATE AND SENIOR STAFF MEMBERS OF THE DEPARTMENT. AT THE MEETING, MR CARTLAND UPDATED HIM ON THE WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT.

MR WIGGHAM ALSO MET ABOUT 20 STAFF REPRESENTATIVES - INCLUDING SOCIAL WORK OFFICERS, WELFARE ASSISTANTS, CLERICAL OFFICERS, MODEL SCALE I STAFF AND OTHER GENERAL GRADE OFFICERS - AND EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH THEM ON ISSUES RELATING TO THEIR WORK.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE REGIONAL OFFICER (HONG KONG), MR KWOK NAI-SIK, MR WIGGHAM STARTED HIS TOUR BY VISITING SWD'S FAMILY SERVICES CENTRE AT SOUTHOEN CENTRE, WAN CHAI.

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HK TEAM TO TAKE PART IN WORLD FIREFIGHTERS GAMES

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A 68-MEMBER DELEGATION OF THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL TAKE PART IN THE FIRST WORLD FIREFIGHTERS GAMES IN AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND, BETWEEN APRIL 19 AND MAY 2.

AT A BRIEF CEREMONY AT THE FIRE SERVICES HEADQUARTERS TODAY (THURSDAY), THE DIRECTOR OF FIRE SERVICES, MR JOHN MARCH, PRESENTED A FLAG OF THE DEPARTMENT TO THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER (HEADQUARTERS), MR PETER CHEUNG, WHO WILL LEAD THE DELEGATION.

THE DELEGATION CONSISTS OF 61 ATHLETES AND SEVEN OFFICIALS AND WILL COMPETE IN 10 EVENTS INCLUDING BASKETBALL, SOCCER, SWIMMING, SQUASH, SNOOKER, TABLE TENNIS, BADMINTON, MARATHON RACE, TRACK AND FIELD AND VOLLEYBALL.

THE FIRST WORLD FIREFIGHTERS GAMES IS HOSTED BY THE NEW ZEALAND FIRE SERVICE SPORTS COUNCIL. OVER 40 COUNTRIES WILL TAKE PART.

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GAMES ARE FRIENDSHIP, FRATERNITY AND COMPETITION AMONG FIREFIGHTERS IN THE WORLD.

THIS IS THE SECOND TIME THE FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TAKES PART IN SUCH INTERNATIONAL SPORTS EVENT. A 26-MEMBER DELEGATION TOOK PART IN THE WORLD POLICE AND FIRE GAMES III IN VANCOUVER, CANADA, LAST AUGUST.

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COUNTRY PARK T-SHIRT ON SALE

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A NEWLY DESIGNED T-SHIRT PRODUCED BY THE COUNTRY PARKS AUTHORITY OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT TO PROMOTE THE MESSAGE OF "LOVE OUR COUNTRY PARKS" WILL BE ON SALE TOMORROW (FRIDAY) AT ALL COUNTRY PARK VISITOR CENTRES.

THE T-SHIRT IS WHITE IN COLOUR WITH AN ATTRACTIVE DESIGN FEATURING A SMILING SUN, COLOURFUL SKY AND MOUNTAINS ON THE FRONT AND A SLOGAN "LOVE OUR COUNTRY PARKS" ON THE BACK.

THE T-SHIRT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT \$40 EACH IN LARGE, MEDIUM AND SMALL SIZES.

THE SENIOR CONSERVATION OFFICER OF THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MR M.K. CHEUNG, SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE T-SHIRT WAS A SPECIAL DESIGNED SOUVENIR ITEM FOR COUNTRY PARKS VISITORS.

HE SAID: "THE PURPOSE OF PRODUCING SOUVENIRS FOR SALE IS TO PROMULGATE OUR COUNTRYSIDE CONSERVATION MESSAGES AND TO INCULCATE A SENSE OF CARE AND AWARENESS AMONG THE PUBLIC FOR THE COUNTRY PARKS."

/OTHER SOUVENIR

OTHER SOUVENIR ITEMS WHICH ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTRY PARK VISITOR CENTRES INCLUDE A METAL BADGE ON FAMILY WALKS AND A CLOTH BADGE ON THE MACLEHOSE TRAIL.

THE METAL BADGE, AVAILABLE AT \$2.8 EACH, IS ROUND BUTTON IN SHAPE WITH A DIAMETER OF 7.5 CENTIMETRES. THE CLOTH BADGE COSTS \$4.4 EACH.

"PEOPLE WANTING SOUVENIR ITEMS CAN BUY THEM IN ANY OF THE COUNTRY PARK VISITOR CENTRES WHEN THEY GO PICNICKING IN THE COUNTRY PARKS DURING THE EASTER HOLIDAYS," MR CHEUNG SAID.

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STUDENTS TAKE LEAD IN GREEN PLANT PROJECT

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STUDENTS IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT TODAY (THURSDAY) GOT SOME HINTS ON CARE FOR PLANTS AT A GARDENING SEMINAR.

THE SEMINAR ON BASIC GARDENING TECHNIQUES FOLLOWED THE INAUGURATION AND PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY OF A LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION OF THE DISTRICT'S GREEN PLANT PROJECT AT THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

AFTER THE SEMINAR, EACH OF THE 1,000 STUDENTS FROM 28 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT TAKING PART IN THE PROJECT, WAS GIVEN A POTTED PLANT.

THEY ARE REQUIRED TO MAKE USE OF WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED FROM THE SEMINAR TO NURTURE THE PLANTS IN THEIR SCHOOL CAMPUS.

THE SEMINAR WAS CONDUCTED BY MRS CHENG YUNG CHIN-HUNG, AN EXPERT FROM THE HORTICULTURE EDUCATION SECTION OF THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ORGANISED BY A WORKING GROUP UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, THE OBJECTIVE OF THE "GREEN PLANT PROJECT" IS TO PROVIDE LOCAL RESIDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN BEAUTIFYING THEIR LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND PROMOTING THEIR INTEREST IN GROWING PLANTS.

THE PROJECT IS BEING IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES AND THE FIRST OF WHICH INVOLVES ONLY STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT.

IF PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT WILL BE EXTENDED TO OTHER SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY, SUCH AS OFFICES OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, AREA COMMITTEES AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

A LOGO DESIGN COMPETITION WAS HELD LAST MONTH TO PROMOTE THE PROJECT.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1990

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OUT OF THE MORE THAN 220 ENTRIES, 29 HAVE BEEN CHOSEN AS THE WINNING AND OUTSTANDING DESIGNS, AND THE WINNERS WERE AWARDED TROPHIES OR BOOK COUPONS AT TODAY'S PRIZE PRESENTATION CEREMONY.

THE PRIZES WERE PRESENTED BY THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR BRIAN LAU; THE CHAIRMAN OF THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT BOARD, DR MICHAEL LEE; AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, MR FUNG KWONG-CHUNG.

THE DESIGN BY FONG YUEN-MAN FROM THE CCC ROTARY PREVOCAIONAL SCHOOL, WHICH DEPICTS THE PROJECT'S THEMES OF "CARING FOR PLANTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND BUILDING A GREEN COMMUNITY", HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE PROJECT'S LOGO.

THE CEREMONY AND SEMINAR WERE ATTENDED BY MORE THAN 200 TEACHERS AND STUDENTS FROM THE DISTRICT.

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