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MONDAY, MAY 31, 1993

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PROPOSALS WOULD BE OPEN, FAIR AND ACCEPTABLE: GOVERNOR

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (MONDAY) EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE BRITISH TEAM WOULD BE ABLE TO WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH CHINESE NEGOTIATORS TO COME FORWARD WITH PROPOSALS WHICH WERE OPEN, FAIR AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF HONG KONG AS WELL AS ACCEPTABLE TO THE BRITISH AND CHINESE GOVERNMENTS.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER ACCOMPANYING THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS, THE RT HON ALASTAIR GOODLAD, IN VISITING TSUEN WAN DISTRICT, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "THIS IS AN OBJECTIVE WHICH ALL OF US SHARE."

ASKED ABOUT THE TIMING OF LEGISLATING THE BILL, MR PATTEN SAID: "IF I WAS TO RING DATES IN THE CALENDAR AND SET DEADLINES, I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE CONDUCIVE TO A GOOD ATMOSPHERE IN THE TALKS. I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL.

"NEVERTHELESS, AS I ALSO SAID BEFORE, TIME ISN'T INFINITE. WE DO HAVE ADMINISTRATIVE IMPERATIVES, WE DO OWE IT TO THE COMMUNITY TO GET THE ARRANGEMENTS IN PLACE AS SOON AS WE REASONABLY CAN AND I AM SURE THAT THAT'S RECOGNISED BY CHINESE NEGOTIATORS."

ON THE QUESTION WHETHER THERE IS SUFFICIENT TIME FOR LEGISLATORS TO CONSIDER THE BILL, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "I UNDERSTAND WHY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IS KEEN THAT WE SHOULD KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM AS MUCH AS WE CAN.

"I THINK TO BE HONEST IF IN RESPONSE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, WE WERE TO SAY ALRIGHT FROM NOW ON, WE'LL REVEAL EVERYTHING THAT'S GOING ON, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL BE HORRIFIED BECAUSE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY WOULD RECKON IN MY JUDGMENT THAT THAT WAS NOT A VERY HELPFUL WAY OF CONDUCTING SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS.

"I THINK THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDERSTANDABLY WANTS TO HAVE, IN DUE COURSE, THE OPPORTUNITY FOR FULLY DEBATING WHATEVER PROPOSALS EMERGE, AS WE HOPE THEY WILL, FROM THE TALKS WITH CHINA. AND I THINK THAT THEY QUITE PROPERLY WANT TO HAVE ADEQUATE TIME TO DEAL WITH THE LEGISLATION"

ASKED ABOUT THE DECISION OF A LEGCO PANEL TO STUDY THE BILL THIS MORNING, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "I THINK MYSELF THAT STUDY IS ALWAYS A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY OF APPROACHING PROBLEMS. BETTER TO STUDY THE MATTER FIRST, RATHER THAN MAKE A LOT OF NOISE BEFORE YOU STUDY THE ISSUE.

"SO I DON'T THINK THAT STUDYING THE PROPOSALS THAT WE PUT FORWARD LAST OCTOBER WHICH HAD BEEN DEBATED ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COULD IN ANY WAY BE AN OBSTACLE TO THE SMOOTH PROGRESS OF THE TALKS WHICH WE HOPE ALL OF US WILL LEAD IN DUE COURSE TO A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION."

RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ON THE PASSPORT ISSUE, MR GOODLAD SAID THAT HE WOULD BE HAVING DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE ISSUE WITH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TOMORROW.

"THERE IS A DELEGATION FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMING TO LONDON EARLY IN JUNE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. WE WILL LISTEN VERY CAREFULLY TO WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY BEFORE WE PUT FORWARD THE ORDER IN COUNCIL," HE ADDED.

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HK HAS CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, THE RT HON ALASTAIR GOODLAD, SAID EVERYTHING IN HONG KONG WAS GOING EXTREMELY WELL AND THAT THERE WAS ENORMOUS CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE.

"WE'LL PROCEED FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH," HE TOLD THE MEDIA AFTER ATTENDING A COMMUNITY LUNCH TODAY (MONDAY) AS PART OF HIS FOUR-DAY VISIT TO HONG KONG.

HE SAID HE HAD TALKED TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY ABOUT A NUMBER OF TOPICS, INCLUDING THE ENVIRONMENT, NATIONALITY, BUSINESS CONDITIONS AND CONFIDENCE, AND THE CONCERN OF THE HEUNG YEE KUK.

THIS MORNING MR GOODLAD ALSO DISCUSSED A NUMBER OF POLITICAL AND OTHER ISSUES WITH THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

HE REAFFIRMED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF IMPLEMENTING THE JOINT DECLARATION FOR THE GREATER PROSPERITY AND STABILITY OF HONG KONG.

"WE HAVE BEEN ASKING SINCE LAST SEPTEMBER FOR TALKS WITH THE CHINESE AND I'M DELIGHTED TO SAY THAT WE ARE NOW HAVING TALKS WITH THE CHINESE," HE SAID.

RESPONDING TO A QUESTION ABOUT HOW LONG THE TALKS LAST, MR GOODLAD SAID: "THERE IS NO DEADLINE ON THE TALKS. OBVIOUSLY THEY MUSTN'T CONTINUE INDEFINITELY BUT THERE MUST BE ADEQUATE TIME TO COVER A WIDE RANGE OF IMPORTANT ISSUES."

"WE MUST MAKE SURE THAT THERE IS ADEQUATE TIME TO THE LEGISLATION," HE ADDED.

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FOREIGN MINISTER VISITS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT
AND TSUEN WAN

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THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR HONG KONG, MR ALASTAIR GOODLAD, THIS (MONDAY) MORNING TOOK A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION WORK IN HONG KONG.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DR STUART REED, MR GOODLAD ARRIVED AT THE OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT'S AIR SERVICES GROUP IN REVENUE TOWER.

HE TOURED THE LABORATORIES AND WAS BRIEFED ON THE OPERATION OF THE AIR QUALITY MONITORING NETWORK IN HONG KONG.

/MR GOODLAD

MR GOODLAD THEN WENT ON BOARD THE DEPARTMENT'S WATER QUALITY MONITORING VESSEL "DR CATHERINE LAM" AND TRAVELLED TO THE YAU MA TEI TYPHOON SHELTER AND THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION AREA.

HE WAS BRIEFED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICIALS ON THE POSITION TRACKING SYSTEM AND THE COMPUTERISED WATER QUALITY MEASUREMENT SYSTEM INSTALLED ON THE VESSEL.

MR GOODLAD WAS ALSO PROVIDED WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT HONG KONG'S SEWAGE STRATEGY, THE PROGRESS OF THE RECLAMATION PROJECTS AND THE ASSOCIATED ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS BEING MONITORED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS OFFICE.

THIS AFTERNOON HE TOURED TSUEN WAN DISTRICT AS PART OF HIS VISIT ITINERARY TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THE MINISTER STARTED THE TOUR BY CALLING AT THE SHEK WAI KOK SOCIAL CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY WHERE HE SAW ELDERLY ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

OPENED IN 1982, THE CENTRE IS ONE OF THE THREE WELFARE SERVICE UNITS OPERATED BY THE NON-PROFIT-MAKING HONG KONG SOCIETY FOR THE AGED IN TSUEN WAN.

THE VISITING PARTY THEN WENT TO THE ROOFTOP OF A BUILDING IN TSUEN KING CIRCUIT FOR A PANORAMIC VIEW OF TSUEN WAN AND A BRIEFING ON THE DISTRICT'S DEVELOPMENTS INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ROUTE 5 EXTENSION AND RELATED PROJECTS.

THE PROPOSED EXTENSION IS DESIGNED TO ENABLE TRAFFIC FROM THE TSUEN WAN SECTION OF THE TUEN MUN ROAD TO GO NON-STOP TO SHA TIN VIA THE SHING MUN TUNNEL, BY-PASSING TSUEN WAN.

LATER THE PARTY WENT TO TSUEN WAN PLAZA, ONE OF THE LARGEST COMMERCIAL COMPLEXES IN THE DISTRICT, AND TOURED THE SHOPPING ARCADE THERE.

BEFORE CONCLUDING HIS VISIT, THE MINISTER AND THE GOVERNOR MET DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND OTHER LOCAL COMMUNITY LEADERS OVER A TEA RECEPTION.

ALSO ACCOMPANYING MR GOODLAD ON THE TOUR WERE THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR NEW TERRITORIES, MR ALBERT LAM, AND THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR THOMAS CHOW.

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SUBSCRIPTION TV LICENCE HANDED OVER TO WHARF

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THE SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION BROADCASTING PROJECT NOW UNDERTAKEN BY WHARF CABLE IS ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE WORLD, THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, SAID.

AND IT IS ALSO GOING TO BE HIGHLY BENEFICIAL TO HONG KONG BOTH SOCIALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, HE ADDED.

SPEAKING AT THE WHARF CABLE LICENCE PRESENTATION CEREMONY THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON, MR SO SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED THAT THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, RECOGNISED THIS AND GAVE THEIR BLESSING TO THE WHARF CABLE LICENCE WHICH STRADDLED 1997 AND EXTENDED WELL INTO THE NEXT CENTURY.

THE SECRETARY TOLD THE GATHERING THAT THE ROAD TO PROVIDE HONG KONG WITH SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION HAD HAD ITS BUMPS ALONG THE WAY.

"WE HAVE BURNT THE MIDNIGHT OIL ON MANY OCCASIONS," HE SAID. "BUT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION OF ALL CONCERNED, WE ARE NOW PLEASED TO SEE THE FRUITS OF OUR EFFORTS.

"I WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION TO ONE AND ALL FOR WORKING SO HARD AND PATIENTLY TO BRING ABOUT THIS MOST EXCITING PROJECT."

MR SO WAS PARTICULARLY THANKFUL TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY WHOSE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE OVER THE YEARS SINCE SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION WAS FIRST MOOTED HAD BEEN MOST INVALUABLE.

HE ALSO PAID TRIBUTE TO THOSE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WHO HAD SUBJECTED THEMSELVES TO THE RIGOROUS TIME-TABLE IN BILLS COMMITTEE TO ENSURE THAT THE TELEVISION (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE 1993 WAS ENACTED IN GOOD TIME TO SECURE A LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR LICENSING SUBSCRIPTION TELEVISION.

CONCLUDING, MR SO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT WHARF CABLE WOULD FULFIL THEIR PLEDGE TO BUILD THE NETWORK, TO ROLL OUT THE CHANNELS AND TO DELIVER A WIDE CHOICE OF GOOD QUALITY PROGRAMMES IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR TO MEET THE ASPIRATIONS AND EXPECTATIONS OF HONG KONG VIEWERS.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR APRIL

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HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS DECREASED DURING APRIL, MAINLY DUE TO THE HIGH BASE OF COMPARISON IN MARCH AND THE REFUNDING OF SHARES SUBSCRIPTION MONIES, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY.

CONSISTENT WITH THIS, THE BROADEST HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY, M3, FELL IN APRIL. ON THE OTHER HAND, HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS AND ADVANCES INCREASED DURING THE MONTH.

DEPOSITS

INFLUENCED BY THE HIGH COMPARISON BASE IN MARCH DUE TO A SHARE FLOTATION EXERCISE, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS, ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE SWAP DEPOSITS, FELL BY 0.6% IN APRIL FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.2% AND 5.7% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE DEPOSITS, DEMAND DEPOSITS AND SAVINGS DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 6.1% AND 3.0% RESPECTIVELY WHILE TIME DEPOSITS DECREASED BY 4.3%. YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 19.8%.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS WITH AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 1.8% IN APRIL, AFTER AN INCREASE OF 0.1% IN FEBRUARY AND A DECREASE OF 0.2% IN MARCH.

OF THESE DEPOSITS, U.S. DOLLAR DEPOSITS AND NON-U.S. DOLLAR FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS INCREASED BY 2.8% AND 0.9% RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, TOTAL FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 11.1%.

DURING APRIL, DEPOSITS IN ALL CURRENCIES WITH LICENSED BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED BY 1.4% AND 1.6% RESPECTIVELY WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS DROPPED BY 28.9%.

YEAR-ON-YEAR, DEPOSITS WITH LICENSED BANKS GREW BY 16.7% WHILE DEPOSITS WITH RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECLINED BY 31.7% AND 14.5% RESPECTIVELY.

MONEY SUPPLY

HK\$M1 AND HK\$M2 INCREASED BY 4.3% AND 0.5% RESPECTIVELY IN APRIL WHILE HK\$M3 DECREASED BY 0.4%. THEIR CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN MARCH WERE 6.4%, 5.4% AND 5.2% RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 27.3%, 21.5% AND 19.8% RESPECTIVELY.

TOTAL M1, M2 AND M3 INCREASED BY 4.2%, 1.4% AND 0.7% IN APRIL RESPECTIVELY. THEIR CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES IN MARCH WERE 5.0%, 2.5% AND 2.3% RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE MONETARY AGGREGATES INCREASED BY 24.4%, 16.8% AND 15.2% RESPECTIVELY.

/LOANS AND

LOANS AND ADVANCES

TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCREASED BY 2.6% IN APRIL, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 3.6% AND 1.9% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY.

AMONG THESE LOANS, HONG KONG DOLLAR LOANS INCREASED BY 0.4% WHILE FOREIGN CURRENCY LOANS INCREASED BY 3.7%. COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 14.0% AND 20.4% RESPECTIVELY.

LOANS TO FINANCE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG INCREASED BY 3.6% IN APRIL, AFTER INCREASES OF 0.3% AND 1.5% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, SUCH LOANS GREW BY 12.8%.

OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG INCREASED BY 0.8% IN APRIL, FOLLOWING INCREASES OF 1.3% AND 3.4% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS INCREASED BY 14.6%.

LOANS FOR USE OUTSIDE HONG KONG INCREASED BY 3.6% IN APRIL, AFTER INCREASES OF 5.4% AND 0.9% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 21.7%. LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE NOT TOUCHING HONG KONG DECREASED BY 1.2% DURING APRIL, AFTER INCREASES OF 1.4% AND 1.6% IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH RESPECTIVELY. YEAR-ON-YEAR, THESE LOANS DECREASED BY 13.6%.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS INCREASED BY THREE TO 164. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING RESTRICTED LICENCE BANKS DECREASED BY THREE TO 55 WHILE THAT OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 143.

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/TABLE 1 :

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - APRIL 1993

	(HK\$mn)			
	Apr 1993	Earlier months (% change to Apr 1993)		
		Mar 1993	Jan 1993	Apr 1992
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	148,781	142,682 (4.3)	144,303 (3.1)	116,907 (27.3)
Foreign currency	15,436	14,940 (3.3)	18,495 (-16.5)	15,072 (2.4)
Total	164,218	157,621 (4.2)	162,798 (0.9)	131,979 (24.4)
M2 - HK\$*	790,573	786,607 (0.5)	744,538 (6.2)	650,471 (21.5)
Foreign currency*	840,566	822,440 (2.2)	821,976 (2.3)	745,938 (12.7)
Total	1,631,139	1,609,047 (1.4)	1,566,514 (4.1)	1,396,409 (16.8)
M3 - HK\$*	806,388	809,784 (-0.4)	768,082 (5.0)	673,263 (19.8)
Foreign currency*	870,906	855,276 (1.8)	855,577 (1.8)	783,058 (11.2)
Total	1,677,294	1,665,060 (0.7)	1,623,659 (3.3)	1,456,321 (15.2)
Notes and coins in circulation	63,439	62,274 (1.9)	70,341 (-9.8)	51,630 (22.9)
of which held by public	55,300	54,584 (1.3)	61,171 (-9.6)	44,706 (23.7)
<u>Total Deposits</u>				
Total Demand deposits	108,918	103,037 (5.7)	101,627 (7.2)	87,272 (24.8)
Total Savings deposits	376,004	363,671 (3.4)	356,436 (5.5)	312,730 (20.2)
Total Time deposits with licensed banks	1,073,448	1,070,742 (0.3)	1,029,652 (4.3)	935,672 (14.7)
Total Time deposits with restricted licence banks	24,890	35,024 (-28.9)	36,821 (-32.4)	36,422 (-31.7)
Total Time deposits with deposit-taking companies	18,211	17,916 (1.6)	18,617 (-2.2)	21,290 (-14.5)
HK\$ deposits*	737,123	741,205 (-0.6)	692,941 (6.4)	615,135 (19.8)
US\$ deposits*	419,309	407,982 (2.8)	420,363 (-0.3)	316,439 (32.5)
Other foreign currency deposits*	445,039	441,203 (0.9)	429,848 (3.5)	461,812 (-3.6)
All deposits	1,601,472	1,590,390 (0.7)	1,543,152 (3.8)	1,393,386 (14.9)
Foreign currency swap deposits	61,171	61,211 (-0.1)	59,783 (2.3)	44,536 (37.4)
<u>Total Loans and advances</u>				
To finance H.K.'s visible trade	96,531	93,184 (3.6)	91,514 (5.5)	85,558 (12.8)
To finance merchandising trade not touching H.K.	12,237	12,390 (-1.2)	12,026 (1.8)	14,159 (-13.6)
Other loans for use in H.K.	975,635	967,709 (0.8)	923,694 (5.6)	851,597 (14.6)
Other loans for use outside H.K.	1,559,887	1,505,041 (3.6)	1,415,836 (10.2 *)	1,282,065 (21.7)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	43,272	40,732 (6.2)	38,102 (13.6)	38,529 (12.3)
Loans in HK\$	866,327	862,860 (0.4)	823,506 (5.2)	759,684 (14.0)
Loans in foreign currencies	1,821,234	1,756,196 (3.7)	1,657,665 (9.9)	1,512,224 (20.4)
Total loans and advances	2,687,562	2,619,056 (2.6)	2,481,171 (8.3)	2,271,908 (18.3)

* Adjusted for foreign currency swap deposits. Starting from April 1991, swap deposits can further be broken down into US dollar and non-US dollar foreign currency swap deposits.

Note: 'Restricted licence banks' and 'deposit-taking companies' were known as 'licensed deposit-taking companies' and 'registered deposit-taking companies' respectively before 1 February 1990.

DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS FOR FIRST QUARTER

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IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, THE THREE MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUPS OF TEXTILES, CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, AND WEARING APPAREL TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 54% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INCREASED BY 6% OVER A YEAR EARLIER TO \$8.7 BILLION IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1993.

ON THE OTHER HAND, DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF TEXTILES DECREASED BY 6% TO \$8.7 BILLION. THOSE OF WEARING APPAREL ALSO DROPPED, BY 8% TO \$8.6 BILLION.

AS FOR THE OTHER INDUSTRY GROUPS, MORE SIGNIFICANT ABSOLUTE INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE FOUND IN THE GROUPS OF MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, PARTS AND COMPONENTS (+\$1,422 MILLION OR +27%); TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (+\$120 MILLION OR +28%); AND BEVERAGES (+\$81 MILLION OR +136%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INDUSTRY GROUPS WHICH RECORDED THE MORE NOTABLE ABSOLUTE DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED PLASTIC PRODUCTS (-\$380 MILLION OR -23%); PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (-\$378 MILLION OR -10%); AND FOOTWEAR (-\$42 MILLION OR -39%).

FOR THE PRODUCTS OF PETROLEUM AND COAL INDUSTRY AND THE RUBBER PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, ALTHOUGH THE ABSOLUTE VALUES OF THE CHANGES WERE NOT AS LARGE, MARKED PERCENTAGE DECLINES OF 31% AND 27% RESPECTIVELY WERE REGISTERED.

THE ABOVE STATISTICS ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN ARE DERIVED BY RE-GROUPING THE MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS ORIGINALLY GROUPED UNDER THE EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED. TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE EXCLUDED.

THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION USED IS THE HONG KONG STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (HSIC). THE HSIC IS TO BE DISTINGUISHED FROM THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) USED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

/IN COMPARISON,

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IN COMPARISON, THE HSIC IS MORE RELATED TO PRODUCTION PROCESSES WHEREAS THE SITC IS MORE GEARED TO END USES OF PRODUCTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID CAUTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN REFERRING TO THESE DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN.

THERE MAY BE SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING STAGES IN THE PRODUCTION OF CERTAIN MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS, HE SAID.

IN COMPILING THE ABOVE STATISTICS, THE TOTAL VALUE OF SUCH AN ITEM HAS HOWEVER BEEN WHOLLY RELATED TO THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH THE ITEM IS FINALLY PRODUCED.

DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS OF A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY PRODUCED ABOVE MAY INCLUDE PRODUCTS WHICH ARE PRODUCED AS SECONDARY PRODUCTS BY ESTABLISHMENTS BELONGING TO OTHER INDUSTRIES.

FURTHER DETAILS OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN MAY BE FOUND IN TABLE 1 WHICH IS OBTAINABLE FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL 839 3223).

A TABLE SHOWING MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF SIMILAR STATISTICS FOR MAJOR MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, MARCH 1993".

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/Table 1

Table 1: Domestic exports of manufactured goods classified by industrial origin
for the first quarter of 1993

(Value in HK\$'000)

Industrial origin of the commodities exported	Merchandise domestic exports			
	1993 1st qtr.	1992 1st qtr.	Value change	% change
Food	515,918	490,188	+25,730	+5.2
Beverages	140,244	59,519	+80,725	+135.6
Tobacco manufactures	553,714	434,107	+119,607	+27.6
Textiles (including knitting)	8,706,593	9,218,649	-512,056	-5.6
Wearing apparel, except footwear	8,633,331	9,374,119	-740,787	-7.9
Leather and leather products, except footwear and wearing apparel	368,998	378,104	-9,106	-2.4
Footwear, except rubber, plastic and wooden footwear	66,687	108,620	-41,933	-38.6
Wood and cork products, furniture and fixtures	92,543	125,719	-33,176	-26.4
Paper and paper products, printing and publishing	1,647,131	1,586,174	+60,957	+3.8
Chemicals and chemical products	1,537,951	1,465,281	+72,670	+5.0
Products of petroleum and coal	2,002	2,881	-879	-30.5
Rubber products	20,559	28,066	-7,507	-26.7
Plastic products	1,312,868	1,693,244	-380,375	-22.5
Non-metallic mineral products, except products of petroleum and coal	105,545	120,350	-14,805	-12.3
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	2,191,506	2,191,710	-204	*
Machinery, equipment, apparatus, parts and components	6,675,048	5,253,414	+1,421,634	+27.1
Consumer electrical and electronic products	8,702,384	8,250,781	+451,603	+5.5
Transport equipment	38,778	52,279	-13,501	-25.8
Professional and optical equipment	3,622,901	4,001,011	-378,110	-9.5
Other manufacturing industries	3,091,846	3,361,914	-270,068	-8.0
Total	48,026,548	48,196,129	-169,581	-0.4

* Change within $\pm 0.05\%$

Notes : 1. Individual entries of a column may not add up exactly to the corresponding total due to rounding. All percentage changes are calculated from unrounded figures.

2. The above statistics are derived by re-grouping the merchandise export items under the external trade classification system according to the industries in which these items are normally produced. As from 1992, the Third Revision of the Standard International Trade Classification (SITC R3) has been adopted in place of the Second Revision (SITC R2) for the classification of trade statistics. The above statistics may not be strictly comparable with those published for earlier years due to the change in trade classification.

Industrial Research Section,
Census & Statistics Department,
Hong Kong.

Tel. : 839 3223

May 1993

MONDAY, MAY 31, 1993

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GOVERNOR PRESENTS INSIGNIA AND COMMENDATIONS TO 117

* * * * *

INSIGNIA AND COMMENDATIONS FOR 117 PEOPLE WERE PRESENTED BY THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, AT A CEREMONY AT THE GOVERNMENT HOUSE THIS (MONDAY) EVENING.

SEVENTY-FIVE RECIPIENTS WERE DECORATED BY THE QUEEN FOR SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC. TEN WERE AWARDED THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS WHILE 32 WERE GIVEN THE GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE.

FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF INSIGNIA RECIPIENTS:

CBE

PROFESSOR CHARLES K KAO
THE HONOURABLE ANDREW LI KWOK-NANG
MR YEUNG KAI-YIN

OBE

THE HONOURABLE MRS PEGGY LAM PEI YU-DJA
MR JAMES TIEN PEI-CHUN
THE HONOURABLE PETER WONG HONG-YUEN

ISO

MR ADOLF HSU HSUNG

MBE

MR ARCHIBALD JOHN CHAN TAI-WING
MR ALBERT LAI KWOK-WING
MR LAU CHAK-BUN
MR SIMON LEE KWOK-YIN
MR LI SHIU-TSANG
MR JOHN LOK HSIAO-PEI
MRS VALERIE JEAN MCCOSH
MR RALPH PIXTON

HONORARY MBE

MR HO MAN-FAT
MR MOK YIU-KWONG
MR LAURENCE TAM CHI-SING
MR TAM CHUNG-DING

/MBE (MILITARY DIVISION)

MBE (MILITARY DIVISION)

MAJOR MICHAEL IP WING-HUNG

BEM

MR CHAN SIK-YIU
MR JOHN CHAU SINN-TSUN
MR CHEUNG SHIU-HAY
MR CHEUNG SHUI
MR CHUNG KI-SUM
MR MOSES LAM
MR LAU HON-WAH
MRS KIMMY LEUNG CHAN SHUK-YING
MR LO YIU-CHO
MR PANG KEE-KEUNG
WARRANT OFFICER 2 BANDMASTER TEODULO TOPACIO SARREAL
MR TSUI KUM-BOR
MR TUNG SHIU-BIU
MR WONG KAI-CHIH
MR WONG WAI-MAN
MISS CISSY YEUNG

BEM (MILITARY DIVISION)

CORPORAL TSANG MOON-CHUEN

QPM

MR VINCENT FRANCIS DEREK CHAPMAN

QFSM

MR CHOW WING-CHEONG

ISM

MR LAU PO-KWONG
MR LEUNG KWONG-YAU

CPM

MR CHAN PING-KWONG
MR ROSS CRAWFORD WILLIAMS
MR FUNG KWOK-PING
MR JOHN CRICHTON STUART MCDOUALL
MR CLIFFORD LAMBURN
MR LAU KING-WAI
MR KWOK KWAN-YUNG
MR LO CHI-YUNG
MR LI YUN-LAM
MR TAM KWOK-FAI
MR WONG FU-KWAN
MR LOONG KONG-LOK
MR CHAN KWONG-CHING
MR LEE HING-TSAN
MR TSO KWOK-MING
MR CHIU KWOK-FAN

BADGE OF HONOUR

MR CHAN BING-WOON
MR CHAN CHUN-FAT
MR CHAN KOON-YAU
DR WILFRED CHAN SIU-YUEN
MR CHEUNG CHI-WING
MR CHEUNG CHUN-HOI
MR CHOW KEE-WING
MRS VIVIEN FUNG
MR LAU KONG-WAH
MR JOHN LEE KING-CHEUNG
MR STEPHEN LIU WING-TING
MR LO KWOK-FAI
MR MAK HOI-WAH
MR SHING YUEN-HING
MR VINCENT TO WAI-KEUNG
MR WONG LUNG-TAK
MR WONG PING-KUEN
MR WONG SIU-KEUNG

GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS

MR LAU YUNG-KAN
MR LAU CHI-HUNG
MR FONG YING-MING
MR LEE CHONG-WING
MR PIN CHI-HUNG
MR LEUNG CHI-KONG
MR LAU HOI-TUNG
MR WONG KWONG-CHI
MR TAM FAI-CHUN
MR SO YEUK-HON

GOVERNOR'S COMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

MR CHAN CHIU-SHEUNG
MR CHAN JOE-CHAK
MADAM CHAN KIT-WING
MR CHENG PARK-CHUNG
MR CHEUNG KWAI-YEUNG
MADAM CHUNG POON YIM-LING
MR CHUNG SHIU-NAM
FATHER ALFRED J DEIGNAN
MR HO TAI-WAI
MR LAI KWAI-YEUNG
MR LAU WAN-HEI
MR LEE KAM-CHUNG
MR LEE MAN-KEUNG
MADAM LEE TSUAN-E
MR LEUNG CHEE-FAI
MADAM LEUNG OI-CHUN
MR LI SING-PAK
MR LUI HON-KWONG
MR LUK WAI-KONG
MR NG CHI-TIN
MR MICHAEL PERRY PALITZ
MR ROBERT NORRIS PALITZ FOR THE LATE ALLEN BRUCE PALITZ
MR PANG CHO-YIU
MR PONG TIN-CHAM
MR TAN KIN
MR TANG CHE-WOON
MR WONG CHUN-LOY
MADAM WONG KWAI-WAN
MR WONG PING-WAN
MR WONG SHUI
MR WONG TAK-KEUNG
MR YANG YOI-KWAN

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DOUBLE ROW SCAFFOLD RECOMMENDED

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BUILDING CONTRACTORS ARE RECOMMENDED TO USE DOUBLE ROW SCAFFOLDS WITH SUITABLE WORKING PLATFORMS, TOE BOARDS AND GUARDRAILS TO SAFEGUARD WORKERS FROM FALLING FROM HEIGHT.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SEMINAR ON BAMBOO SCAFFOLDS SAFETY TODAY (MONDAY), THE ACTING CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT, MR KAN HON-SANG, SAID:

"SINGLE ROW SCAFFOLDS ARE COMMONLY USED IN HONG KONG BECAUSE THEY COULD BE PUT UP MORE QUICKLY AT A LOWER COST."

HOWEVER, AS A SAFE AND SUITABLE WORKING PLATFORM COULD NOT BE SET UP ON THIS TYPE OF SCAFFOLDS, THE SAFETY OF THE WORKERS ON THE SCAFFOLDS COULD NOT BE EFFECTIVELY PROTECTED.

/MR KAN

MR KAN NOTED THAT A DECREASING TREND WAS SHOWN IN THE NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS.

"THE DROP OF 18.6 PER CENT IN ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IN 1992 AS COMPARED WITH 1991 ALSO REVEALED THAT THE ACCIDENT NUMBER IS THE LOWEST IN THE PAST EIGHT YEARS," HE SAID.

HOWEVER, IT REMAINS THE MOST DANGEROUS TRADE IN HONG KONG BECAUSE HALF OF THE 48 PERSONS KILLED IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IN 1992 WERE RESULTED FROM FALLING FROM HEIGHT, HE ADDED.

MANY OF THEM WERE RELATED TO UNSAFE OR NON-STANDARD SCAFFOLDS.

MR KAN SAID IN VIEW OF THIS, ONE OF THE MAJOR AREAS OF WORK IN THE FACTORY INSPECTORATE DIVISION THIS YEAR WAS TO PROMOTE THE SAFETY OF SCAFFOLDS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

HE POINTED OUT THAT DOUBLE ROW SCAFFOLDS WERE EXTENSIVELY USED IN CHINA.

"WE HOPE, THROUGH ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND DISCUSSION, DOUBLE ROW SCAFFOLDS WILL BE ADOPTED IN HONG KONG TO PROVIDE A SAFER WORKING ENVIRONMENT TO WORKERS AND HELP IN MINIMISING ACCIDENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY," MR KAN SAID.

THE SEMINAR, HELD IN THE VICTORIA BALLROOM OF THE VICTORIA HOTEL IN CENTRAL, WAS ORGANISED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND SPONSORED BY THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH COUNCIL.

EXPERTS FROM THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR OF THE GUANGDONG PROVINCE, CHINA, GAVE TALKS ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF DOUBLE ROW SCAFFOLDS TO MORE THAN 200 PARTICIPANTS FROM THE CONSTRUCTION AND SCAFFOLD FIELDS.

IN ADDITION, A FORUM WAS ORGANISED TO ENABLE PARTICIPANTS TO SHARE EXPERIENCE WITH THE CHINESE EXPERTS.

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COMMITTEE ENDORSES CONTROL ON CHILD MINDING ACTIVITIES

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) AT ITS MEETING TODAY (MONDAY) ENDORSED A PROPOSED BILL TO CONTROL CHILD MINDING ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE CHILD CARE CENTRES.

MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE FOLLOWING AIMS OF THE PROPOSED CHILD CARE CENTRES (AMENDMENT) BILL:

- * TO PROHIBIT A PERSON FROM ACTING AS A CHILD MINDER IF HE HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF AN OFFENCE SPECIFIED IN A SCHEDULE IN HONG KONG OR ELSEWHERE;

/* TO PROHIBIT

- * TO PROHIBIT A PERSON FROM ACTING AS A CHILD MINDER IF HE HAS CAUSED THE DEATH OF A CHILD AS A RESULT OF HIS IMPROPER CARE AS A CHILD MINDER;
- * TO EMPOWER THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE TO ENTER AND SEARCH PREMISES IN WHICH HE BELIEVES A PROHIBITED PERSON IS ACTING AS A CHILD MINDER;

THE MEMBERS, AFTER TAKING IN THE VIEWS OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS, DECIDED THAT THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION SHOULD BE TAKEN FORWARD.

SWAC CHAIRMAN MR ERIC LI SAID THE USE OF LEGISLATION ITSELF MIGHT BE LIMITED BUT IT WOULD SET THE MINIMAL ENFORCIBLE REQUIREMENT.

"IT WILL ALSO LEAVE PLENTY OF ROOM FOR OTHER POSITIVE MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT THE SAME TIME," HE ADDED.

UNDER THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION A PARENT CAN CHECK WITH THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE WHETHER A PROSPECTIVE CHILD MINDER IS A "PROHIBITED PERSON".

MEMBERS SUGGESTED THAT SUCH MINDER SHOULD BE SENT A DUPLICATE OF THE NOTIFICATION THAT HE OR SHE IS NOT A "PROHIBITED PERSON" UNDER THE PROPOSED BILL.

HOWEVER, MEMBERS ALSO NOTED THAT THE NOTIFICATION COULD ONLY SERVE THE PURPOSE OF CERTIFYING THAT THE PROSPECTIVE CHILD MINDER HAD NOT COMMITTED ANY OF THE OFFENCES SPECIFIED UNDER THE ORDINANCE AT THE TIME OF THE ISSUE OF THE NOTICE.

MR LI ALSO URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO ENCOURAGE PARENTS TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE IN CHOOSING GOOD CHILD MINDERS.

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APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF
SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION

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THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, UNDER THE DELEGATED AUTHORITY FROM THE GOVERNOR, HAS APPOINTED MR ROBERT GEORGE KOTEWALL, QC, AS A NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION FOR TWO YEARS FROM JUNE 1, 1993 TO MAY 31, 1995.

HE WILL REPLACE MR DAVID GLEDHILL, WHO HAS SERVED ON THE COMMISSION SINCE 1990.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS ALSO RE-APPOINTED MR LEE HON-CHIU AS A NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FROM AUGUST 1, 1993 TO JULY 31, 1994.

/THESE FOLLOW

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THESE FOLLOW THE APPOINTMENT OF MR VINCENT CHENG AND THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MR RODERICK CHALMERS TO THE COMMISSION WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED IN LAST APRIL.

UNDER SECTION 5 OF THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION ORDINANCE, THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT NOT LESS THAN EIGHT DIRECTORS OF THE COMMISSION, HALF OF WHOM SHALL BE NON-EXECUTIVE. AT PRESENT, THE COMMISSION IS SERVED BY FIVE NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS.

"I WOULD LIKE TO THANK MR GLEDHILL FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMISSION IN THE PAST THREE YEARS. I AM SURE MR KOTEWALL AND THE OTHER NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS WILL CONTINUE TO BRING AN INDEPENDENT VIEW TO THE MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATION OF THE COMMISSION," THE SECRETARY FOR FINANCIAL SERVICES, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, SAID.

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LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL EXTENDED TO YUEN LONG NEW TOWNS

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME WOULD BE EXTENDED TO THE SAN TIN AREA, LAU FAU SHAN ENVIRONS AND MAU WU TSAI VILLAGE AND ENVIRONS TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

FARMERS WHO ARE AFFECTED BY THE SCHEME ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"THOSE WHO WISH TO CONTINUE THEIR BUSINESS CAN APPLY FOR A CAPITAL GRANT AND LOW INTEREST LOAN TO COVER THE COST OF POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT, WHILE THOSE WHO PREFER TO CEASE BUSINESS RATHER THAN INSTALL THE NECESSARY POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITIES CAN APPLY FOR AN EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE," HE SAID.

"A PRE-OPERATIONAL SURVEY TO RECORD ACTIVE LIVESTOCK FARMS IN THE AFFECTED AREAS HAS BEEN COMPLETED, AND LETTERS INVITING FARMERS TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE HAVE ALREADY BEEN SENT TO AFFECTED FARMS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

OPERATORS OF LIVESTOCK FARMS IN THE AREAS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN SURVEYED SHOULD CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 650 6844.

"AT PRESENT THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME IS BEING REVIEWED AND IT HAS BEEN AGREED THAT NO ENFORCEMENT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN IN THE SAN TIN, LAU FAU SHAN AND MAU WU TSAI AREAS UNTIL THE REVIEW HAS BEEN COMPLETED."

"HOWEVER, ANY FARMERS WHO ACCEPT EX-GRATIA ALLOWANCE AND THEN LATER RESTART FARMING ACTIVITIES WILL BE REGARDED AS OPERATING NEW FARMS AND WILL BE PROSECUTED IF THEY ARE FOUND NOT COMPLYING WITH THE REGULATION," HE ADDED.

/THE EXTENSION

THE EXTENSION OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE CONTROL SCHEME TO THE SAN TIN AREA, LAU FAU SHAN ENVIRONS AND MAU WU TSAI VILLAGE AND ENVIRONS IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE SET DOWN IN THE WASTE DISPOSAL ORDINANCE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE NEXT AREAS TO COME UNDER CONTROL WOULD BE SAI KUNG AREA AND TSEUNG KWAN O ENVIRONS IN JUNE NEXT YEAR.

HE REMINDED LIVESTOCK FARMERS IN THE AREAS TO RETAIN RELEVANT DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE OF THEIR FARMING ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS RECEIPTS FOR PURCHASE OF FEEDSTUFF OR INVOICES FOR SALE OF LIVESTOCK, IF THEY WISHED TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AT THAT TIME.

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SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STUDIES

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APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND THE MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND WILL BE OPEN FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE CAN BE OBTAINED IN THE FORM OF SCHOLARSHIP, GRANTS AND INTEREST-FREE LOANS FROM THE TWO FUNDS WHICH ARE ADMINISTERED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND MARINE FISH SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEES SAID TODAY (MONDAY) THAT APPLICATION FORMS WOULD BE AVAILABLE TOMORROW FROM THE AFD HEADQUARTERS, 12TH FLOOR, CANTON ROAD GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 393 CANTON ROAD, AND FROM VARIOUS DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES LIAISON OFFICES.

THE FUNDS WERE SET UP IN 1978 TO HELP PEOPLE WISHING TO SERVE THE LOCAL AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES INDUSTRIES OR RELATED TRADES ON COMPLETION OF THEIR STUDIES, AND ALSO THOSE EMPLOYED IN THE INDUSTRIES WISHING TO PURSUE FURTHER TRAINING.

ANOTHER AIM OF THE FUNDS IS TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN OR DEPENDENTS OF FARMING AND FISHING FAMILIES TO COMPLETE THEIR TERTIARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLING.

APPLICATIONS FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDIES IN THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR WILL CLOSE ON JULY 16 WHILE THOSE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 18.

THE AWARDS WILL BE TENABLE AT ANY UNIVERSITY IN HONG KONG, THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC, CITY POLYTECHNIC, BAPTIST COLLEGE, ANY ACCEPTABLE OVERSEAS INSTITUTION AND AT ANY SECONDARY SCHOOL IN THE TERRITORY.

APPLICANTS IN TERTIARY EDUCATION SHOULD BE HONG KONG RESIDENTS UNDER 30 YEARS OF AGE WHILE SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICANTS SHOULD BE STUDENTS IN FORMS FOUR TO SEVEN, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

APPROVED COURSES FOR TERTIARY EDUCATION INCLUDE THOSE ON AGRICULTURE, VETERINARY SCIENCE, MARINE SCIENCE AND BIOLOGY OR ANY APPLIED SCIENCE DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO THE LOCAL AGRICULTURE OR FISHERIES AND RELATED TRADES.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE FUNDS AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 733 2249 DURING OFFICE HOURS.

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BUS LANE CUTS JOURNEY TIME
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THE OPENING OF A CONTINUOUS BUS LANE ON HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AND LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD IN SHA TIN LAST MONTH HAS CUT BUS JOURNEY TIME BY 1.5 MINUTES DURING THE MORNING PEAK HOUR OF 8 AM TO 9 AM.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THE LANE ENABLED BUSES TO BYPASS THE HEAVY SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC ON LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD.

HE SAID AT PRESENT ABOUT 12,500 PASSENGERS ON 18 KOWLOON MOTOR BUS ROUTES USING THE BUS LANE DURING THE MORNING PEAK HOUR WERE BENEFITED BY THE TIME SAVING.

"MORE TIME WILL BE SAVED WHEN TRAFFIC ALONG LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD BUILDS UP FURTHER IN FUTURE," HE SAID.

IN ORDER TO INTRODUCE THE BUS LANE, THE HUNG MUI KUK INTERCHANGE HAS BEEN WIDENED TO PROVIDE ONE ADDITIONAL SOUTHBOUND LANE AT A COST OF \$5 MILLION.

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MORE CONVENIENT SERVICE FOR FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS
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FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS ARE REMINDED THAT FREE CONSULTATION AND CONCILIATION SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE (LRS) FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

"THE NEW ARRANGEMENT IS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT'S CONTINUED EFFORT IN EXPLORING WAYS TO PROVIDE CONVENIENT AND EFFICIENT SERVICE TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC," A LABOUR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

"AT PRESENT, DOMESTIC HELPERS AND THEIR EMPLOYERS HAVE TO VISIT THE FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS SERVICE (FDHS) ON THE 12TH FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, TO SEEK FREE CONSULTATION AND CONCILIATION ASSISTANCE.

"STARTING FROM TOMORROW, THEY CAN OBTAIN SIMILAR SERVICE FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S 11 LRS OFFICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY," HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE FDHS WILL CEASE OPERATION ON THE SAME DAY.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID MORE AND MORE DOMESTIC HELPERS ARE NOW WORKING IN HONG KONG AND THAT THEY ENJOY THE SAME STATUTORY BENEFITS AS THEIR LOCAL COUNTERPARTS.

"BY ADOPTING THE NEW ARRANGEMENT, DOMESTIC HELPERS AS WELL AS THEIR EMPLOYERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE LIVING IN REMOTE AREAS, WILL SAVE TIME AND EFFORTS IN SEEKING ASSISTANCE BECAUSE THEY CAN SIMPLY VISIT THE LRS BRANCH OFFICE WHICH IS NEAREST TO THEIR HOME," HE ADDED.

THE ADDRESSES OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE BRANCH OFFICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

HONG KONG EAST	EASTERN LAW COURT BUILDING 12TH FLOOR 29 TAI ON STREET SAI WAN HO, HONG KONG
HONG KONG WEST	WESTERN MAGISTRACY BUILDING THIRD FLOOR, 2A, POKFULAM ROAD HONG KONG
KOWLOON EAST	SAN PO KONG GOVERNMENT OFFICES 692 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD SAN PO KONG, KOWLOON
KOWLOON WEST	LAI HO HOUSE, FIRST LEVEL 125, 127 & 129-134 LAI KOK ESTATE CHEUNG SHA WAN, KOWLOON
KOWLOON SOUTH	PARK-IN COMMERCIAL CENTRE ROOM 1814 56 DUNDAS STREET MONG KOK, KOWLOON
KWUN TONG	KOWLOON EAST GOVERNMENT OFFICES SIXTH FLOOR 12 LEI YUE MUN ROAD KWUN TONG, KOWLOON
TSUEN WAN	TSUEN WAN GOVERNMENT OFFICES FIFTH FLOOR, 38 SAI LAU KOK ROAD TSUEN WAN, NEW TERRITORIES
KWAI CHUNG	KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES SIXTH FLOOR 166-174 HING FONG ROAD KWAI CHUNG, NEW TERRITORIES

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TUEN MUN	TUEN MUN GOVERNMENT OFFICES FIRST FLOOR 1 TUEN HI ROAD TUEN MUN, NEW TERRITORIES
TAI PO	TAI PO GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING THIRD FLOOR, TING KOK ROAD TAI PO, NEW TERRITORIES
SHA TIN	HILTON PLAZA LEVEL 3 SHOPS 8 & 20 3-9 SHA TIN CENTRE STREET SHA TIN, NEW TERRITORIES

ENQUIRIES RELATING TO FOREIGN DOMESTIC HELPERS CAN BE MADE TO THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S GENERAL ENQUIRY TELEPHONE SERVICE ON 717 1771.

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WEAK WATER SUPPLY TO LAI CHI KOK

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN LAI CHI KOK WILL TURN WEAK FROM 9 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 2) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE CONNECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

AREAS AFFECTED INCLUDE ALL THE PREMISES BOUNDED BY LAI WAN ROAD, KWAI CHUNG ROAD, BROADWAY AND THE SEAFRONT.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 52.9 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 310.250 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 335.260 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 57.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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TWO MOTION DEBATES ON LEGCO AGENDA

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL DEBATE TWO MOTIONS THIS WEDNESDAY.

THE FIRST MOTION, TO BE MOVED BY REV THE HON FUNG CHI-WOOD, IS ON A REVIEW OF MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC RENTAL HOUSING AND HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME ESTATES AND THE OTHER, BY THE HON K K FUNG, IS ON THE DISPARITY BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR IN HONG KONG.

THE HON HENRY TANG WILL PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT MOTION TO MR FUNG'S MOTION.

IN THE MEETING, THE CHIEF SECRETARY WILL PRESENT THE GOVERNMENT MINUTE IN RESPONSE TO THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE DATED MARCH 1993.

THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY WILL ALSO MOVE THREE MOTIONS UNDER THE BIRTHS AND DEATHS REGISTRATION ORDINANCE, THE FOREIGN MARRIAGE ORDINANCE AND THE LEGITIMACY ORDINANCE RESPECTIVELY.

MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 20 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER SEVEN BILLS.

FIVE OF THE BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. DEBATE ON THEM ARE DUE TO BE ADJOURNED.

THESE BILLS INCLUDE: EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993, BEDSPACE APARTMENTS BILL, INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) (NO.4) BILL 1993, BANK NOTES ISSUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993, EXCHANGE FUND (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993.

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

THEY ARE THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS (ADJOURNMENT DURING GALE WARNINGS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 AND THE EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993.

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

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
* * * * *

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,020
REVERSAL OF LAF	+130
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,150
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	+650
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-875
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,925
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 111.7 *+0.1* 31.5.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.97 PCT	15 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.77	3.75
1 MONTH	3.01 PCT	18 MONTHS	2411	4.625	101.06	3.91
3 MONTHS	3.15 PCT	21 MONTHS	2502	4.75	101.14	4.09
6 MONTHS	3.34 PCT	24 MONTHS	2505	3.75	99.14	4.25
12 MONTHS	3.63 PCT					
TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 22,039 MN						
CLOSED 31 MAY 1993						

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