



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1994

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GOVERNOR BEGINS FINAL LEG OF AUSTRALIAN VISIT

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON BEGAN THE FINAL STAGE OF HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO AUSTRALIA WHEN HE FLEW TO MELBOURNE FOR A FURTHER ROUND OF ENGAGEMENTS.

EARLIER IN THE DAY IN AN INTERVIEW ON MORNING TELEVISION, HE SAID THE ECONOMIC AND TRADE LINKS BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND HONG KONG WERE VERY CONSIDERABLE.

MR PATTEN ADDED THAT THE BUSINESS TIES TOGETHER WITH OTHER LINKS SUCH AS STUDENTS AND TOURISM HAD LED TO A GREATER UNDERSTANDING IN AUSTRALIA THAN PERHAPS IN SOME OTHER COUNTRIES OF WHAT HONG KONG WAS ALL ABOUT AND WHAT IT REQUIRED IN ORDER TO GO ON SURVIVING AS A PROSPEROUS AND FREE SOCIETY.

IN WINDING UP THE CANBERRA LEG, MR PATTEN MET THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA, MR BILL HAYDEN. THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A MEETING WITH THE PARLIAMENTARY JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE AND SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE.

DURING THIS SESSION, THE GOVERNOR DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE OF ECONOMIC AND TRADE ISSUES AND OTHER TRANSITIONAL MATTERS.

HE SAID HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE COMMITTEE'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN HONG KONG AND ITS FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

MR PATTEN ALSO HAD A MEETING AND WORKING LUNCH WITH SENIOR ACADEMICS OF THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY BEFORE FLYING TO MELBOURNE.

TONIGHT HE IS GUEST OF HONOUR AT A DINNER HOSTED BY THE VICTORIAN STATE MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT, MR PHILLIP GUDE, AND ATTENDED BY A CROSS SECTION OF MELBOURNE'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

TOMORROW MR PATTEN WILL VISIT SEVERAL PROMINENT COMPANIES TRADING IN HONG KONG AND THE ASIAN REGION, AS WELL AS DELIVERING A KEYNOTE ADDRESS TO CEDA, THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF AUSTRALIA.

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DEPUTY TO GOVERNOR VISITS SWD

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DEPUTY TO THE GOVERNOR, MRS ANSON CHAN TODAY (THURSDAY) VISITED THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT (SWD) AND A CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY IN WAN CHAI.

MRS CHAN WAS GREETED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, UPON ARRIVAL AT THE DEPARTMENT'S HEADQUARTERS.

SHE WAS BRIEFED BY STAFF ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN SOCIAL SECURITY, MANPOWER, SERVICE EXPANSION AND ENHANCEMENT OF SERVICE QUALITY.

/MRS CHAN

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MRS CHAN WAS IMPRESSED BY THE PROGRESS MADE IN A NUMBER OF AREAS SINCE FEBRUARY 1987 WHEN SHE WAS THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE.

LATER, SHE WENT TO THE BUDDHIST LI KA SHING CARE AND ATTENTION HOME AT TAI HANG ROAD.

MRS CHAN WATCHED A GROUP OF ELDERLY PEOPLE PRACTISING TAI CHI ON THE FIRST-FLOOR PODIUM AND CHATTED WITH SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS.

SHE THEN TOURED THE DORMITORIES AND DISTRIBUTED RED PACKETS TO THE RESIDENTS THERE. IN RETURN SHE WAS PRESENTED WITH A SCROLL OF CALLIGRAPHY.

MRS CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO HELP THOSE ELDERLY PEOPLE WHO WERE IN NEED OF RESIDENTIAL CARE.

IN THREE YEARS' TIME, THE NUMBER OF RESIDENTIAL CARE PLACES WILL BE INCREASED BY 5,200 PLACES. THE NUMBER OF PLACES IN CARE-AND-ATTENTION HOMES WILL BE 11,000 AND 8,200 IN HOMES FOR THE AGED.

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DEPUTY TO GOVERNOR, MRS ANSON CHAN, SPEAKS TO PRESS AFTER HER VISIT TO BUDDHIST LI KA SHING CARE AND ATTENTION HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

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QUESTION: MRS CHAN, WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO BEIJING'S LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC COMMENTS ON BRITAIN'S LATEST FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR THE NEW AIRPORT?

MRS CHAN: I AM NOT SURE THAT IT IS LESS THAN ENTHUSIASTIC. I THINK WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT THE CHINESE HAVE SAID THEY ARE CONSIDERING THE FOURTH FINANCING PROPOSAL WHICH WE HAVE PUT FORWARD TO THE CHINESE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSALS IN THIS FOURTH PACKAGE ADDRESS ALL THE CONCERNS THAT'VE BEEN PUT TO US BY THE CHINESE SIDE. OBVIOUSLY, WE WOULD WELCOME AN EARLY MEETING EITHER OF THE AIRPORT COMMITTEE OR OF THE EXPERT GROUP SO THAT WE CAN SIT DOWN TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS IN THIS FINANCING PROPOSAL AND IF THERE ARE FURTHER CONCERNS BY THE CHINESE, THE EARLIER WE HEAR ABOUT THEM THE BETTER.

QUESTION: MRS CHAN, WHAT IS YOUR REACTION TO THE PRIVATE LAW SUIT FILED AGAINST THE GOVERNOR THE REFORM PROPOSALS?

MRS CHAN: THE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS APPLIED TO THE HIGH COURT FOR THE WRIT TO BE STRUCK OUT BECAUSE WE DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS A REASONABLE CAUSE FOR SUCH ACTION TO BE TAKEN. INDEED, WE FEEL THAT THIS IS AN ABUSE OF THE PROCESS OF COURT.

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BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS)
(GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES) REGULATION

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A NEW REGULATION WHICH SETS OUT THE PROCEDURE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS IN GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES FOR THE DISTRICT BOARDS, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS, WILL BE GAZETTED TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION (REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS) (GEOGRAPHICAL CONSTITUENCIES) REGULATION SETS OUT, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE PROCEDURE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION IN THE PROVISIONAL AND THE FINAL REGISTER; AND THE POWER AND OBLIGATION OF THE REGISTRATION OFFICER.

THE REGULATION ALSO ENABLES A PERSON TO LODGE A NOTICE OF OBJECTION OR A NOTICE OF CLAIM WITH THE REGISTRATION OFFICER REGARDING ANY DECISION MADE BY THE REGISTRATION OFFICER IN RELATION TO AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.

IT ALSO PROVIDES FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION OF THE PROVISIONAL AND THE FINAL REGISTER.

THE REGULATION WAS MADE BY THE THREE-MEMBER BOUNDARY AND ELECTION COMMISSION WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED IN JULY LAST YEAR TO TAKE CHARGE OF ELECTORAL MATTERS INCLUDING THE REVIEW OF EXISTING REGULATIONS ON VOTER REGISTRATION.

THE COMMISSION IS CHAIRED BY MR JUSTICE WOO, THE OTHER TWO MEMBERS ARE PROFESSOR LEUNG CHI-KEUNG AND MR NORMAN LEUNG NAI-PANG.

THE REGULATION WAS MADE ON THE ADVICE OF THE WORKING GROUP ON SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION AND GUIDELINES APPOINTED BY THE COMMISSION TO REVIEW EXISTING REGULATIONS ON VOTER REGISTRATION AND TO RECOMMEND TO THE COMMISSION THE NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE CHANGES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EXISTING PROVISIONS.

THE WORKING GROUP IS HEADED BY MR JUSTICE WOO AS CONVENOR AND IT COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS BRANCH AND THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER.

THE REGULATION WILL BE TABLED AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL NEXT WEDNESDAY (FEBRUARY 23).

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LAND REGISTRATION FIGURES FOR JANUARY

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THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SALE AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS OF BUILDING UNITS, MAINLY FLATS, RECEIVED BY THE LAND REGISTRY LAST MONTH DECREASED BY 1.5 PER CENT COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS MONTH, BUT INCREASED BY 152.9 PER CENT COMPARED WITH JANUARY LAST YEAR.

IN ALL, 10,749 AGREEMENTS INVOLVING A TOTAL OF \$40.53 BILLION WERE RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION LAST MONTH.

THE FIGURES ARE INCLUDED IN THE MONTHLY STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE LAND REGISTRAR ON PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION AT THE URBAN AND NEW TERRITORIES LAND REGISTRIES.

A TABLE SHOWING THE RELEVANT STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER 1993 AND JANUARY 1993 WAS ALSO RELEASED.

SIX BUILDING MORTGAGES AND 9,013 OTHER MORTGAGES WERE RECEIVED FOR REGISTRATION LAST MONTH, COMPARED WITH 17 AND 10,001 RESPECTIVELY IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED UNDER NEW BUILDING MORTGAGES IN THE MONTH WAS \$0.45 BILLION COMPARED WITH \$0.61 BILLION IN JANUARY LAST YEAR.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED UNDER NEW MORTGAGES OTHER THAN BUILDING MORTGAGES DECREASED BY 7.3 PER CENT FROM \$8.78 BILLION IN JANUARY LAST YEAR TO \$8.14 BILLION IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

REPAYMENTS UNDER MORTGAGES OF ALL KINDS, AS EVIDENCED BY DISCHARGES AND MORTGAGEE'S RECEIPTS, INCREASED BY 14.7 PER CENT FROM \$3.68 BILLION IN JANUARY LAST YEAR TO \$4.22 BILLION IN JANUARY THIS YEAR.

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/THE LAND

THE LAND REGISTRY
 Consolidated Monthly Statistics in respect of deeds received for
 registration in the Urban and New Territories District Land Registries

Month : January 1994

Item	Nature of Deeds	Number of Deeds received for registration			Consideration (\$)		
		Urban	New Territories	Total	Urban	New Territories	Total
1.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Building Units	7,048 (7,452)	3,701 (3,825)	10,749 (11,277)	32,826,863,884.40	7,702,260,600.25	40,529,124,484.65
2.	Agreements for Sale and Purchase of Land	39	282	321	5,619,250,000.00	1,074,604,225.30	6,693,854,225.30
	Sub-total (1) + (2)	7,087	3,983	11,070	38,446,113,884.40	8,776,864,825.55	47,222,978,709.95
3.	Assignments of Building Units	6,158 (6,487)	3,423 (3,464)	9,581 (9,951)	22,537,517,067.18	5,583,448,062.80	28,120,965,129.98
4.	Assignments of Land	31	606	637	3,966,080,000.00	1,793,347,739.74	5,759,427,739.74
	Sub-total (3) + (4)	6,189	4,029	10,218	26,503,597,067.18	7,376,795,802.54	33,880,392,869.72
5.	Building Mortgages/Building Legal Charges	4	2	6	403,773,000.00	43,000,000.00	446,773,000.00
6.	Other Mortgages/Legal Charges	5,537	3,476	9,013	6,977,560,458.04	1,160,297,647.75	8,137,858,105.79
	Sub-total (5) + (6)	5,541	3,478	9,019	7,381,333,458.04	1,203,297,647.75	8,584,631,105.79
7.	Receipts/Discharges/Releases	4,289	2,515	6,804	3,638,323,921.71	584,289,128.79	4,222,613,050.50
8.	Leases/Tenancy Agreements	438	185	623			
9.	Exclusion Orders	0	3	3			
10.	Others	3,003	2,211	5,214			
	Total	26,547	16,404	42,951	75,969,368,331.33	17,941,247,404.63	93,910,615,735.96

Note : Figures in brackets denote number of units involved

1993 DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS
CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN

* * * * *

IN 1993, THE THREE MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUPS OF TEXTILES, WEARING APPAREL AND CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 56% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURED GOODS, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF TEXTILES AND CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS DECREASED BOTH BY 10% IN 1993 AS COMPARED WITH A YEAR EARLIER TO \$46.6 BILLION AND \$34.5 BILLION RESPECTIVELY. FOR WEARING APPAREL, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ALSO DROPPED BY 3% TO \$41.5 BILLION.

AS FOR 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 (+\$3,809 MILLION OR +15%); NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS (+\$250 MILLION OR +54%); AND CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS (+\$196 MILLION OR +3%).

FOR THE BEVERAGES INDUSTRY, ALTHOUGH THE ABSOLUTE VALUE OF THE CHANGE WAS NOT AS LARGE, A FAIRLY LARGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE (+21%) WAS REGISTERED.

ON THE OTHER HAND, INDUSTRY GROUPS WHICH RECORDED MORE NOTABLE ABSOLUTE DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS INCLUDED PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT (-\$2,807 MILLION OR -15%); PLASTIC PRODUCTS (-\$1,200 MILLION OR -18%); AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS (-\$199 MILLION OR -2%).

FOR THE FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY, ALTHOUGH THE ABSOLUTE VALUE OF THE CHANGE WAS NOT AS LARGE, A MARKED PERCENTAGE DECLINE OF 40% WAS 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, THE HSIC IS MORE RELATED TO PRODUCTION PROCESSES WHEREAS THE SITC IS MORE GEARED TO END USES OF PRODUCTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS 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.

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.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

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

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

/DOMESTIC EXPORTS

Domestic exports of manufactured goods classified by industrial origin
for the whole year of 1993

(Value in HK\$ million)

Industrial origin of the commodities exported	Merchandise domestic exports			
	1993 whole year	1992 whole year	Value change	% change
Food	2,117	2,278	-161	-7.1
Beverages	529	437	+91	+20.9
Tobacco manufactures	2,423	2,610	-187	-7.2
Textiles (including knitting)	46,625	51,777	-5,152	-10.0
Wearing apparel, except footwear	41,535	42,831	-1,295	-3.0
Leather and leather products, except footwear and wearing apparel	1,675	1,718	-43	-2.5
Footwear, except rubber, plastic and wooden footwear	241	402	-161	-40.1
Wood and cork products, furniture and fixtures	434	488	-54	-11.1
Paper and paper products, printing and publishing	7,723	7,673	+50	+0.7
Chemicals and chemical products	6,748	6,552	+196	+3.0
Products of petroleum and coal	14	14	*	+1.1
Rubber products	98	120	-22	-18.1
Plastic products	5,660	6,860	-1,200	-17.5
Non-metallic mineral products, except products of petroleum and coal	714	465	+250	+53.7
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	9,315	9,513	-199	-2.1
Machinery, equipment, apparatus, parts and components	29,682	25,873	+3,809	+14.7
Consumer electrical and electronic products	34,487	38,224	-3,738	-9.8
Transport equipment	217	204	+13	+6.6
Professional and optical equipment	15,739	18,546	-2,807	-15.1
Other manufacturing industries	14,478	14,823	-344	-2.3
Total	220,454	231,406	-10,953	-4.7

* Value change within \pm \$0.5 million

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

February 1994

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STATISTICS ON TRADE INVOLVING OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA,
THIRD QUARTER 1993

* * * * *

IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993, 47% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING; THE FIGURE WAS 73% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND 41% FOR RE-EXPORTS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, 73% OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA WERE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING.

THESE ARE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, 81% OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA WERE PRODUCED THROUGH OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA.

THE CORRESPONDING PROPORTIONS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1992 WERE 54% FOR TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA, 76% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA, 48% FOR RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA, 71% FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA AND 81% FOR RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA.

IN JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1993, 48% OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING; THE FIGURE WAS 73% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AND 42% FOR RE-EXPORTS.

ON THE OTHER HAND, 73% OF HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA WERE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, 81% OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA WERE PRODUCED THROUGH OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA.

THE CORRESPONDING PROPORTIONS IN JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1992 WERE 54% FOR TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA, 75% FOR DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA, 48% FOR RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA, 71% FOR IMPORTS FROM CHINA AND 79% FOR RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA.

THE DECREASES IN THE PROPORTION OF EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING AS RECORDED IN JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1993 REFLECT THAT HONG KONG'S EXPORTS FOR MEETING DOMESTIC DEMAND IN CHINA, VIZ. EXPORTS TO CHINA NOT DESTINED FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING, INCREASED AT A FASTER PACE THAN OUTWARD PROCESSING TRADE DURING THE PERIOD.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID THIS WAS IN LINE WITH THE SUSTAINED INCREASE IN DOMESTIC DEMAND IN CHINA FOR IMPORTED GOODS.

TO PROVIDE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE NATURE AND IMPORTANCE OF OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA INITIATED BY HONG KONG FIRMS, THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN CONDUCTING A SAMPLE SURVEY AS FROM THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1988 TO DISTINGUISH HONG KONG'S EXPORTS TO CHINA INTO THOSE WHICH ARE FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING AND THOSE WHICH ARE NOT.

THE SCOPE OF THE SURVEY HAS BEEN EXTENDED AS FROM THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1989 SO AS TO SEGREGATE HONG KONG'S IMPORTS FROM CHINA INTO THOSE WHICH ARE RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING AND THOSE WHICH ARE NOT.

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STARTING FROM THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991, THE SCOPE OF THE SURVEY HAS FURTHER BEEN EXTENDED SO AS TO SEGREGATE HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA WHICH ARE PRODUCED THROUGH OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA AND THOSE WHICH ARE NOT.

THE RESULTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER AND JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1993 ARE NOW AVAILABLE.

IN VALUE TERMS, \$41,117 MILLION OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1993 WERE FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 10% OVER THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1992.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING DECREASED BY 3% TO \$11,678 MILLION WHILST THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING GREW BY 15% TO \$29,439 MILLION.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING INCREASED BY 20% TO \$81,053 MILLION.

ON THE OTHER HAND, \$104,150 MILLION OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA WERE PRODUCED THROUGH OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 20%.

IN JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1993, \$116,605 MILLION OF HONG KONG'S TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA WERE FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 13% OVER JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1992.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING GREW BY 3% TO \$33,241 MILLION AND 17% TO \$83,363 MILLION RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING INCREASED BY 17% TO \$211,726 MILLION.

ON THE OTHER HAND, \$265,158 MILLION OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA WERE PRODUCED THROUGH OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA, REPRESENTING AN INCREASE OF 22%.

THE ESTIMATES FOR THE THIRD QUARTER AND JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1993 AND THE CORRESPONDING CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992 ARE SUMMARISED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

ESTIMATED VALUE AND PROPORTION OF TRADE INVOLVING OUTWARD PROCESSING
IN CHINA, 3RD QUARTER AND JANUARY-SEPTEMBER 1993

	3RD	PERCENTAGE	JAN-	PERCENTAGE
	QTR	CHANGE	SEPT	CHANGE OVER
	1993	OVER 3RD	1993	JAN-SEPT
	-----	QTR 1992	-----	1992
	(HKD MN)	(%)	(HKD MN)	(%)
TOTAL TRADE VALUE * :				

TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA	87,203	+25.7	245,380	+28.2
DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA	16,085	+ 2.2	45,527	+ 5.5
RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA	71,118	+32.6	199,852	+34.8
IMPORTS FROM CHINA	111,396	+17.0	290,878	+13.8
RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA	128,806	+19.7	327,732	+18.9

ESTIMATED VALUE INVOLVING OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA :

TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA	41,117	+ 9.5	116,605	+12.8
DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA	11,678	- 2.5	33,241	+ 2.9
RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA	29,439	+15.2	83,363	+17.3
IMPORTS FROM CHINA	81,053	+19.7	211,726	+16.9
RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA	104,150	+19.5	265,158	+22.3

ESTIMATED PROPORTION INVOLVING OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA :

	3RD	3RD	JAN-	JAN-
	QTR	QTR	SEPT	SEPT
	1993	1992	1993	1992
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)
TOTAL EXPORTS TO CHINA	47.2	54.1	47.5	54.0
DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CHINA	72.6	76.1	73.0	74.9
RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA	41.7	47.6	41.7	47.9
IMPORTS FROM CHINA	72.8	71.1	72.8	70.9
RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA	80.9	81.0	80.9	78.7

* THE VALUE EXCLUDES COMMODITIES AND TRANSACTIONS NOT CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO KIND.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY, EXPORTS (DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS) TO CHINA FOR OUTWARD PROCESSING REFER TO THE EXPORTATION OF RAW MATERIALS OR SEMI-MANUFACTURES FROM OR THROUGH HONG KONG TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING WITH A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT FOR SUBSEQUENT RE-IMPORTATION OF THE PROCESSED GOODS INTO HONG KONG.

IMPORTS FROM CHINA RELATED TO OUTWARD PROCESSING REFER TO THE IMPORTATION OF PROCESSED GOODS FROM CHINA OF WHICH ALL OR PART OF THEIR RAW MATERIALS OR SEMI-MANUFACTURES HAVE BEEN UNDER CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT EXPORTED FROM OR THROUGH HONG KONG TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING.

RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA PRODUCED THROUGH OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA REFER TO THOSE RE-EXPORTS OF WHICH ALL OR PART OF THEIR RAW MATERIALS OR SEMI-MANUFACTURES HAVE BEEN EXPORTED FROM OR THROUGH HONG KONG TO CHINA FOR PROCESSING WITH A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT FOR SUBSEQUENT RE-IMPORTATION OF THE PROCESSED GOODS INTO HONG KONG.

IN INTERPRETING THE STATISTICS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE VALUE AND PROPORTION OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA AND RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA INVOLVING OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA REFER TO THOSE OF THE ENTIRE GOODS INSTEAD OF JUST THE VALUE ADDED CONTRIBUTED BY OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA.

A SAMPLE OF TRADE DECLARATIONS IN RESPECT OF HONG KONG'S TRADE WITH CHINA (DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA, AND IMPORTS FROM CHINA) AS WELL AS HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO ALL COUNTRIES OTHER THAN CHINA IS SELECTED FOR ENUMERATION TO OBTAIN THE REQUIRED INFORMATION FROM THE ESTABLISHMENTS CONCERNED.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT UNDER THE INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED SYSTEM OF RECORDING TRADE FLOWS, ALL MOVEMENTS OF GOODS ACROSS THE BORDER, FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE, WERE RECORDED AS EXTERNAL TRADE.

THUS THE MOVEMENTS OF GOODS ASSOCIATED WITH OUTWARD PROCESSING ARE CORRECTLY INCLUDED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS.

THE FINDINGS OF THE SURVEY, HOWEVER, FACILITATE A MORE INFORMED ANALYSIS OF THE NATURE OF HONG KONG-CHINA TRADE.

IN THIS RESPECT, THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE A USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS.

THE SURVEY RESULTS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE DECEMBER 1993 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE".

THE REPORT WILL BE ON SALE BY THE END OF THIS MONTH AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI AT \$68.5 A COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE TRADE SURVEYS AND RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 5037.

TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT MEETS TAXI OPERATORS

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE ISSUE OF NEW TAXI LICENCES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THE DEPARTMENT HELD MEETINGS WITH TWO TAXI OPERATOR GROUPS TODAY (THURSDAY) TO LISTEN TO THEIR OPPOSITE VIEWS.

AS REGARDS THE POLICY ON ISSUE OF TAXI LICENCES, HE SAID THE ISSUE WAS ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL TOPICS EXAMINED UNDER THE TAXI POLICY REVIEW WHICH WAS DISCUSSED BY THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON JANUARY 25 THIS YEAR.

THE GOVERNMENT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE A VIEW ON THE TAXI POLICY REVIEW SOON.

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SPEEDPOST SERVICE EXTENDS TO VIETNAM

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THE POSTMASTER GENERAL, MR MIKE PAGLIARI, ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT WITH EFFECT FROM FEBRUARY 28 RECIPROCAL SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL BE EXTENDED TO VIETNAM.

THIS WILL BRING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OVERSEAS DESTINATIONS SERVED BY SPEEDPOST TO 62.

SPEEDPOST SERVICE WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE FOLLOWING 16 CITIES IN VIETNAM:

HANOI CAPITAL, HO CHI MINH CITY, VUNG TAU TOWN, CAN THO CITY, HAI PHONG CITY, HA DONG TOWN, HAI DUONG TOWN, HON GAI TOWN, DA NANG CITY, HUE CITY, TRA VINH TOWN, THU DAU MOT TOWN, BIEN HOA TOWN, TAN AN TOWN, VINH LONG TOWN AND NAM DINH CITY.

SPEEDPOST ITEMS ADDRESSED TO HANOI CAPITAL AND HO CHI MINH CITY WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE NEXT WORKING DAY AFTER POSTING.

ITEMS ADDRESSED TO THE OTHER 14 CITIES WILL BE DELIVERED ON THE SECOND WORKING DAY AFTER POSTING.

THERE WILL BE NO DELIVERY ON SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

BUSINESS PAPERS, SAMPLES AND MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE ADMISSIBLE. BOTH 'CONTRACT' AND 'ON DEMAND' SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE.

THE MAXIMUM WEIGHT FOR AN INDIVIDUAL ITEM IS 20 KG, AND THE POSTAGE RATES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

	VIETNAM

ITEMS WEIGHING NOT OVER 250G	\$100
ITEMS WEIGHING NOT OVER 500G	\$110
EACH SUBSEQUENT ADDITIONAL 500G	\$ 30
KILOPAK SPECIAL RATE	\$130

/SPEEDPOST IS

SPEEDPOST IS A FAST AND RELIABLE SERVICE FOR FORWARDING DOCUMENTS, SAMPLES AND MERCHANDISE OVERSEAS.

CUSTOMERS REQUIRING MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT SPEEDPOST SERVICE TO VIETNAM AND SPEEDPOST SERVICE IN GENERAL MAY CONTACT THE POSTAL SERVICES REPRESENTATIVES ON TEL 9221 2277.

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RADIO PROGRAMME FOR FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION STARTS

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A NEW RADIO PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE) WILL BE ON AIR ON RADIO 5 OF RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG (RTHK), STARTING FROM SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 19).

THE ONE-HOUR PROGRAMME, ENTITLED "HARMONIOUS LIFE", WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE THROUGH AM 783 AT 11 AM.

THE LATEST WEEKLY SERIES IS JOINTLY PRODUCED BY THE COMMITTEE ON FLE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN AND RTHK, IN VIEW OF HIGH LEVEL OF PUBLIC ACCEPTANCE OF THE LAST TWO SERIES.

A VETERAN FLE WORKER WILL ATTEND THE SHOW AND TELL THE KEYS TO BETTER THE TIES OF MARRIAGE. PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO CALL IN TO EXPRESS VIEWS.

THIS SERIES IS TARGETED AT MARRIED COUPLES AND THOSE ABOUT TO GET MARRIED. PREPARATION FOR MARRIAGE AND HAPPY MARRIAGE WILL BE THE FOCUSES OF THE PROGRAMME.

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EDUCATION COMMISSION WORKING GROUP LAUNCHES LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY SURVEY

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A \$1.5 MILLION SURVEY OF VIEWS ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN HONG KONG, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY A TEAM OF EXPERTS FROM THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC AND THE CITY POLYTECHNIC OF HONG KONG.

THIS WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY MS ANGELA CHEUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY.

"WE BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST SUCH SURVEY EVER CONDUCTED IN HONG KONG," SAID MS CHEUNG.

"IT HAS TWO AIMS: FIRST, WE WANT TO IDENTIFY THE VIEWS OF EDUCATORS, EMPLOYERS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS ABOUT CURRENT LEVELS OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY IN CANTONESE, WRITTEN CHINESE, PUTONGHUA, AND ENGLISH.

"SECONDLY, WE WANT TO IDENTIFY THOSE FACTORS WHICH HELP, AND THOSE FACTORS WHICH HINDER, THE ACQUISITION BY STUDENTS OF DESIRED LEVELS OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY DURING THEIR FORMAL EDUCATION."

SHE SAID THE WORKING GROUP INVITED A LARGE NUMBER OF LOCAL ACADEMIC EXPERTS AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES LAST DECEMBER TO EXPRESS INTEREST IN THE SURVEY.

ONLY ONE FORMAL WRITTEN PROPOSAL, FROM A TEAM LED BY MR YU FONG-YING AND MR P K LUI OF THE HONG HONG POLYTECHNIC, WAS RECEIVED.

MR YU IS A UNIVERSITY SENIOR LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHINESE, TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION. MR LUI IS A PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES.

THE SURVEY WILL COVER MORE THAN 8,000 INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS, TEACHERS, PARENTS, PRINCIPALS AND EMPLOYERS. THE SAMPLES WILL BE DRAWN FROM 60 PRIMARY SCHOOLS, 60 SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND ALL SEVEN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

AS WELL AS ADMINISTERING MORE THAN 8,000 QUESTIONNAIRES, THE SURVEY TEAM WILL CONDUCT IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS WITH MORE THAN 500 STUDENTS, TEACHERS, PARENTS AND SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

THE WORK OF SAMPLE SELECTION AND QUESTIONNAIRE DESIGN HAS ALREADY STARTED, AND FIELD WORK WILL BEGIN IN EARLY MARCH, AND CONTINUE THROUGH INTO APRIL.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE WORKING GROUP BY THE MIDDLE OF MAY, AND MORE DETAILED RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS BY THE END OF JUNE.

"I AM WRITING TO ALL THE SCHOOLS AND TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN THE SURVEY, SEEKING THEIR FULL CO-OPERATION IN THIS IMPORTANT EXERCISE," SAID MS CHEUNG.

"WE ALL KNOW HOW IMPORTANT LANGUAGE SKILLS ARE TO THE COMMUNITY. WE ALSO KNOW HOW DIFFICULT AND FRUSTRATING IT CAN BE FOR STUDENTS TO ACQUIRE THOSE SKILLS, IF THEY DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT KIND OF SUPPORT AND STIMULATION.

"THE WORKING GROUP IS LOOKING FOR PRACTICABLE WAYS TO MAXIMISE THE SUPPORTING FACTORS, AND MINIMISE THE FRUSTRATIONS INVOLVED IN ACQUIRING, OR HELPING STUDENTS TO ACQUIRE, GOOD LANGUAGE SKILLS.

"THIS SURVEY WILL BE AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THE WORKING GROUP.

"THE SURVEY FINDINGS WILL ALSO BE A USEFUL REFERENCE FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCHERS STUDYING PARTICULAR ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE IN HONG KONG," SHE ADDED.

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LAST FORUM ON ARTS DEVELOPMENT

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THE FINAL IN A SERIES OF FIVE PUBLIC FORUMS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WORKING GROUP WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 19) FROM 9 AM UNTIL NOON AT THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBER, 3 EDINBURGH PLACE, CENTRAL, HONG KONG.

THIS FORUM WILL COVER THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- * FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN THE ARTS;
- * REPRESENTATION OF THE ARTS COMMUNITY ON THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL;

- * MASS MEDIA'S ROLE IN ARTS; AND
- * ANY OTHER ISSUES NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED IN THIS SERIES OF FORUMS.

THE MODERATOR OF THIS FORUM IS THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, MISS CHRISTINE LOH. THE SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

- * SIR JOSEPH HOTUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP
- * DR LO CHI-KIN
- * DR STEPHEN SZE MAN-HUNG
- * DR MATHEW TURNER
- * MR JASON YUEN
- * MR WONG LUEN-KIN

THE SECRETARY FOR RECREATION AND CULTURE, MR JAMES SO, WILL ALSO ATTEND THE FORUM AND ANSWER QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE BRANCH.

THE WORKING GROUP ALSO INVITES MEMBERS OF THE ARTS COMMUNITY AND INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORUM.

THE FORUM IS ORGANISED TO OBTAIN CONSTRUCTIVE IDEAS AND NEW INITIATIVES FOR THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO FURTHER DEVELOPING THE ARTS IN HONG KONG IN THE 1990'S AND BEYOND.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	\$ MILLION

OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,780
REVERSAL OF LAF	+220
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	3,000
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-980
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,020
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 125.6 **0.0* 17.2.94

/HONG KONG

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1994.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.56	18 MONTHS	2508	4.625	100.22	4.29
1 MONTH	2.90	21 MONTHS	2511	4.15	99.55	4.46
3 MONTHS	3.22	24 MONTHS	2602	4.40	99.65	4.64
6 MONTHS	3.47	32 MONTHS	3610	4.20	98.30	4.94
12 MONTHS	3.81	35 MONTHS	3701	4.60	99.07	5.00

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 17,572 MN

CLOSED 17 FEBRUARY 1994

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