



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN NOVEMBER 1990	1
WARMER, CLOUDIER AND MORE HUMID IN JANUARY	5
HIKERS INVITED TO ENTER VICTORIA PEAK WALKATHON	8
LABEL IMPRESSION TO CHANGE TO RAM DESIGN	8
TRAVELLERS REMINDED NOT TO BRING BACK PROHIBITED ITEMS	9
REST DAY FOR WOMEN WORKERS MUST BE OBSERVED	10
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MEMOIR FOR SAI KUNG AND CLEAR WATER BAY PUBLISHED	11
MORE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONS	12
CLEAN FORESHORE DRIVE IN ABERDEEN TOMORROW	13
DB FUNDS OPEN FOR APPLICATION	14

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

- 1 -

PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN NOVEMBER 1990

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS GREW BY 16 PER CENT IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1990 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (SUNDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THERE WAS AN OVERALL INCREASE OF 9 PER CENT IN THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES, HAVING DISCOUNTED THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 1 PER CENT AND 3 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE OF IMPORTS ROSE BY 2 PER CENT. AS A RESULT, THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX (EXPRESSED AS A RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX) SHOWED A LITTLE INCREASE.

PRICES ARE BASED ON UNIT VALUES WHICH DO NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OR QUALITY OF GOODS TRADED, EXCEPT FOR SOME SELECTED COMMODITIES FOR WHICH SPECIFICATION PRICE INDEXES ARE AVAILABLE.

COMPARING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 1990 WITH NOVEMBER 1989, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 11 PER CENT, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 39 PER CENT.

TAKING THEM TOGETHER, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 33 PER CENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 1 PER CENT AND 2 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. IMPORT PRICES INCREASED BY 4 PER CENT.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP FOR NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (+36 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+26 PER CENT); TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (+19 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (+9 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+6 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+3 PER CENT); AND CLOTHING (+2 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN FOOTWEAR (-17 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-4 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-2 PER CENT); AND RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-2 PER CENT).

/THE PRICES

THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MOST COMMODITY GROUPS INCREASED IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989. THESE INCLUDED FOOTWEAR (+6 PER CENT); RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (+6 PER CENT); METAL MANUFACTURES (+6 PER CENT); DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES (+4 PER CENT); WATCHES AND CLOCKS (+3 PER CENT); TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+2 PER CENT); TEXTILE FABRICS (+1 PER CENT); AND CLOTHING (+1 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS (-4 PER CENT); METAL ORES AND SCRAP (-3 PER CENT); TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES (-2 PER CENT); AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES (-1 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

IMPORTS OF FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989. INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF ANIMALS OF THE BOVINE SPECIES; MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS; AND SWINE. DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SUGAR; SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL AND LARD; AND WHEAT AND FLOUR.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 38 PER CENT. COMMODITY ITEMS WITH CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME INCLUDED TOBACCO MANUFACTURES; FOOTWEAR; AND RADIOS, TELEVISION SETS, GRAMOPHONES, RECORDS, TAPE RECORDERS AND AMPLIFIERS.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 35 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989. INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR IRON AND STEEL; SPECIAL TEXTILE FABRICS FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSE; AND COTTON YARN AND THREAD. DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW COTTON; CRUDE ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE MATERIALS; AND WOOL AND OTHER ANIMAL HAIR.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 36 PER CENT IN VOLUME TERMS IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 30 PER CENT IN NOVEMBER 1990 OVER NOVEMBER 1989. SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN THE IMPORT VOLUME WERE RECORDED IN CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY; SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS; AND OFFICE MACHINES.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1990 WITH NOVEMBER 1989, THE IMPORT PRICES OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED: FUELS (+43 PER CENT); CAPITAL GOODS (+6 PER CENT); CONSUMER GOODS (+4 PER CENT); AND FOODSTUFFS (+3 PER CENT). ON THE OTHER HAND, THE IMPORT PRICES OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY FOR NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989 ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1990 WITH NOVEMBER 1989, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF CAPITAL GOODS; CONSUMER GOODS; RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES; AND FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 49 PER CENT, 46 PER CENT, 31 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS DECREASED BY 54 PER CENT.

PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS OF MOST END-USE CATEGORIES INCREASED IN NOVEMBER 1990 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1989: FUELS (+22 PER CENT); CONSUMER GOODS (+3 PER CENT); FOODSTUFFS (+3 PER CENT); AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES (+2 PER CENT). RE-EXPORT PRICES OF CAPITAL GOODS DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT.

FURTHER DETAILS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE NOVEMBER 1990 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS" WHICH WILL BE ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND FEBRUARY 13, 1991 AT \$3 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 INDEXES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO.: 823 4918).

TABLE 1: CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY GROUP	COMPARING NOV 1990 WITH NOV 1989			COMPARING JAN-NOV 1990 WITH JAN-NOV 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
CLOTHING	4	1	2	*	2	-1
TEXTILE FABRICS	7	1	6	3	3	1
TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD	-2	2	-4	-7	3	-10
TEXTILE MADE-UPS AND RELATED ARTICLES	-4	-2	-2	-11	1	-12
RADIOS OF ALL KINDS	4	6	-2	-29	2	-30
ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS	30	-4	36	19	*	19
FOOTWEAR	-12	6	-17	-21	3	-23

/METAL MANUFACTURES

- 4 -

METAL MANUFACTURES	4	6	-1	-12	6	-17
METAL ORES AND SCRAP	6	-3	9	-9	-4	-5
WATCHES AND CLOCKS	30	3	26	11	*	11
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR ARTICLES	18	-1	19	-15	2	-17
DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES	7	4	3	-22	1	-23
ALL COMMODITIES	13	1	11	1	1	-1

* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING NOV 1990 WITH NOV 1989			COMPARING JAN-NOV 1990 WITH JAN-NOV 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	13	3	9	8	3	5
CONSUMER GOODS	44	4	38	22	4	17
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	35	*	35	7	-1	8
FUELS	94	43	36	14	19	-4
CAPITAL GOODS	38	6	30	10	3	7
ALL COMMODITIES	38	4	33	13	2	11

* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 3: CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY

END-USE CATEGORY	COMPARING NOV 1990 WITH NOV 1989			COMPARING JAN-NOV 1990 WITH JAN-NOV 1989		
	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %	VALUE %	UNIT VALUE %	VOLUME %
FOODSTUFFS	11	3	9	*	1	-1
CONSUMER GOODS	51	3	46	32	4	27
RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES	33	2	31	6	3	3
FUELS	-44	22	-54	-3	9	-11
CAPITAL GOODS	48	-1	49	14	2	12
ALL COMMODITIES	42	2	39	19	3	16

* LESS THAN 0.5%

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WARMER, CLOUDIER AND MORE HUMID IN JANUARY

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JANUARY 1991 WAS ON THE WHOLE WARMER, CLOUDIER, AND MORE HUMID THAN NORMAL, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT RELEASED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY (SUNDAY).

THE MONTHLY MEAN MINIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 15.4 DEGREES WAS THE SEVENTH HIGHEST ON RECORD FOR JANUARY.

CLOUDY AND HUMID CONDITIONS WERE PARTICULARLY PRONOUNCED DURING THE FIRST HALF OF THE MONTH. THE TOTAL RAINFALL FOR THE MONTH AMOUNTED TO 28.7 MILLIMETRES, 23 PER CENT ABOVE THE JANUARY NORMAL OF 23.4 MILLIMETRES.

THE NEW YEAR WAS USHERED IN UNDER A THICK BLANKET OF MIST AND FOG. VISIBILITY INSIDE THE HARBOUR DROPPED TO LESS THAN 1,000 METRES IN THE MORNING.

THE FOG LIFTED TEMPORARILY DURING THE DAY AS SUNNY WEATHER RAISED THE TEMPERATURE TO 23.9 DEGREES, THE HIGHEST FOR THE MONTH. THE MIST AND FOG RETURNED SOON AFTER SUNSET, AND VISIBILITY NEAR CHEUNG CHAU WAS DOWN TO 200 METRES AT ONE STAGE.

/DUE TO

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

- 6 -

DUE TO THE FOGGY WEATHER, THREE INTER-ISLAND FERRY SERVICES HAD TO BE SUSPENDED AND JETFOIL SERVICES TO MACAU WERE ALSO DELAYED.

A MINOR REPLENISHMENT OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON BROUGHT A SLIGHT DROP IN TEMPERATURES ON JANUARY 2. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A FRESHENING OF THE EASTERLIES THE NEXT DAY.

THE WEATHER STAYED MAINLY FINE ON JANUARY 3 AND 4 APART FROM SOME MIST PATCHES OFFSHORE.

MEANWHILE, COLD AIR ACCUMULATING FOR DAYS OVER THE INLAND REGION OF GUANGDONG FINALLY BROKE THROUGH ON THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 4.

THE WEATHER TURNED OVERCAST WITH LIGHT RAIN AND THE TEMPERATURE AT THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY PLUNGED FROM A MIDNIGHT MAXIMUM OF ABOUT 19 DEGREES TO BELOW 12 DEGREES BY LATE AFTERNOON ON JANUARY 5.

FOR THE NEXT 10 DAYS, FURTHER REPLENISHMENT OF THE WINTER MONSOON MAINTAINED THE COOL AND DAMP CONDITIONS UNDER A CLOUDY SKY, CULMINATING IN THE MONTH'S LOWEST TEMPERATURE OF 11.7 DEGREES EARLY ON JANUARY 15.

APART FROM AN INTERLUDE ON JANUARY 9 AND 10, LIGHT RAIN AND DRIZZLE OCCURRED FROM TIME TO TIME.

THE RUSH OF COLD AIR FROM THE NORTH BECAME RELATIVELY SUBDUED FOR THE NEXT 10 DAYS.

FOLLOWING A FRESHENING OF THE EASTERLIES THE PREVIOUS EVENING, THE WEATHER ON JANUARY 18 WAS SLIGHTLY CLOUDIER. OFFSHORE AREAS WERE AFFECTED BY MIST PATCHES THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

COASTAL MIST OCCURRED AGAIN ON JANUARY 21 AND WAS ALSO REPORTED FOR THE NEXT FIVE CONSECUTIVE DAYS.

THE FRESHENING OF EASTERLIES ON JANUARY 22 AND 25 LED TO A FALL IN DAYTIME TEMPERATURES AND GENERALLY CLOUDIER WEATHER, WITH DRIZZLE IN THE EARLY HOURS OF JANUARY 23 AND 24.

A REPLENISHMENT OF THE WINTER MONSOON ARRIVED FROM THE NORTH ON THE EVENING OF JANUARY 26, BRINGING AT ITS ONSET SOME LIGHT RAIN AND APPRECIABLY COOLER CONDITIONS ON JANUARY 27.

FOLLOWING THE BREAKING OF CLOUDS EARLY ON JANUARY 28, DAYTIME CONDITIONS BECAME SUNNY AND MILD.

ALONG WITH THE CLOUDS, MORNING DRIZZLE AND OFFSHORE MIST RETURNED FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS OF THE MONTH.

MEANWHILE, THE ARRIVAL OF ANOTHER NORTHERLY REPLENISHMENT LED TO THE TEMPERATURE EMBARKING ON A DOWNWARD TREND ON THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 31.

THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA WERE DEVOID OF TROPICAL CYCLONES IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY.

/NO AIRCRAFT

NO AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER DURING THE MONTH. THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON JANUARY 6, 13, 20, AND 27.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE & TIME OF HOISTING	DATE & TIME OF LOWERING
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WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JANUARY 5 10 AM	JANUARY 5 2.30 PM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JANUARY 10 1.30 AM	JANUARY 10 5.40 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	JANUARY 13 1.30 AM	JANUARY 14 9 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	109.9 HOURS ;	42.5 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	8.85 MJ/SQ. METRE ;	2.78 MJ/SQ. METRE BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	28.7 MM ;	5.3 MM ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD	73 PER CENT ;	15 PER CENT MORE THAN NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	81 PER CENT ;	10 PER CENT HIGHER THAN NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	18.8 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	0.2 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	16.9 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	1.1 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	15.4 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	1.8 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	13.5 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	3.3 DEGREES CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	59.3 MM ;	38.2 MM BELOW NORMAL

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

- 8 -

HIKERS INVITED TO ENTER VICTORIA PEAK WALKATHON
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CENTRAL AND WESTERN RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO ENTER THE NEW YEAR VICTORIA PEAK WALKATHON TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 24.

THE WALK WILL START AT 9.15 AM FROM THE CHIU SHEUNG SCHOOL AT 79B POK FU LAM ROAD. THE ROUTE CONTINUES THROUGH THE SCENIC HILL ABOVE BELCHER'S AND HATTON ROAD, AND ENDS AT HIGH WEST PICNIC AREA.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISERS SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE FUNCTION WAS INTENDED TO ENHANCE RESIDENTS' INTEREST IN HIKING AND THEIR AWARENESS OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION.

"THE TRAIL IS SUITABLE FOR ALL FAMILY MEMBERS AND WILL TAKE ABOUT AN HOUR TO COMPLETE," HE SAID.

"DRINKS WILL BE SUPPLIED. PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE SOUVENIRS AND A LUCKY DRAW WILL BE HELD AT THE FINISHING POINT," HE ADDED.

FREE ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF HARBOUR BUILDING IN CENTRAL, ITS SUB-OFFICES AT CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING) AND IN KENNEDY TOWN, AND FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT RECREATION, AMENITIES AND SPORTS OFFICE IN ROOM 1001 OF THE URBAN COUNCIL SHEUNG WAN COMPLEX.

THE WALKATHON IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE, URBAN COUNCIL, SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT YOUTH OFFICE AND A NUMBER OF DISTRICT ORGANISATIONS WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM THE DISTRICT BOARD.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 852 3002 OR 855 9372.

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LABEL IMPRESSION TO CHANGE TO RAM DESIGN
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THE LABEL IMPRESSION OF THE ELECTRONIC POSTAGE LABEL ISSUING MACHINE WILL BE CHANGED FROM THE HORSE DESIGN TO THE RAM DESIGN ON FEBRUARY 21, THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR DOMINIC S.W. WONG, ANNOUNCED TODAY (SUNDAY).

ON THE SAME DAY NEW LABEL PAPER BEARING A GRASS PATTERN IN THE BACKGROUND WILL BE INTRODUCED.

BOTH THE LABEL IMPRESSION AND THE LABEL PAPER PATTERN ARE DESIGNED BY MR MICHAEL TUCKER.

/FOR THE

FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF CUSTOMERS INTERESTED IN COLLECTING SUCH LABELS, PRE-PACKAGED SETS CONTAINING FOUR DENOMINATIONS (THAT IS 10 CENT, 60 CENT, \$1.40 AND \$1.80) AND BEARING MACHINE CODES "01" (GENERAL POST OFFICE) AND "02" (TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE) WILL BE ON SALE AT ALL BRANCH POST OFFICES ON FEBRUARY 21.

OFFICIAL FIRST DAY COVERS WILL NOT BE ISSUED. HOWEVER, A HAND-BACK SERVICE FOR PRIVATELY MADE FIRST DAY COVERS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT ALL BRANCH POST OFFICES ON THAT DAY.

THE POST OFFICE WILL CHANGE THE DESIGNS OF THE LABEL AND THE LABEL IMPRESSION EVERY YEAR TO INCORPORATE THE LUNAR NEW YEAR ANIMAL. THE LAST ISSUE OF THE PRESENT ELECTRONIC POSTAGE LABEL SERIES WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1998.

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TRAVELLERS REMINDED NOT TO BRING BACK PROHIBITED ITEMS
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THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT HAS REMINDED PEOPLE WHO TRAVEL OVERSEAS DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR NOT TO BRING BACK PROHIBITED ITEMS WITHOUT VALID IMPORT LICENCES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE IMPORTATION OF PROHIBITED ITEMS INTO THE TERRITORY WAS GOVERNED BY LAW AND LICENCES WERE REQUIRED IN ADVANCE BY THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED.

PROHIBITED ITEMS INCLUDE NARCOTICS, CERTAIN MEDICINAL DRUGS, ARMS AND AMMUNITION, FIREWORKS, STRATEGIC COMMODITIES, TEXTILES, SOME ANIMALS AND PLANTS, AND MEAT AND POULTRY.

"TRAVELLERS ARE LIABLE TO PROSECUTION IF THEY BRING INTO HONG KONG ANY OF THESE PROHIBITED ITEMS WITHOUT A LICENCE.

"A LACK OF KNOWLEDGE DOES NOT EXEMPT A PERSON FROM BEING PROSECUTED IF HE IS FOUND TO BE CARRYING A PROHIBITED ARTICLE WHICH MIGHT ONLY BE INTENDED TO BE A SOUVENIR FOR HIMSELF," HE SAID.

OTHER THAN THE ITEMS REQUIRING IMPORT LICENCES, THE SPOKESMAN APPEALED TO TRAVELLERS NOT TO BRING IN COUNTERFEIT GOODS THAT THEY BOUGHT IN OTHER COUNTRIES. THESE GOODS INCLUDE WATCHES, GARMENTS AND LEATHERWARE ITEMS.

HE ALSO REMINDED TRAVELLERS TO DECLARE TO CUSTOMS OFFICERS ANY LIQUORS, TOBACCO, CIGARETTES, CIGARS, COSMETICS AND MERCHANDISE IMPORTED FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

"LOCAL RESIDENTS, WHO HOLD HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS, ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO BRING IN FREE OF DUTY ONE LITRE OF STILL WINE, 100 CIGARETTES OR 25 CIGARS OR 125 GRAMS OF SMOKERS' TOBACCO, 60 MILLILITRES OF PERFUME AND 250 MILLILITRES OF TOILET WATER.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

- 10 -

"PASSENGERS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE DO NOT QUALIFY FOR DUTY FREE LIQUOR AND TOBACCO," HE SAID.

NOTICES STATING THE CONCESSION RIGHTS OF TRAVELLERS, ARTICLES REQUIRED TO BE DECLARED, AND ARTICLES REQUIRING IMPORT LICENCES ARE DISPLAYED AT THE ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE HALLS OF ALL CUSTOMS CONTROL POINTS.

COPIES OF A LEAFLET, "ADVICE TO TRAVELLERS - PROHIBITED ITEMS", INFORMING INCOMING PASSENGERS WHAT THEY CAN OR CANNOT BRING INTO HONG KONG, ARE AVAILABLE AT THESE CONTROL POINTS.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY ALSO CONTACT THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT AT 852 3185 FOR INFORMATION.

THE AMOUNT AND TYPES OF MAJOR ITEMS SEIZED FROM INCOMING PASSENGERS AT VARIOUS CUSTOMS CONTROL POINTS IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY LAST YEAR (INCLUDING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD) ARE AS FOLLOWS:

TYPE	QUANTITY
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CIGARETTES	4,780 PIECES
FLICK KNIFE	10 PIECES
FIREWORKS	47 KILOGRAMS
ANIMAL	153 PIECES AND
(INCLUDING PARTS)	13 KILOGRAMS
GRASSHOPPERS	2,650 PIECES
MEALWORM	1 BOX
PLANTS	1,574 PIECES
IVORY	73 KILOGRAMS
COUNTERFEIT WATCHES	52 PIECES
VARIOUS TYPES OF PSYCHOTROPIC	MORE THAN 1,800 TABLETS
DRUGS AND ANTIBIOTICS	AND 500 MILLILITRES

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REST DAY FOR WOMEN WORKERS MUST BE OBSERVED

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED PROPRIETORS OF INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS TO STRICTLY OBSERVE REST DAY ARRANGEMENT FOR WOMEN WORKERS.

UNDER THE WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS (INDUSTRY) REGULATIONS, THE PERMISSIBLE HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT, THE INTERVALS FOR MEALS OR REST AND THE REST DAYS ARRANGEMENT FOR WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN AN INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKING MUST BE FIXED BY THE EMPLOYER AND SET OUT IN A PRESCRIBED NOTICE.

DURING AN INSPECTION TO SUNCITI MANUFACTURERS LTD, LABOUR INSPECTORS FOUND 58 WOMEN WORKING ON THEIR SATURDAY REST DAY, CONTRARY TO THE ARRANGEMENT SET OUT IN THE POSTED NOTICE.

/THE COMPANY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

- 11 -

THE COMPANY WAS LATER PROSECUTED AND WAS GIVEN THE MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000 BY A KWUN TONG MAGISTRATE.

"WORK ON REST DAYS BY WOMEN AND YOUNG PERSONS IN INDUSTRY IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN," SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (PROSECUTIONS) MR TSANG KIN-WOO STRESSED.

"THE REST DAY SHOULD NOT BE CHANGED UNLESS THE EMPLOYER HAS NOTIFIED THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT 48 HOURS BEFORE CHANGES COME INTO OPERATION," MR TSANG SAID.

"SUCH CHANGES SHOULD NOT BE MADE MORE THAN ONCE A MONTH, EXCEPT WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT," HE ADDED.

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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MEMOIR FOR SAI KUNG AND CLEAR WATER BAY PUBLISHED

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A MEMOIR DESCRIBING THE GEOLOGICAL HISTORY OF THE EASTERN PART OF HONG KONG HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE GEOTECHNICAL CONTROL OFFICE (GCO) OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

ENTITLED "THE GEOLOGY OF SAI KUNG AND CLEAR WATER BAY", THE MEMOIR HAS DELINEATED ROCK FORMATIONS OF THE AREA WHICH ARE STILL VISIBLE TODAY.

THE PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER, DR A.W. MALONE SAID IN THE ROCKS OF THE AREA, EVIDENCE OF THE MASSIVE VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CRETACEOUS PERIOD, SOME 135 MILLION YEARS AGO, COULD BE SEEN.

"THERE IS EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT THESE ERUPTIONS MAY HAVE BEEN 40 TIMES GREATER THAN THE 1980 ERUPTIONS OF MOUNT ST HELENS VOLCANO IN THE UNITED STATES, AN EVENT WHICH RELEASED A SIMILAR AMOUNT OF ENERGY AS A 10,000 MEGATONNE EXPLOSION," DR MALONE SAID.

THE ERUPTIONS PRODUCED LAVA FLOWS AND HUGE GLOWING ASH CLOUDS AND WERE FOLLOWED BY MASSIVE LANDSLIDES.

BETWEEN 130 AND 160 MILLION YEARS AGO, TWO PLATES OR SEGMENTS OF THE EARTH'S CRUST COLLIDED ALONG THE LINE OF TODAY'S SOUTH CHINA COAST, THE PACIFIC PLATE SLIDING DOWN BENEATH THE EURASIAN PLATE, HE EXPLAINED.

IT WAS THE HEAT GENERATED BY THE FRICTION BETWEEN THESE SLIDING PLATES THAT MELTED THE ROCKS AND CREATED THE VOLCANIC ACTIVITY.

DR MALONE NOTED THAT BY 120 MILLION YEARS AGO, THE PLATES HAD CEASED TO MOVE AGAINST EACH OTHER AND VOLCANIC ACTIVITY STOPPED.

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TODAY, THE NEAREST ACTIVE PLATE BOUNDARIES OCCUR 600 KILOMETRES EAST OF HONG KONG WHERE THE PLATE COLLISION IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EARTHQUAKE AND VOLCANIC ACTIVITY IN TAIWAN AND THE PHILIPPINES.

THE MEMOIR, THE FOURTH IN A SERIES, PORTRAYED THE GEOLOGY ON THREE NEW 1:20,000 SCALE GEOLOGICAL MAPS FOR SAI KUNG, CLEAR WATER BAY AND WAGLAN ISLAND.

THE GEOLOGICAL MAPPING WAS UNDERTAKEN BY GEOLOGISTS FROM THE HONG KONG GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WHICH IS PART OF THE GCO.

NINE GEOLOGICAL MAPS AT 1:20,000 SCALE AND FOUR MEMOIRS HAVE ALREADY BEEN PUBLISHED SINCE THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1982.

MAPS AND MEMOIRS COVERING LANTAU AND ADJACENT ISLANDS AND THE NORTHEAST NEW TERRITORIES ARE BEING COMPILED AND WILL BE PUBLISHED THIS YEAR.

DETAILED GEOLOGICAL MAPS AT A SCALE OF 1:5,000 ARE BEING PRODUCED FOR SELECTED DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN HONG KONG AND SURVEYING AT THIS SCALE HAS ALREADY COMMENCED ON NORTH LANTAU.

ALL GEOLOGICAL SURVEY MAPS AND MEMOIRS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, THE MAP PUBLICATIONS CENTRES OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG, OR GROUND FLOOR, 382 NATHAN ROAD, YAU MA TEI, KOWLOON.

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MORE EFFORTS TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONS
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THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT HAS STEPPED UP ITS EFFORT TO PROMOTE HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONS.

THE SWD TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEPHEN CHAU, SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT THE OFFICE HAD STARTED A PROGRAMME TO REMIND YOUNGSTERS OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE THEY PLAY IN MAINTAINING THE HARMONIOUS RELATIONS OF THE FAMILY.

"YOUNG PEOPLE ARE AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE FAMILY," MR CHAU SAID, "AND WE ARE TRYING TO MAKE STUDENTS IN THE DISTRICT MORE AWARE OF THEIR ROLE."

HE NOTED THAT SOME YOUNGSTERS TENDED TO KEEP ALOOF OR SIMPLY STAY AWAY FROM HOME WHEN THERE WERE DISPUTES BETWEEN THEIR PARENTS OR PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED BY OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS.

"WE ARE TRYING TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION BY STARTING THIS NEW PROGRAMME.

"OFFICERS SPECIALISED IN FAMILY SERVICES AND YOUTH WORK ARE CONDUCTING A SERIES OF TALKS TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN TUEN MUN.

"THEY WILL EXPLAIN TO THEM THE VARIOUS CAUSES OF FAMILY PROBLEMS, AS WELL AS THE WAYS TO AND THE YOUNGSTERS' ROLES IN MAINTAINING HARMONIOUS FAMILY RELATIONS," HE SAID.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE PROGRAMME WILL PROVE USEFUL IN PREVENTING FAMILY DISPUTES AND EVEN TRAGEDIES," HE ADDED.

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CLEAN FORESHORE DRIVE IN ABERDEEN TOMORROW
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A CLEAN FORESHORE DRIVE WILL BE HELD ALONG THE ABERDEEN WATERFRONT TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO PROMOTE THE AWARENESS OF THE NEED TO KEEP THE TYPHOON SHELTER CLEAN.

THE DRIVE IS ORGANISED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE IN SUPPORT OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN.

STAFF FROM THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, MARINE DEPARTMENT, URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT AND LOCAL VOLUNTEERS WILL JOIN FORCES TO CLEAN UP REFUSE ALONG THE WATERFRONT.

"APART FROM POSING HYGIENIC PROBLEMS, THE FLOATING REFUSE ALSO AFFECT THE TYPHOON SHELTER AS A TOURIST DESTINATION," A DISTRICT BOARD SPOKESMAN SAID.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MRS MAUREEN CHAN AND THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR TSE KIT-TO, WILL OFFICIATE AT A CEREMONY TO KICK OFF THE DRIVE.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLEAN FORESHORE DRIVE ALONG THE ABERDEEN WATERFRONT TOMORROW (MONDAY). THE LAUNCHING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT THE PROMENADE, BEGINNING AT 10.30 AM.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE ALSO WELCOME TO JOIN A TYPHOON SHELTER CRUISE TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES A SPECIAL REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT BOARD.

THOSE INTERESTED ARE REQUESTED TO ASSEMBLE BY 10.15 AM AT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE, SHOP 25, GROUND FLOOR, MEI FUNG COURT, 7-11 NAM NING STREET, ABERDEEN.

INFORMATION OFFICER, MR ALEX LI, WILL BE ON HAND TO HELP.

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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1991

- 14 -

DB FUNDS OPEN FOR APPLICATION

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THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD IS INVITING LOCAL ORGANISATIONS TO APPLY FOR DISTRICT BOARD FUNDS FOR CARRYING OUT ACTIVITIES BETWEEN LATE APRIL AND NOVEMBER THIS YEAR.

THE ACTIVITIES, BE THEY CULTURAL, RECREATIONAL, SPORTS OR EDUCATIONAL, SHOULD AIM TO PROMOTE RESIDENTS' COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND SENSE OF BELONGING.

MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES, OWNERS' CORPORATIONS, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND OTHER DISTRICT BODIES ARE WELCOME TO APPLY FOR THE FUNDS.

APPLICATION FORMS AND OTHER DETAILS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37 TONKIN STREET AND ITS SUB-OFFICES.

COMPLETED FORMS FOR ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD BETWEEN LATE APRIL AND JUNE SHOULD BE RETURNED TO ANY OF THE ABOVE OFFICES BY MARCH 2 WHILE THOSE TO BE HELD BETWEEN JULY AND NOVEMBER SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY APRIL 18.

THE VETTING SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE WILL MEET ON APRIL 22 AND JUNE 7 TO CONSIDER THE APPLICATIONS.

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