



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, MAY 10, 1988

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GOVERNOR VISITS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, VISITED THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON.

SIR DAVID WAS WELCOMED ON ARRIVAL BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR Y.T. LI.

HE WAS BRIEFED BY MR LI AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DIRECTORATE ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EDUCATION.

THE GOVERNOR THEN PROCEEDED ON A BRIEF TOUR OF THE BUILDING SECTION, THE ADVISORY INSPECTORATE AND THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SECTION.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON PLANS FOR THE QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION IN HONG KONG AND WAS PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THESE WERE PROCEEDING WELL IN RELATION TO BOTH ORDINARY SCHOOLS AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

"THE ENORMOUS EXPANSION OF SCHOOL PLACES DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS OR SO HAS INEVITABLY PLACED SOME STRAIN ON THE SYSTEM AND HAS MADE THE TASK OF TEACHING MUCH MORE DEMANDING," SIR DAVID SAID.

"I AM PLEASED THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS TACKLING THIS PROBLEM AND IS MAKING STEADY PROGRESS IN SUCH AREAS AS IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS, REMEDIAL TEACHING IN SCHOOLS, STUDENT COUNSELLING AND LANGUAGE TEACHING."

SIR DAVID COMMENTED THAT TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION, WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR ABOUT 18 PER CENT OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET, WAS MORE THAN THAT ALLOCATED TO ANY SINGLE AREA OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY.

"THIS REFLECTS OUR COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION AS AN IMPORTANT INVESTMENT IN THE FUTURE AND AS A KEY FACTOR IN THE PRESERVATION OF STABILITY AND PROSPERITY," HE SAID.

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COMMISSIONER FOR POLICE LEAVES FOR CHINA

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THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR RAYMON ANNING, WILL DISCUSS WITH THE AUTHORITIES IN PEKING AND CANTON THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS COMING TO HONG KONG.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AT THE AIRPORT WHEN HE DEPARTED FOR A 10-DAY VISIT TO CHINA TODAY (TUESDAY), MR ANNING SAID: "I AM SURE OUR COLLEAGUES IN CHINA WILL BE VERY COGNIZANT OF THE PROBLEM AND WILL DO WHAT THEY CAN TO HELP US.

"BUT I SHOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE THEM THE LATEST STATISTICS AND THE LATEST TRENDS IN THE ARRIVAL OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AND SEEK THEIR CO-OPERATION IN HELPING US TO STEM THE TIDE WE ARE HAVING AT THE MOMENT."

MR ANNING POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF VISITS THAT HONG KONG POLICE HAD MADE TO CHINA UNDER AEGIS OF THE INTERPOL SYSTEM.

"WE HAVE BEEN PAYING VISITS SINCE 1985, AND OF COURSE OUR COUNTERPARTS FROM PEKING AND CANTON VISIT HONG KONG AS WELL EACH YEAR," MR ANNING SAID.

"IT IS REALLY QUITE A ROUTINE VISIT.

"WE DISCUSS ONGOING MATTERS OF INTEREST TO BOTH OF US."

ON SUBJECTS TO BE RAISED, MR ANNING SAID: "WE DISCUSS CO-OPERATION AND COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN US, MEANS BY WHICH WE CAN HELP EACH OTHER AND THE EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE.

"WE WILL CERTAINLY TALK ABOUT CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS INVOLVING FIREARMS, BUTTERFLY PISTOLS, THIS SORT OF THINGS."

MR ANNING SAID IN PEKING HE WOULD MEET, AMONG OTHERS, THE VICE MINISTER FROM THE PUBLIC SECURITY BUREAU, MR YU LEI; THE CITY'S VICE MAYOR, MR SU ZHONG-XIANG; AND HEAD OF INTERPOL IN CHINA, MR LIU WEN.

MR ANNING IS ACCOMPANIED BY THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (CRIME), MR PETER LEE; STAFF OFFICER, INTERPOL, MR JOHN CHUNG; AND HIS PERSONAL ASSISTANT, MR RYAN LAI.

THE GROUP WILL VISIT PEKING, HANGZHOU, GUILIN AND CANTON BEFORE RETURNING TO HONG KONG ON MAY 19.

DURING HIS ABSENCE, MR LI KWAN-HA WILL BE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.

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LEGCO TO CONSIDER EIGHT BILLS

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF FIVE QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER EIGHT BILLS AT THEIR MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

FIVE OF THE BILLS WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. THESE ARE THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, THE ROAD TRAFFIC (DRIVING LICENCES REGULATIONS AND REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF VEHICLES REGULATIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, THE STAMP DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 AND THE SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988.

THE REMAINING THREE BILLS - THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (ELECTORAL PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988, THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1988 AND THE EMPLOYMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1988 - ARE DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY WILL MOVE TWO MOTIONS UNDER THE PENSIONS (INCREASE) ORDINANCE AND THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION (INCREASE) ORDINANCE.

IN ADDITION, THE COUNCIL WILL DEBATE A MOTION, PUT BY THE HON ROSANNA TAM, THAT IT TAKES NOTE OF THE REPORT ON YOUTH POLICY.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL TABLE THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION ANNUAL REPORT 1987, AND THE HON LYDIA DUNN WILL TABLE THE 1986-87 REPORT BY THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE PRINCE PHILIP DENTAL HOSPITAL.

THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE ON THE DRAFT ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE 1988-89 WILL ALSO BE TABLED.

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PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS IMPORTANT

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THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION IS NOW CONSIDERING HONG KONG'S FUTURE NEEDS FOR COPYRIGHT LAW, AND ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE COMMISSION'S WORK IN THIS RESPECT IS THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRIAL DESIGNS.

THE COMMISSION HAS, EARLIER THIS MONTH, RELEASED A CONSULTATION LETTER SEEKING THE VIEWS OF INDUSTRY, AND OF DESIGNERS, THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, SAID AT THE OPENING OF THE DESIGN FORUM '88 TODAY (TUESDAY).

/HE SAID .....

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HE SAID THAT THIS ASPECT OF THE LAW IS VERY COMPLEX AND GREATLY NEEDS MAKING SIMPLER AND MORE EFFECTIVE, AND HE UNDERSTANDS THAT THE LAW REFORM COMMISSION STAFF WOULD BE HAPPY TO DISCUSS THE ISSUES INVOLVED WITH INTERESTED ASSOCIATIONS.

"IT IS ALL VERY WELL FOR US TO PROMOTE THE IMPROVEMENT OF QUALITY THROUGH ADVANCED DESIGNS, BUT IF THESE NEW DESIGNS ARE NOT ADEQUATELY PROTECTED, THE EFFORT WILL HAVE BEEN PARTLY IN VAIN," HE SAID.

MR MACLEOD CONFIRMED THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO ENCOURAGING IMPROVEMENTS IN INDUSTRIAL DESIGN AND QUALITY.

"THE HONG KONG DESIGN INNOVATION COMPANY, THE STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY, THE PRODUCTS STANDARDS INFORMATION BUREAU, AND THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME ARE ALL ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT TO HELP AND ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY IN HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY," HE SAID.

"OTHER EXAMPLES INCLUDE THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL'S CONSULTANCY AND TRAINING SERVICES ON ADVANCED COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN, COMPUTER-AIDED MANUFACTURE SYSTEMS (CAD-CAM), AND A SCHEME TO TRAIN ENGINEERS IN THE DESIGN OF APPLICATION-SPECIFIC INTEGRATED CIRCUITS (ASIC) THAT WAS INTRODUCED IN 1987."

HE ADDED THAT IF HONG KONG WAS TO CONTINUE TO GO UPMARKET, IT WAS NECESSARY FOR MORE INDUSTRIALISTS TO DESIGN THEIR OWN GOODS.

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR MARCH RELEASED

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HONG KONG'S TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN MARCH 1988, AT \$69,888 MILLION, GREW BY 18 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH MARCH 1987, ACCORDING TO THE MORE DETAILED MONTHLY FIGURES ON TRADE VALUE RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

HOWEVER, DOMESTIC EXPORTS DROPPED BY 3 PER CENT TO \$14,052 MILLION IN MARCH 1988, WHILE RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 34 PER CENT TO \$18,590 MILLION, THUS BRINGING TOTAL EXPORTS IN MARCH TO \$32,642 MILLION, WHICH REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 15 PER CENT OVER MARCH 1987.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, IMPORTS INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT TO \$37,246 MILLION IN MARCH.

/CAUTION SHOULD .....

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CAUTION SHOULD BE EXERCISED IN INTERPRETING THE TRADE FIGURES FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL MONTH IN ISOLATION, IN VIEW OF THE FLUCTUATIONS THAT MAY OCCUR FROM MONTH TO MONTH. FAIRLY WIDE FLUCTUATIONS HAVE BEEN EXPERIENCED DURING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, REFLECTING IN PART THE TIMING OF THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

TAKING THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF 1988 TOGETHER, TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE, AT \$195,904 MILLION, INCREASED BY 28 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER IN 1987.

ON THE SAME BASIS OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT TO \$44,169 MILLION, WHILE RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 45 PER CENT TO \$52,868 MILLION.

THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 29 PER CENT TO \$97,037 MILLION. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 26 PER CENT TO \$98,867 MILLION.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1987, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO ALL MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS.

THE MARKETS WITH THE LARGEST GROWTH IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED SINGAPORE (+44 PER CENT), FRANCE (+30 PER CENT), CHINA (+23 PER CENT), THE UNITED KINGDOM (+23 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (+21 PER CENT). DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S LARGEST MARKET, THE USA, GREW BY 3 PER CENT.

COMPARING MARCH 1988 WITH MARCH 1987, DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE USA DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS BY 16 PER CENT.

DECREASES WERE ALSO RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA (-12 PER CENT), AUSTRALIA (-11 PER CENT), THE NETHERLANDS (-9 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (-9 PER CENT), THE UNITED KINGDOM (-8 PER CENT) AND FRANCE (-6 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE (+38 PER CENT), CHINA (+19 PER CENT) AND JAPAN (+14 PER CENT).

THE LEVEL OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE EARLY PART OF MARCH 1988 MAY HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD WHICH OCCURRED IN THE SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY THIS YEAR.

IMPORTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1987.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN IMPORTS FROM SWITZERLAND (+51 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+45 PER CENT), FRANCE (+39 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+31 PER CENT) AND CHINA (+27 PER CENT).

/IN MARCH .....

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IN MARCH 1988, IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS OVER MARCH 1987, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM FRANCE (+52 PER CENT), SWITZERLAND (+50 PER CENT), THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (+44 PER CENT), THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (+40 PER CENT) AND THE USA (+29 PER CENT).

BETWEEN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1987 AND THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988, RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, AUSTRALIA AND TAIWAN INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS BY 86 PER CENT, 80 PER CENT, 59 PER CENT, 53 PER CENT AND 52 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

BETWEEN MARCH 1987 AND MARCH 1988, RE-EXPORTS TO JAPAN, THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, TAIWAN, CHINA AND SINGAPORE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN VALUE TERMS BY 80 PER CENT, 51 PER CENT, 46 PER CENT, 42 PER CENT AND 35 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

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 MARCH 1988 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY JUNE.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1987, INCREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE RECORDED IN ALL MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

THE MORE NOTABLE ONES INCLUDED CLOTHING (BY \$1,025 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$964 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT); OFFICE MACHINES AND AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT (\$855 MILLION OR 47 PER CENT); AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$605 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT).

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN ELECTRIC CURRENT (BY 38 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT); AND TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS (BY \$28 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT).

TABLE 2 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

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

/COMPARING THE .....

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1987, INCREASES IN IMPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$2,995 MILLION OR 42 PER CENT); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$2,028 MILLION OR 102 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$1,368 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT); AND MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$1,173 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT OTHER THAN ROAD VEHICLES (BY \$361 MILLION OR 40 PER CENT); AND COAL, COKE AND BRIQUETTES (BY \$37 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT).

TABLE 4 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

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

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1988 WITH THE SAME QUARTER IN 1987, INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS IN VALUE TERMS WERE REGISTERED FOR ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$2,417 MILLION OR 80 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$1,576 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$1,176 MILLION OR 58 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY \$1,125 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT (BY \$37 MILLION OR 29 PER CENT); AND MISCELLANEOUS EDIBLE PRODUCTS AND PREPARATIONS (BY \$13 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT).

TABLE 6 ILLUSTRATES THE CHANGES IN RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION.

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

THE MARCH 1988 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE STATISTICS SUMMARY" WILL BE ON SALE AROUND MAY 13 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AT \$9.50 PER COPY.

A MORE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE", WITH A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN MARCH 1988 WILL AVAILABLE AT THE END OF MAY AT \$17.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THESE REPORTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. 5-8428802).

ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS MAY BE MADE TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. 5-8234915).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN-MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAR 88 OVER JAN-MAR 87 (%)	MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	MAR 88 OVER MAR 87 (%)
USA	14,405	+3	4,252	-16
CHINA	6,844	+23	2,654	+19
FR OF GERMANY	3,860	+20	1,053	-9
UK	2,890	+23	851	-8
JAPAN	2,170	+21	850	+14
CANADA	1,286	+12	347	-12
SINGAPORE	1,045	+44	387	+38
NETHERLANDS	995	+11	293	-9
FRANCE	903	+30	268	-6
AUSTRALIA	849	+8	263	-11

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN-MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAR 88 OVER JAN-MAR 87 (%)	MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	MAR 88 OVER MAR 87 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	13,435	+8	3,254	-25
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	5,985	+2	2,071	-11
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	3,933	+32	1,322	+16

/ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, .....

ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	3,619	+20	1,302	+8
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	3,459	+5	1,233	-8
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,367	+5	1,195	+1

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	JAN-MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAR 88 OVER JAN-MAR 87 (%)	MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	MAR 88 OVER MAR 87 (%)
CHINA	29,407	+27	10,620	+20
JAPAN	18,383	+22	7,001	+17
TAIWAN	8,702	+24	3,345	+21
USA	8,283	+20	3,197	+29
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	5,057	+45	1,969	+44
SINGAPORE	3,855	+25	1,420	+21
UK	2,936	+14	1,060	+2
FR OF GERMANY	2,815	+31	1,154	+40
SWITZERLAND	2,093	+51	826	+50
FRANCE	1,630	+39	632	+52

TABLE 4: IMPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN-MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAR 88 OVER JAN-MAR 87 (%)	MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	MAR 88 OVER MAR 87 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	12,214	+3	4,964	+1

ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	10,095	+42	3,982	+42
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	6,287	+13	2,119	**
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	5,693	+32	2,113	+21
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	5,424	+27	2,043	+22
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	5,213	+29	1,912	+14

\* LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS BY 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	JAN-MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAR 88 OVER JAN-MAR 87 (%)	MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	MAR 88 OVER MAR 87 (%)
CHINA	16,814	+42	6,460	+42
USA	9,239	+31	2,703	+7
JAPAN	3,242	+86	1,180	+80
TAIWAN	3,034	+52	1,164	+46
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	2,713	+41	976	+35
SINGAPORE	1,874	+35	709	+35
FR OF GERMANY	1,623	+80	507	+51
UK	1,082	+59	387	+27
MACAU	911	+23	365	+21
AUSTRALIA	839	+53	282	+34

/TABLE 6: .....

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISION

COMMODITY DIVISION	JAN-MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	JAN-MAR 88 OVER JAN-MAR 87 (%)	MAR 1988 (HKD MN.)	MAR 88 OVER MAR 87 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6,842	+20	2,609	+13
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	5,445	+80	2,072	+72
ARTICLES OF APPAREL, AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	5,326	+19	1,443	-4
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	4,525	+53	1,454	+23
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,211	+58	1,099	+39
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	2,112	+20	769	+13

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## INDUSTRY HEAD OUTLINES HK'S ADVANTAGES

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HONG KONG REPRESENTS THE "SOUTHERN ROUTE" INTO CHINA, A ROUTE WHICH OFFERS MANY ADVANTAGES OVER ENTRY FROM ANY OTHER DIRECTION, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR K.Y. YEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

MR YEUNG WAS SPEAKING AT AN INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION SEMINAR IN SEOUL.

HE SAID AN OVERSEAS MANUFACTURER CONSIDERING ESTABLISHING A PLANT IN HONG KONG MIGHT VIEW HONG KONG AS AN OFFSHORE MANUFACTURING BASE WITH UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS DERIVED FROM ITS NEARNESS TO CHINA, OR AS A GATEWAY TO A HUGE POTENTIAL MARKET OF ONE BILLION PEOPLE.

/"AND MANY .....

"AND MANY OTHER OVERSEAS INVESTORS SEE HONG KONG AS AN EFFICIENT AND 'PAINLESS' POINT OF ENTRY TO THE CHINA MARKET, WHERE EDUCATED, TRAINED, EXPERIENCED CHINESE SPEAKING EXECUTIVES CAN BE FOUND," HE SAID.

"TO A LARGE EXTENT, HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING SECTOR IS BECOMING INTEGRATED WITH THE SOUTHERN CHINA REGION AND THERE IS A TREND TO MOVING LABOUR INTENSIVE ASPECTS OF PRODUCTION ACROSS THE BORDER."

MR YEUNG ALSO SAID THAT HONG KONG'S FUTURE HAD BEEN SET OUT BY THE JOINT DECLARATION SIGNED BY THE CHINESE AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS IN 1984.

"HONG KONG IS NOT ONLY CHINA'S LARGEST MARKET, ACCOUNTING FOR 32 PER CENT OF CHINA'S TOTAL EXPORTS, IT IS ALSO PROVIDING SOME 60 PER CENT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN CHINA.

"IN RETURN CHINA ACCOUNTS FOR 15 PER CENT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG," HE SAID.

"THERE ARE MANY BUSINESSMEN IN HONG KONG WHO BELIEVE THAT AFTER 1997, HONG KONG WILL BE CHINA'S MOST IMPORTANT ECONOMIC CENTRE AND CONSEQUENTLY OF EVEN GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THE WHOLE OF ASIA AND THE WORLD THAN IT NOW IS."

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#### CONSULTANCY FIRM TO BE APPOINTED FOR FARM WASTE PROJECTS

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THE GOVERNMENT IS NEGOTIATING WITH AN INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY FIRM ON THE DETAIL ARRANGEMENTS AND THE COSTS FOR SETTING UP DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS ON PRIVATE FARMS, AN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

AT A MEETING OF THE LIVESTOCK WASTE DISPOSAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE'S STEERING GROUP, THE OFFICIAL TOLD MEMBERS THAT FOUR CONSULTANCY FIRMS HAD RESPONDED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S INVITATION FOR SETTING UP THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

AFTER STUDYING THEIR PROPOSALS, AN INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY FIRM HAD BEEN SELECTED FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS.

"WE EXPECT TO COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATIONS SOON, SO THAT FINAL APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF THE FIRM CAN BE GIVEN AT THE END OF THE MONTH," HE ADDED.

/THE OFFICIAL .....

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THE OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT THE CONSULTANT'S IMMEDIATE TASK WOULD BE TO IDENTIFY 12 TO 15 LIVESTOCK FARMS FROM THE 24 FARMS PROPOSED BY THE STEERING GROUP FOR SETTING UP THE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

THE PROPOSED FARMS ARE MAINLY LOCATED IN THE TOLO HARBOUR AND CHANNEL AREA, ANGLER'S BEACH AND NORTH DISTRICT.

AFTER OBTAINING THE STEERING GROUP'S ENDORSEMENT, THE CONSULTANT WOULD PROCEED TO DESIGN AND BUILD WASTE TREATMENT INSTALLATIONS FOR THE SELECTED FARMS, THE OFFICIAL ADDED.

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#### TRADERS ADVISED AGAINST BURUNDI IVORY IMPORTS

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IVORY TRADERS IN HONG KONG HAVE BEEN ADVISED NOT TO IMPORT ANY UNREGISTERED IVORY FROM BURUNDI AS APPLICATIONS FOR SUCH IMPORTS OR RE-EXPORTS WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED.

THE ADVICE IS CONTAINED IN A CIRCULAR ISSUED TODAY (TUESDAY) TO ALL IVORY TRADERS BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IN RESPONSE TO A RECENT BAN IMPOSED BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ON THE IMPORTATION OF IVORY FROM BURUNDI.

ON APRIL 29, A NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL REGISTER, STATING THAT:

"EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, THE UNITED STATES BANS THE IMPORTATION OF IVORY FROM BURUNDI THAT WAS NOT REGISTERED WITH THE CITES (CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA) SECRETARIAT BY DECEMBER 1, 1986. ALL IVORY IMPORTATION FROM ANY COUNTRY THAT ALLOWS THIS BURUNDI IVORY, WHETHER IN A RAW OR WORKED FORM, TO BE IMPORTED INTO OR PASS THROUGH THAT COUNTRY WILL BE PROHIBITED."

COMMENTING ON THE U.S. BAN, THE DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR CONSERVATION OFFICER, MR M.K. CHEUNG, SAID THAT SINCE 1981 HIS DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION OF RAW IVORY FROM BURUNDI EXCEPT FOR THOSE WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN REGISTERED WITH THE CITES SECRETARIAT.

"WE WILL CONTINUE TO STRICTLY ENFORCE THE PROHIBITION.

"AS NO APPLICATION FOR CITES LICENCE OR RE-EXPORT CERTIFICATE FOR UNREGISTERED BURUNDI IVORY WILL BE PROCESSED, LOCAL TRADERS SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO IMPORT UNREGISTERED IVORY FROM THAT COUNTRY DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY," HE SAID.

/MR CHEUNG .....

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MR CHEUNG ADDED THAT ARRANGEMENTS WERE BEING MADE BY HIS DEPARTMENT TO IMPOSE STATUTORY CONTROL OVER THE IMPORT OF ALL FORMS OF WORKED IVORY UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE.

"IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE NEW MEASURE IN THE FORM OF LICENSING CONTROL WILL TAKE EFFECT IN JULY THIS YEAR.

"THEREAFTER, LICENCES MUST BE APPLIED AND OBTAINED IN ADVANCE FOR THE IMPORT OF ALL WORKED IVORY ITEMS.

"APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY VALID DOCUMENTS INCLUDING EXPORT PERMITS FROM THE AUTHORITIES OF THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES AND OTHER DOCUMENTAL PROOFS OF THEIR ACQUISITION FROM CITES-APPROVED SOURCES," HE SAID.

MR CHEUNG STRESSED THAT IT IS AN OFFENCE TO IMPORT OR EXPORT ENDANGERED SPECIES NOT UNDER AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH A LICENCE ISSUED BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT.

"OFFENDERS ARE LIABLE TO HEAVY FINES, IMPRISONMENT AND FORFEITURE OF THE SPECIMENS," HE SAID.

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INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES RAISED  
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THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE PUBLISHED YESTERDAY (MONDAY) CONTAINS A LEGAL NOTICE TO THE EFFECT THAT THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY HAS AUTHORISED AN INCREASE IN THE RATE OF INTEREST PAYABLE ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES.

AS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY), THE NEW ANNUAL RATE OF INTEREST WILL BE 4.32 PER CENT (TAX FREE) AS AGAINST THE CURRENT RATE OF 3.36 PER CENT (TAX FREE).

INTEREST ON TAX RESERVE CERTIFICATES IS CALCULATED IN MONTHLY STEPS AND THE NEW RATE WILL BE \$0.36 PER MONTH PER \$100. INTEREST WILL BE CREDITED AS BEFORE IN RESPECT OF COMPLETE MONTHS BETWEEN PURCHASE AND SURRENDER IN PAYMENT OF TAX.

INTEREST IS ONLY CREDITED WHEN CERTIFICATES ARE USED TO PAY TAX AND NO INTEREST IS DUE WHERE THE PRINCIPAL VALUE OF A CERTIFICATE IS REPAID BY A CHEQUE.

THE NEW RATE WILL APPLY TO ALL CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MAY 11, 1988.

/CERTIFICATES WHICH .....

CERTIFICATES WHICH WERE ISSUED BEFORE MAY 11, 1988 WILL CONTINUE TO EARN INTEREST AS FOLLOWS -

3.36 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER AUGUST 19, 1986 AND BEFORE JANUARY 19, 1987;
2.52 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 19, 1987 AND BEFORE MARCH 4, 1987;
3.00 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER MARCH 4, 1987 AND BEFORE APRIL 9, 1987;
3.36 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 9, 1987 AND BEFORE JUNE 4, 1987;
3.84 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 4, 1987 AND BEFORE JUNE 24, 1987;
4.32 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JUNE 24, 1987 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 14, 1987;
5.28 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 14, 1987 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 28, 1987;
4.32 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 28, 1987 AND BEFORE OCTOBER 30, 1987;
3.24 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER OCTOBER 30, 1987 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 2, 1987;
3.00 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 2, 1987 AND BEFORE DECEMBER 9, 1987;
2.04 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER DECEMBER 9, 1987 AND BEFORE FEBRUARY 20, 1988;
2.76 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER FEBRUARY 20, 1988 AND BEFORE APRIL 13, 1988; AND
3.36 PER CENT	PER ANNUM FOR CERTIFICATES ISSUED ON OR AFTER APRIL 13, 1988 AND BEFORE MAY 11, 1988;

/BUT ALWAYS .....

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BUT ALWAYS SUBJECT TO THE GENERAL RULE THAT INTEREST CEASES TO ACCRUE AFTER 36 COMPLETE MONTHS WITHOUT SURRENDER FOR PAYMENT OF TAX.

EXAMPLE: \$1,000 CERTIFICATES PURCHASED ON MAY 14, 1988, JUNE 14, 1988 AND JULY 14, 1988 RESPECTIVELY, SURRENDERED IN PAYMENT OF TAX DUE ON AUGUST 13, 1988 WILL HAVE INTEREST CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:-

ON \$1,000, MAY 14, 1988 TO AUGUST 13, 1988 THREE COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$3.60 PER MONTH	= \$10.80
ON \$1,000, JUNE 14, 1988 TO AUGUST 13, 1988 TWO COMPLETE MONTHS AT \$3.60 PER MONTH	= \$7.20
ON \$1,000, JULY 14, 1988 TO AUGUST 13, 1988 ONE COMPLETE MONTH AT \$3.60 PER MONTH	= \$3.60
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	\$21.60
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DRY SPELL CONTINUED IN APRIL

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RAINFALL IN APRIL CONTINUED TO BE BELOW NORMAL. ALTHOUGH RAIN WAS RECORDED ON 22 DAYS DURING THE MONTH, THE TOTAL RAINFALL WAS ONLY 82.4 MILLIMETRES, 59 PER CENT OF THE NORMAL AMOUNT FOR APRIL, THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY SAID IN ITS REPORT FOR THE MONTH ISSUED TODAY (TUESDAY).

CONSEQUENTLY, THE TOTAL RAINFALL AMOUNT FOR THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS THIS YEAR WAS 135.9 MILLIMETRES, COMPARED WITH A NORMAL AMOUNT OF 263.0 MILLIMETRES.

IT WAS COOLER AND ALSO DRIER THAN USUAL IN APRIL WITH A MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY OF 78 PER CENT, WHICH WAS THE THIRD LOWEST ON RECORD FOR APRIL.

A MOIST EASTERLY AIRSTREAM PREVAILED ALONG THE SOUTH CHINA COAST FOR THE FIRST THREE DAYS IN APRIL. AS A RESULT, THE WEATHER IN HONG KONG WAS CLOUDY TO OVERCAST WITH OCCASIONAL MIST, FOG OR LIGHT RAIN DURING THIS PERIOD.

A WEAK SURGE OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON BROUGHT SLIGHTLY DRIER AIR TO HONG KONG ON APRIL 4, BUT NO SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE WEATHER OCCURRED WITHIN THE NEXT TWO DAYS. A MOIST SOUTHEASTERLY AIRSTREAM ON APRIL 6 GAVE RISE TO MISTY AND FOGGY CONDITIONS AGAIN. VISIBILITY AT WAGLAN ISLAND WAS DOWN TO 100 METRES AT TIMES.

/EARLY ON .....

EARLY ON APRIL 7, A COLD FRONT FROM THE NORTH PASSED SOUTH ACROSS HONG KONG, RESULTING IN THUNDERSTORMS AND LATER SOME SHOWERS. TEMPERATURE DROPPED TO A MINIMUM OF 13.2 DEGREES EARLY NEXT MORNING. THIS WAS THE LOWEST TEMPERATURE FOR THE MONTH.

THE UNSETTLED WEATHER LASTED UNTIL THE NIGHT OF APRIL 8 WHEN A SURGE OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON ARRIVED. OFFSHORE WINDS AND LOCAL GUSTS REACHED STRONG FORCE. THESE CONDITIONS PERSISTED FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS.

THE WOODEN ROOF OF A ONE-STOREY BUILDING IN DIAMOND HILL WAS BLOWN OFF ON APRIL 9 WHILE TWO SCAFFOLDINGS, ONE IN HAPPY VALLEY AND THE OTHER IN SAI YING PUN, COLLAPSED ON APRIL 10.

SOME SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS AFFECTED HONG KONG DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF APRIL 11. THE APPROACH OF A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE OVER SOUTH CHINA THAT EVENING AGAIN GAVE RISE TO THUNDERY SHOWERS.

THE SHOWERY ACTIVITY LASTED UNTIL LATE ON APRIL 12. HOWEVER, CLOUDY CONDITIONS CONTINUED TO PREVAIL.

A RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE WAS ESTABLISHED OVER THE SOUTH CHINA COAST ON APRIL 14 AND THE SKY BEGAN TO CLEAR. BY THE MORNING OF APRIL 15, THE WEATHER HAD TURNED FINE. HOWEVER, ANOTHER SURGE OF THE NORTHEAST MONSOON ARRIVED THAT AFTERNOON, GIVING RISE TO CLOUDY CONDITIONS AND SOME LIGHT RAIN PATCHES.

THE WEATHER REMAINED ALMOST THE SAME FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS. THE MOIST EASTERLY AIRSTREAM WAS REPLACED BY DRIER NORTHERLY WINDS DURING THE EARLY HOURS OF APRIL 18. THE SKY CLEARED IN THE MORNING. HOWEVER, MOIST EASTERLIES RETURNED AND BROUGHT BACK THE CLOUDINESS THAT EVENING WHICH LASTED UNTIL THE NEXT DAY.

EARLY ON APRIL 20, ACTIVE SOUTHWESTERLIES SET IN AND THE WEATHER WAS SHOWERY WITH SCATTERED THUNDERSTORMS THROUGHOUT THE DAY.

MEANWHILE, ANOTHER TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE DEVELOPED OVER CENTRAL CHINA AND BEGAN TO MOVE SOUTHWARDS. IT CROSSED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST EARLY ON APRIL 21, GIVING RISE TO SHOWERS THROUGHOUT THE DAY. OCCASIONAL MIST AND FOG ALSO OCCURRED OFFSHORE.

WITH THE TROUGH LINGERING NEAR THE COAST, THE UNSETTLED WEATHER CONTINUED INTO THE NEXT DAY.

THE PREVALENCE OF EASTERLY WINDS KEPT THE WEATHER CLOUDY ON APRIL 23.

AS A RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE OVER CENTRAL CHINA EXTENDED SOUTHWARDS, CONDITIONS IMPROVED RAPIDLY ON APRIL 24 AND IT WAS MOSTLY SUNNY DURING THE DAY. THE RELATIVE HUMIDITY ALSO DROPPED CONSIDERABLY. A TOTAL OF 17 HILL FIRES OCCURRED THAT DAY.

APART FROM SOME CLOUDY PERIODS ON APRIL 26 AND OCCASIONAL MISTY AND FOGGY CONDITIONS OFFSHORE ON APRIL 27, THE WEATHER WAS MAINLY FINE.

A TROUGH OF LOW PRESSURE OVER SOUTH CHINA BROUGHT SOME SHOWERS TO HONG KONG ON APRIL 28. SOUTHWESTERLY WINDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE TROUGH BROUGHT THE TEMPERATURE TO A MAXIMUM OF 29.2 DEGREES CELSIUS WHICH WAS THE HIGHEST FOR THE MONTH. THIS WAS ALSO THE HIGHEST RECORDED FOR THE YEAR UP TO THAT DATE.

DURING THE PASSAGE OF THE TROUGH THAT EVENING, SHOWERS AND THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRED. FOR THE REMAINING TWO DAYS OF APRIL, THE WEATHER CONTINUED TO BE CLOUDY WITH ISOLATED SHOWERS.

DURING THE MONTH, NO TROPICAL CYCLONE OCCURRED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA. ONE AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED FROM HONG KONG DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER.

THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON APRIL 7, 8, 11, 12, 20, 21, 22, 28 AND 30 WHILE A FLOOD WARNING WAS ISSUED ON APRIL 20. THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON APRIL 9, 10, 15 AND 24.

THE ONLY SIGNAL HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WAS AS FOLLOWS:

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING	DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	APRIL 8 10.15 PM	APRIL 11 7 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	74.0 HOURS ;	46.2 HOURS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	10.53 MJ/SQ.M ;	3.16 MJ/SQ.M BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	82.4 MM ;	57.0 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD	84 PER CENT ;	8 PER CENT MORE THAN NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	78 PER CENT ;	5 PER CENT LOWER THAN NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	23.1 DEGREES ; CELSIUS	1.9 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	20.8 DEGREES ; CELSIUS	1.3 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	18.9 DEGREES ; CELSIUS	1.1 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	16.5 DEGREES ; CELSIUS	2.4 DEGREES CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	89.6 MM ;	22.9 MM BELOW NORMAL

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NORTH DB TO DISCUSS INTRODUCTION OF SUMMER TIME  
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THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD WILL HOLD A SUPPLEMENTARY MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO CONSIDER A PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE SUMMER TIME IN HONG KONG.

THE PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY (INFORMATION), MR MICHAEL ROWSE, AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY (INFORMATION), MISS KITTY CHOI, OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION BRANCH WILL BRIEF MEMBERS ON THE SUBJECT.

ALSO, A REPORT FROM THE NORTH DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE WILL BE TABLED FOR DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD'S SUPPLEMENTARY MEETING TO BEGIN AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE, JOCKEY CLUB ROAD, FANLING.

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DB COMMITTEE TO DISCUSS PROVISION OF SAI KUNG TOWN MAPS  
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THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD WILL CONSIDER A SUGGESTION TO PROVIDE MAPS FOR VISITORS TO SAI KUNG TOWN AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

MEMBERS WILL GIVE THEIR OPINIONS ON THE DESIGN OF THE MAPS AND PLACES WHERE THEY ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED. THE IDEA IS TO HAVE IMPORTANT PLACES SUCH AS THE BUS TERMINUS, POLICE STATION, CLINICS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING CLEARLY MARKED ON THE MAPS.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO DISCUSS PROPOSED WORKS ON A FOOTPATH AT HAM TIN WAN AND THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE IN THE 1988-91 TERM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE MEETING OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) IN THE DB CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, SAI KUNG GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, CHAN MAN STREET, SAI KUNG TOWN. THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 10 AM.

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MEET THE PUBLIC SCHEME ON DB COMMITTEE AGENDA

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MEMBERS OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS CONTINUATION OF THE BOARD'S MEET THE PUBLIC SCHEME AT A MEETING ON THURSDAY (MAY 12).

THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE COMMITTEE'S WORK PLAN FOR 1988-89, AND EXAMINE THE WORK PLANS OF THE BOARD'S FIVE OTHER COMMITTEES.

IN ADDITION, MEMBERS WILL BE BRIEFED ON A PROPOSED ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE NEW-TERM BOARD.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING TO BEGIN AT 2.30 PM ON THURSDAY (MAY 12) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICES BUILDING, TUNG YAN STREET.

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CENTRAL AND WESTERN SCHOOL HEADS TO DISCUSS YOUTH POLICY

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THE COUNCIL OF CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT SCHOOL HEADS WILL HOLD A FORUM ON THURSDAY (MAY 12) TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED YOUTH POLICY.

THE FORUM WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER THE COUNCIL'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 3 PM AT THE AUXILIARY POLICE OFFICERS' MESS, THIRD FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, CENTRAL.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLOR, MRS ROSANNA TAM, WILL SPEAK AT THE FORUM WHICH WILL BE CONDUCTED BY MR DAVID CHAN YUK-CHEUNG OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG.

OTHER GUESTS WILL INCLUDE THE ACTING CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS ELIZABETH TSE, AND A SENIOR EDUCATION OFFICER OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, MR WONG WING-TIM.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE FORUM.

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ROAD CLOSURE AND URBAN CLEARWAY

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MOTORISTS ARE ADVISED TO BE ON THE ALERT FOR A ROAD CLOSURE MEASURE IN YUEN LONG AND AN URBAN CLEARWAY RESTRICTION IN TAI WAI, SHA TIN, FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 13).

IN YUEN LONG, THE EXISTING ACCESS TO LOK MA CHAU VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD (SAN TIN SECTION) WILL BE CLOSED IN CONNECTION WITH THE NEW TERRITORIES CIRCULAR ROAD PROJECT.

ALL TRAFFIC FROM YUEN LONG AND FANLING GOING TO LOK MA CHAU, INCLUDING NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE NO. 75 PLYING BETWEEN YUEN LONG (FOOK HONG STREET) AND HA WAN TSUEN IN LOK MA CHAU, WILL BE DIVERTED VIA PAK SHEK AU INTERCHANGE AND ROAD SR-6.

IN TAI WAI, THE SOUTHERN LANE OF TSUEN NAM ROAD FROM A POINT ABOUT 62 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH CHIK LUK LANE TO A POINT ABOUT 65 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TAI WAI ROAD WILL BECOME A 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

THE MEASURE IS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW. NO VEHICLE WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP WITHIN THE URBAN CLEARWAY FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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SAI KUNG TOWN TRAFFIC CHANGES FOR TIN HAU FESTIVAL

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SPECIAL TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SAI KUNG TOWN FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (MAY 12) TO JUNE 5 TO FACILITATE A THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE TO BE HELD TO CELEBRATE THE TIN HAU FESTIVAL.

UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS, THE SECTION OF MAN NIN STREET FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH ROAD L7 TO ITS JUNCTION WITH SEE CHEUNG STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

VEHICLES ON MAN NIN STREET HEADING FOR YI CHUN STREET WILL BE DIVERTED VIA ROAD L7.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE ON-STREET PARKING SPACES ON MAN NIN STREET BETWEEN ROAD L7 AND SEE CHEUNG STREET WILL BE SUSPENDED.

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TRAFFIC CHANGES IN KOWLOON

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TO FACILITATE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION WORK, THE SECTION OF BOWRING STREET IN YAU MA TEI BETWEEN PARKES STREET AND WOOSUNG STREET WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 13) FOR ABOUT FOUR WEEKS.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE SECTION OF CANTON ROAD IN TSIM SHA TSUI FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH KOWLOON PARK DRIVE TO A POINT ABOUT 60 METRES SOUTH OF ITS JUNCTION WITH HAIPHONG ROAD WILL BE RE-ROUTED FROM TWO-WAY TO ONE-WAY SOUTHBOUND.

THE MEASURE IS TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW. VEHICLES EXITING FROM DEVELOPMENTS ON THIS SECTION OF CANTON ROAD WILL HAVE TO TURN RIGHT ONTO CANTON ROAD SOUTHBOUND.

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RESTRICTED ZONE ON HENNESSY ROAD TO BE EXTENDED

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THE EXISTING 7 AM TO MIDNIGHT DAILY RESTRICTED ZONE ALONG EASTBOUND HENNESSY ROAD IN CAUSEWAY BAY BETWEEN HOUSE NO. 503 AND ITS JUNCTION WITH PERCIVAL STREET WILL BE EXTENDED EASTWARDS BY 34 METRES FROM 10 AM ON FRIDAY (MAY 13).

THIS MEASURE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT TWO MONTHS FOR ROADWORKS.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SLIP ROAD ON ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR  
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TO FACILITATE ROADWORKS, THE SLIP ROAD LEADING FROM THE EASTBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF ISLAND EASTERN CORRIDOR TO THE JUNCTION OF TONG SHUI ROAD WITH KING'S ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC ON THURSDAY (MAY 12) AFTERNOON.

THE CLOSURE WILL LAST FROM 2.30 PM TO 2.45 PM ON THAT DAY.

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WATER CUT IN TSUEN WAN, KWAI CHUNG  
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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO ALL PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG WILL BE TURNED OFF ON FRIDAY (MAY 13) FROM 8.30 AM TO 7 PM DUE TO SUSPENSION OF ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO THE TSUEN WAN CENTRAL SALT WATER PUMPING STATION.

ALL PREMISES IN TSUEN WAN DISTRICT, KWAI CHUNG DISTRICT, INCLUDING SHEUNG KWAI CHUNG, HA KWAI CHUNG AND THE CONTAINER TERMINAL WILL BE AFFECTED.

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