



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR MARCH PUBLISHED

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (FRIDAY) PUBLISHED THE NEW SERIES OF 1989/90-BASED CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES (OCT. 89/SEP. 90 = 100) AS WELL AS THE 1984/85-BASED SERIES (OCT. 84/SEP. 85 = 100) FOR MARCH 1991.

THE 1989/90-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) HAVE BEEN COMPILED SINCE OCTOBER 1990 AND WILL BE RELEASED IN PARALLEL WITH THE 1984/85-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) AS FROM THIS MONTH. THE LATTER SERIES WILL BE DISCONTINUED AFTER MARCH 1992.

THE 1989/90-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) FOR MARCH 1991 WERE 111.9 AND 111.1 RESPECTIVELY. COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991, CPI(A) INCREASED BY 1.4% AND CPI(B) BY 0.9%, LARGELY BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES OF CIGARETTES, HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, HIGHER PRICES OF FRESH FRUITS AND HIGHER RENTS FOR SOME PRIVATE HOUSING UNITS.

AS COMPILATION OF THE 1989/90-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) SERIES ONLY BEGAN FROM OCTOBER 1990, REFERENCE HAS TO BE MADE TO THE 1984/85-BASED CPI'S FOR YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON OF PRICE MOVEMENTS.

THE 1984/85-BASED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) FOR MARCH 1991, AT 155.8 AND 153.9 RESPECTIVELY, WERE 12.9% AND 12.3% RESPECTIVELY HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1990. THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF INCREASE IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1991 WERE 10.8% AND 11.9% RESPECTIVELY FOR BOTH CPI(A) AND CPI(B).

THE FASTER RATES OF INCREASE RECORDED IN MARCH WERE MAINLY DUE TO THE INCREASE IN THE PRICES OF TOBACCO. EXCLUDING THE HIGHER TOBACCO DUTY WHICH ACCOUNTS FOR SLIGHTLY MORE THAN ONE PERCENTAGE POINT ON THE CPI(A) AND NEARLY ONE PERCENTAGE POINT ON THE CPI(B), AND THE CONCURRENT INCREASE IN TOBACCO PRICE OVER AND ABOVE THIS HIGHER DUTY, BOTH CPI(A) AND CPI(B) WERE 11.2% HIGHER IN MARCH 1991 THAN IN 1990.

THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) OF THE 1984/85-BASED SERIES FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1991, AT 146.1 AND 145.5 RESPECTIVELY, WERE BOTH 10.4% HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED MARCH 1990.

FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991, THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) OF THE 1984/85-BASED SERIES INCREASED BY 11.9% AND 11.6% RESPECTIVELY OVER THE SAME QUARTER LAST YEAR.

ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON, FASTER RATES OF INCREASE IN THE 1984/85-BASED CPI(A) IN MARCH 1991 WERE RECORDED IN THE INDEXES FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO FOR HOME CONSUMPTION (69.8%), SERVICES (14.2%), TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES (13.6%) AND HOUSING (13.2%).

THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF INCREASE FOR THE SAME COMPONENTS IN THE 1984/85-BASED CPI(B) WERE 65.2%, 13.0%, 14.4% AND 12.3% RESPECTIVELY.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS, WHICH HAS THE LARGEST WEIGHTING IN THE INDEX, INCREASED BY 11.2% IN CPI(A) AND BY 11.7% IN CPI(B). THESE FIVE COMPONENTS TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 89% OF THE OVERALL INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) AND 88% OF THE INCREASE IN THE CPI(B).

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED MARCH 1991, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(A) AND CPI(B) OF THE 1989/90-BASED SERIES INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 1.3% AND 1.2% PER MONTH RESPECTIVELY.

THE 1989/90-BASED CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS DERIVED FROM THE 1989/90 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

THE CPI(A) IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF ABOUT 50% OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH HAD AN AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OF \$2,500-\$9,999 A MONTH IN 1989/90.

THE CPI(B) IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF THE NEXT 30% OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS, WHICH HAD AN AVERAGE MONTHLY EXPENDITURE OF \$10,000-\$17,499 IN THE SAME PERIOD.

PRICE MOVEMENTS DESCRIBED BELOW ARE BASED ON THE 1989/90-BASED CPI SERIES.

CHANGES IN THE INDEXES FOR MARCH 1991 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AS COMPARED WITH FEBRUARY 1991 ARE GIVEN BELOW.

SECTION	(OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 = 100)			
	CPI(A)		CPI(B)	
	INDEX FOR MAR 91	% CHANGE OVER FEB 91	INDEX FOR MAR 91	% CHANGE OVER FEB 91
FOODSTUFFS	111.6	+0.3	112.2	+0.5
MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME	114.2	+1.7	114.1	+1.5
FOODSTUFFS, EXCLUDING MEALS BOUGHT AWAY FROM HOME	109.0	-1.0	109.7	-0.9
HOUSING	112.4	+0.7	112.1	+0.9
FUEL AND LIGHT	111.0	-1.7	110.4	-1.8
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	165.9	+51.7	151.6	+37.7
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	102.4	+0.2	102.6	-0.1
DURABLE GOODS	104.2	+0.6	103.9	+0.9
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	106.6	+0.5	106.1	+0.5
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	110.2	-0.1	111.7	+0.2
SERVICES	112.0	-0.9	110.7	-1.1
ALL ITEMS	111.9	+1.4	111.1	+0.9

/COMPARING MARCH

COMPARING MARCH 1991 WITH FEBRUARY 1991, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 0.3% IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.5% IN CPI(B). THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO INCREASES IN THE CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES AND IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH FRUIT, WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE DECREASES IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, LIVE POULTRY AND SOME FRESH SEA PRODUCTS INCLUDING SHRIMPS AND CRABS.

THE INDEX FOR HOUSING INCREASED BY 0.7% IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.9% IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER RENTS FOR SOME PRIVATE HOUSING UNITS.

THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT DECREASED BY 1.7% IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.8% IN CPI(B) DUE TO LOWER PRICES OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS AS WELL AS THE DOWNWARD FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT FOR TOWNGAS.

THE INDEX FOR ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION) INCREASED BY 51.7% IN CPI(A) AND BY 37.7% IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES OF CIGARETTES AND ALCOHOLIC DRINKS ARISING FROM INCREASED DUTIES.

THE INDEX FOR DURABLE GOODS INCREASED BY 0.6% IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.9% IN CPI(B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES OF TRAVEL GOODS, OPTICAL GOODS AND VIDEO AND SOUND EQUIPMENT.

THE INDEX FOR SERVICES DECREASED BY 0.9% IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.1% IN CPI(B) AS CHARGES FOR HAIRDRESSING AND PACKAGE TOURS RETURNED TO NORMAL AFTER THE CHINESE NEW YEAR.

FIGURES HEREIN REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TAKEN TO MORE THAN ONE DECIMAL PLACE.

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR MARCH 1991, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$7 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, CENTRAL FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDEXES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 805 6403.

THE 1989/90-BASED HANG SENG CPI WAS 110.7 IN MARCH 1991, UP BY 0.4% OVER FEBRUARY 1991 WHILE THE 1984/85-BASED HANG SENG CPI WAS 163.0 IN MARCH 1991, UP BY 12.2% OVER MARCH 1990.

THE 1989/90-BASED HANG SENG CPI IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF ABOUT 10% OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG WHICH SPENT \$17,500-\$37,499 A MONTH DURING 1989/90.

FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THIS INDEX ARE INCLUDED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

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HK OFFICIALS TO ATTEND MEETING ON INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, MR ALISTAIR ASPREY, AND THE REFUGEE CO-ORDINATOR, MR CLINTON LEEKS, WILL BE REPRESENTING THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AT THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INDOCHINESE REFUGEES.

THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE IN GENEVA ON APRIL 30 AND MAY 1.

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HK TO PLAY HOST TO ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK MEETING

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THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB) HAS PASSED A RESOLUTION TO HOLD ITS NEXT (25TH) ANNUAL MEETING IN HONG KONG FROM MAY 4 TO 6, 1992.

WELCOMING THE OPPORTUNITY OF HOSTING THE MEETING WHICH WILL BE ATTENDED BY 2,000 TO 3,000 ADB DELEGATES, TOP BANKERS AND FINANCIAL FIGURES FROM AROUND THE WORLD, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT AS AN INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CENTRE, HONG KONG IS AN APPROPRIATE VENUE FOR THIS IMPORTANT OCCASION.

"THIS IS THE FIRST EVER ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ADB IN HONG KONG AND A MILESTONE FOR THE ORGANISATION MARKING MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF HELPING TO DEVELOP ECONOMIC GROWTH AND CO-OPERATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HONG KONG JOINED THE ADB IN 1969, AND IS AMONG THE BANK'S EARLIEST MEMBERS. MEMBERSHIP OF THE ADB NOW STANDS AT 51.

A HONG KONG DELEGATION LED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, SIR PIERS JACOBS, IS NOW IN VANCOUVER ATTENDING THE 24TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ADB.

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PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED INTO
PARTIAL COLLAPSE OF BUILDING

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THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, TODAY (FRIDAY) CONFIRMED THAT A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION OF THE PARTIAL COLLAPSE YESTERDAY OF A BUILDING UNDER DEMOLITION IN SHEUNG WAN HAD BEEN CONDUCTED AND ALL ASPECTS OF SAFETY WOULD BE URGENTLY EXAMINED IN DETAIL.

"THESE INCLUDE THE ADEQUACY UNDER THE TERMS OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT AND SUPERVISING THE DEMOLITION IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE; THE ADEQUACY OF THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE PROVISIONS GOVERNING DEMOLITION GENERALLY; AND THE NEED TO INCREASE INSPECTION OF DEMOLITION SITES BY BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE STAFF," HE SAID.

"THE DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS ON AS MANY AS 100 SITES IS TAKING PLACE DAILY WITHOUT CAUSING DANGER TO WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC. THERE IS OBVIOUSLY AN URGENT NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT WENT WRONG IN THIS CASE," HE ADDED.

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(THREE GOVT LOTS SOLD FOR \$492 MILLION

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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND WERE SOLD FOR A TOTAL OF \$492 MILLION AT A PUBLIC AUCTION TODAY (FRIDAY) HELD BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE FIRST LOT, MEASURING ABOUT 10,490 SQUARE METRES, IS LOCATED AT AREA 6, MA WO, TAI PO. IT IS FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

IT WAS BOUGHT BY PEACE SUCCESS DEVELOPMENT LTD AT \$325 MILLION. BIDDING OPENED AT \$220 MILLION.

THE BUILDING COVENANT STIPULATES THAT THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 17,600 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1995.

THE SECOND LOT WITH AN AREA OF 2,020 SQUARE METRES IS AT LAM LOK STREET, KOWLOON BAY, AND IS INTENDED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES, EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE.

THE LOT WAS SOLD TO THOUSAND GROWTH DEVELOPMENT LTD FOR \$131 MILLION, WITH BIDDING OPENING AT \$60 MILLION.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 12,000 SQUARE METRES WITHIN 48 MONTHS.

/THE THIRD

THE THIRD LOT IS LOCATED AT AREA 26, ON LOK TSUEN, FANLING.

IT HAS AN AREA OF 1,966 SQUARE METRES AND IS TO BE USED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES, EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE AND ANY GODOWN FOR DANGEROUS GOODS.

BIDDING OPENED AT \$20 MILLION, THE LOT WAS BOUGHT BY HARVESTRAD INVESTMENT LTD FOR \$36 MILLION.

THE DEVELOPER HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 5,898 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, 1995.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE, WAS CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT, MR TIM MILLS.

MR MILLS SAID THE RESULTS WERE EXTREMELY GOOD.

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VARIOUS ISSUES DISCUSSED AT
LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
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AT A MEETING OF THE LAND AND BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE YESTERDAY (THURSDAY), MEMBERS WERE BRIEFED ON THE PROGRESS OF THE REVIEW OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE AND NOTED THAT A CONSULTATION DOCUMENT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN JULY THIS YEAR.

THEY WERE ALSO INFORMED THAT THE TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 WAS GAZETTED ON APRIL 19, 1991, REGARDING THE SETTING UP OF AN APPEAL BOARD TO REPLACE THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL IN THE CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS TO THE DECISIONS OF THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD UNDER SECTION 17(7) OF THE TOWN PLANNING ORDINANCE.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED THE RECENTLY INTRODUCED BUILDING (ADMINISTRATION) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1991 TO CHARGE FEES FOR THE PROCESSING OF BUILDING PLANS.

THE MEETING NOTED THAT THE SYSTEM WAS BEING CLOSELY MONITORED BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT AND THAT AN AD HOC GROUP HAD BEEN SET UP BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL TO STUDY THE AMENDED REGULATIONS.

THE COMMITTEE ALSO DISCUSSED MATTERS RELATING TO THE EXTENSION OF NON-RENEWABLE LEASES IN THE URBAN AREA.

MEMBERS NOTED THAT SUCH LEASES WOULD NORMALLY BE EXTENDED UNLESS THE LAND WAS REQUIRED FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE, SUCH AS OPEN SPACE OR ROAD WIDENING, WHICH WAS INDICATED ON THE RELEVANT STATUTORY TOWN PLAN.

A LESSEE COULD APPROACH THE GOVERNMENT TO SEEK ADVICE IF HE HAD ANY DOUBT REGARDING THE STATUTORY ZONING OF HIS PROPERTY.

THE COMMITTEE BRIEFLY REVIEWED THE QUESTION OF SPECULATION IN THE PROPERTY MARKET, AND NOTED THAT THE CONSUMER COUNCIL WAS CONSIDERING VARIOUS ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO PROTECT THE INTEREST OF CONSUMERS IN PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS.

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BENEFITS OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION BEING STUDIED

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THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT HAS COMMISSIONED CONSULTANTS TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY TO ASSESS THE SHORT AND LONG TERM BENEFITS OF INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION AND TO RECOMMEND HOW SUCH BENEFITS CAN BE ACHIEVED, THE DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY, MR T.H. BARMA, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A SEMINAR ON MATERIAL HANDLING AND AUTOMATION IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY ORGANISED BY THE SWEDISH TRADE OFFICE IN HONG KONG, MR BARMA SAID THE CONSULTANTS WOULD ALSO ADVISE ON HOW MANUFACTURERS COULD BE HELPED TO MAKE OPTIMAL USE OF AUTOMATION.

"I AM SURE THE STUDY'S RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE OF PRACTICAL RELEVANCE TO INDUSTRY GENERALLY, INCLUDING THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY," HE SAID.

IN 1990, OVER 900 FOOD AND BEVERAGE FACTORIES WERE OPERATING IN HONG KONG, EMPLOYING MORE THAN 23,000 PEOPLE, OR 3.2 PER CENT OF OUR TOTAL EMPLOYMENT IN MANUFACTURING.

MR BARMA SAID AS IN OTHER INDUSTRIAL SECTORS THE USE OF ADVANCED MACHINERY AND TECHNOLOGY COULD PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN DEVELOPING OUR EXPORT MARKETS.

"ADVANCED AUTOMATION AND TECHNOLOGY ARE ESSENTIAL IN HELPING OUR EXPORTS TO MEET STRINGENT INTERNATIONAL HEALTH STANDARDS.

"ALTHOUGH THE INITIAL CAPITAL OUTLAY IS SIGNIFICANT, ADVANCED AUTOMATED EQUIPMENT IS BECOMING MORE COMMON IN THE LOCAL FOOD INDUSTRY BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO REMAIN COST COMPETITIVE AND BREAK INTO OVERSEAS MARKETS," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID OVERSEAS INVESTMENT HAD PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG'S FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY.

IN 1989, THERE WERE 25 FOOD AND BEVERAGE UNDERTAKINGS EITHER WHOLLY OR PARTLY OWNED BY OVERSEAS INTERESTS.

"ALTOGETHER, THEY ACCOUNTED FOR TOTAL INVESTMENT OF \$1.4 BILLION AT ORIGINAL COST.

"THIRTY-ONE PER CENT OF SUCH INVESTMENT CAME FROM JAPAN AND 12 PER CENT FROM THE USA. THESE FACTORIES TEND TO BE RELATIVELY LARGE AND EMPLOY A TOTAL OF SOME 4,400 PEOPLE," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID OVERSEAS INVESTORS VALUED HONG KONG'S POSITION AS A MAJOR FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CENTRE FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND AS THE GATEWAY TO CHINA.

"THEY KNOW THAT WE HAVE A FIRST-RATE NATURAL HARBOUR, WHICH SERVES ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREAT PORTS. THEY KNOW THAT IN HONG KONG THERE ARE NO EXCHANGE CONTROLS OR RESTRICTIONS ON REMITTANCE OF PROFITS, WHILE MONEY IS FREELY CONVERTIBLE INTO ANY CURRENCY.

"THEY KNOW THAT WE HAVE A LOW AND SIMPLE TAX REGIME - NO TAXES ARE LEVIED ON OFFSHORE PROFITS, CAPITAL GAINS, DIVIDENDS OR INTEREST PAYMENTS - AND THE MAXIMUM RATE FOR PERSONAL SALARIES TAX IS 15 PER CENT AND FOR CORPORATE PROFITS TAX 16.5 PER CENT, WITH GENEROUS DEPRECIATION ALLOWANCES.

"THEY ALSO KNOW THAT WE HAVE A HARDWORKING AND VERSATILE LABOUR FORCE," HE SAID.

MR BARMA SAID THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT WELCOMED OVERSEAS COMPANIES TO SET UP MANUFACTURING OR MANUFACTURING SUPPORT FACILITIES IN HONG KONG.

"IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE WHETHER AN INVESTOR IS LOCAL OR FROM OVERSEAS, THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE AND THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR LOCAL PARTICIPATION OR EXPORT ORIENTATION IN PROJECTS.

"WE RECOGNISE THAT THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FROM OVERSEAS COMPANIES IS HELPING TO UPGRADE THE CAPABILITIES OF OUR LOCAL INDUSTRIES," HE SAID.

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MARINE DUMPING ACTION PLAN TO START ON MAY 1

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A MARINE DUMPING ACTION PLAN, WHICH AIMS AT DETERRING THE EXTENSIVE MALPRACTICES OF ILLEGAL AND SHORT DUMPING ACTIVITIES IN THE HARBOUR, WILL BE LAUNCHED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) ON MAY 1.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (FRIDAY), THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (WASTE AND WATER CONTROL) OF THE EPD, MR JOHN BOXALL, POINTED OUT THAT THE SERIOUS EXTENT OF MARINE DUMPING MALPRACTICES HAD CAUSED ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE TO THE BENTHIC LAYERS OF THE SEABED; GENERATED FLOATING REFUSE PROBLEMS AND INTERFERED WITH SHIPPING, DREDGING AND RECLAMATION OPERATIONS.

"THE EXTENSIVE SHORT DUMPING ALSO MAKES THE USE OF MARINE BORROW MATERIALS DIFFICULT BECAUSE THE MATERIALS ARE COVERED BY A VARIETY OF BUILDING DEBRIS INCLUDING BOULDERS AND CONCRETE SLABS," HE SAID.

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"THIS MAKES FOR DIFFICULTIES WHEN EXCAVATING THESE MATERIALS.

"THE DUMPING OF CONTAMINATED MUD AT LOCATIONS OTHER THAN THE DESIGNATED AREAS ALSO LEADS TO UNACCEPTABLE POLLUTION TO THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND POSES A THREAT TO THE MARINE LIFE."

MR BOXALL SAID THE MARINE DUMPING ACTION PLAN WAS DESIGNED TO STOP FURTHER MARINE DUMPING MALPRACTICES.

"STEPS INCLUDE MORE REGULAR INSPECTION OF THE BARGE LOADING POINTS, ADDITIONAL MARINE PATROLS AS WELL AS PUNITIVE MEASURES OF LICENCE REVOCATION AND REFUSAL," HE SAID.

MR BOXALL SAID THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AND MARINE POLICE WOULD CONTINUE TO OFFER ASSISTANCE TO THE EPD TO DETECT OFFENCES DURING THEIR ROUTINE PATROLS IN THE HARBOUR.

"THE EPD WILL INITIATE IMMEDIATE PROSECUTION OF SERIOUS OFFENCES AND NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE LICENCE CONDITIONS WITHOUT ANY WARNING.

"IF FLOATING REFUSE IS OBSERVED, THE EPD WILL NOTIFY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT WHICH CAN TAKE OUT PROSECUTION FOR MARINE LITTERING UNDER THE SUMMARY OFFENCES ORDINANCE."

THE EPD TOOK OUT 17 PROSECUTION CASES IN 1990, WITH THE COURTS IMPOSING THE MAXIMUM FINE OF \$5,000 ON NINE OCCASIONS.

TWO REPEAT OFFENDERS WERE CONVICTED AND SENTENCED WITH THE MAXIMUM FINE ON THREE OCCASIONS.

MR BOXALL SAID THE MAXIMUM FINE STIPULATED IN THE DUMPING AT SEA ACT 1974 (OVERSEAS TERRITORIES) 1975 WAS TOO LOW TO EXERT A DETERRENT EFFECT.

"THEREFORE, THE EPD HAS TO EXERCISE OTHER PUNITIVE MEASURES SUCH AS LICENCE REVOCATION AND REFUSAL," HE SAID.

"THE DECISION TO EXERCISE THOSE MEASURES WILL BE MAINLY BASED UPON PREVIOUS CONVICTIONS.

"CHECKS AND BALANCES WILL BE PROVIDED THROUGH THE APPEAL ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY AN INDEPENDENT APPEAL COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER ALL REPRESENTATIONS."

HE SAID GENERAL CONSENSUS HAD BEEN REACHED AMONG GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS THAT ALL THE PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE ILLEGAL ACT HAD TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

"SUB-CONTRACTORS WHO ARE IN CHARGE OF THE DUMPING OPERATIONS WILL BE ISSUED WITH A NEW LICENCE ONLY IF THEY HAVE NO RECORD OF CONVICTION.

"THOSE BARGES AND TUG BOATS WHICH WERE ASSOCIATED WITH THE OFFENCE WOULD BE DELISTED FROM THE LIST OF AUTHORISED VESSELS IN ANY NEW LICENCE ISSUED TO THE MAIN CONTRACTOR," MR BOXALL SAID.

"THE ACTION PLAN SETS OUT THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR ENFORCEMENT STRATEGY AND ALL PARTIES WILL BE TREATED ON A FAIR BASIS. WE NEED TO TAKE PROMPT ACTION TO STOP FURTHER MALPRACTICES," HE CONCLUDED.

AMENDMENTS TO BANKING ORDINANCE GAZETTED
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THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991 WHICH SEEKS TO INTRODUCE AMENDMENTS TO THE BANKING ORDINANCE REQUIRED FOR THE BETTER SUPERVISION OF THE INDUSTRY WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS INCLUDE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PROVISIONS FOR REGULATING CHANGES OF CONTROL OF LOCALLY INCORPORATED AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS AND UPDATING THE REQUIREMENTS ON LARGE LOANS AND OTHER RISK CONCENTRATIONS.

"THERE WERE SHORTCOMINGS IN THE EXISTING SYSTEM FOR REGULATING CHANGES OF CONTROL OF AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS," A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

"FOR INSTANCE, THE PRESENT REGIME DOES NOT ENABLE CONSENT TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM A CONTROLLER WHEN THERE IS EVIDENCE THAT HE IS NO LONGER FIT AND PROPER.

"SECONDLY, THERE IS NO CONTROL OVER THE ACQUISITION OF SHAREHOLDINGS, WHICH STOP SHORT OF FULL CONTROL (THAT IS 10 PER CENT TO 49 PER CENT), IN AN INSTITUTION'S HOLDING COMPANY. INCREASINGLY INSTITUTIONS ARE BECOMING PART OF GROUPS, UNDER A HOLDING COMPANY.

"THIRDLY, IT IS ONLY AFTER AN OWNER HAS ACQUIRED AN INTEREST IN AN INSTITUTION THAT HE IS FORMALLY REQUIRED TO SEEK PERMISSION.

"THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING THEREFORE CANNOT PREVENT PERSONS WHO ARE NOT FIT AND PROPER FROM BECOMING CONTROLLERS OF AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

CLAUSE 18 OF THE BILL DEALS WITH THESE PROBLEMS BY REPEALING SECTION 70 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE AND SUBSTITUTING NEW SECTIONS 70 TO 70D.

"UNDER THE NEW PROVISION, THE COMMISSIONER IS EMPOWERED TO OBJECT, ON CERTAIN SPECIFIED GROUNDS, TO PERSONS BECOMING OR REMAINING CONTROLLERS OF AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG. APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS ARE ALSO INTRODUCED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

AMENDMENTS ARE ALSO MADE BY REPEALING SECTION 72 UNDER CLAUSE 20 AND AMENDING SECTION 72A UNDER CLAUSE 21.

"THE PROPOSALS ARE LARGELY BASED ON PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE INSURANCE COMPANIES ORDINANCE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ANOTHER AREA WHERE MAJOR CHANGES ARE CONTEMPLATED IS PART XV OF THE ORDINANCE. THIS PART LIMITS THE SIZE OF INDIVIDUAL LOANS TO A SINGLE BORROWER, OR GROUP OF BORROWERS. CEILINGS ARE ALSO PLACED ON OTHER INVESTMENT INTERESTS OF AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO PART XV INCLUDE :

- * RESTRICTING THE APPLICATION OF MANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT TO AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS INCORPORATED IN HONG KONG;
- * CHANGING THE EXISTING METHOD FOR CALCULATING THE VARIOUS LIMITS UNDER PART XV BY REFERENCE TO THE "CAPITAL BASE" INSTEAD OF "CAPITAL AND RESERVES" OF INSTITUTIONS; AND
- * EMPOWERING THE COMMISSIONER TO APPLY LARGE EXPOSURE LIMITS TO INSTITUTIONS ON A GROUP BASIS.

"THE PROPOSED CHANGES ALSO AIM TO BRING THE REGULATORY REGIME IN LINE WITH RECENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BASLE COMMITTEE ON BANKING SUPERVISION," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"THE ORDINANCE CONTAINS CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS ON ADVERTISEMENTS BY OVERSEAS DEPOSIT-TAKERS WHICH ARE NOT AUTHORISED IN HONG KONG.

HE SAID SINCE THERE WAS NO EXCHANGE CONTROL BARRIERS TO HONG KONG RESIDENTS DEPOSITING WITH OVERSEAS DEPOSIT-TAKERS, IT WAS APPROPRIATE TO ALLOW SUCH BANKS TO ADVERTISE, SUBJECT TO CERTAIN SAFEGUARDS.

UNDER SECTION 92 OF THE ORDINANCE, IT IS AN OFFENCE TO ISSUE CERTAIN ADVERTISEMENTS IN RELATION TO DEPOSITS.

CLAUSE 36 AMENDS THE SECTION TO PROVIDE THAT IT SHALL NOT APPLY TO AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR DEPOSITS OUTSIDE HONG KONG IF THE ADVERTISEMENT COMPLIES WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW FIFTH SCHEDULE AT CLAUSE 53.

THE SCHEDULE SPECIFIES THAT THE ADVERTISEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN, AMONG OTHER THINGS, KEY INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPANY AND A WARNING THAT IT IS NOT AUTHORISED UNDER THE ORDINANCE AND IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE SUPERVISION OF THE COMMISSIONER.

"THESE RESTRICTIONS ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE CURRENTLY IN FORCE UNDER THE UK BANKING ACT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

CERTAIN AMENDMENTS ARE ALSO MADE TO THE SECRECY PROVISIONS UNDER SECTIONS 120 AND 121 OF THE ORDINANCE.

"THE GLOBALISATION OF BANKING BUSINESS AND THE EMERGENCE OF FINANCIAL CONGLOMERATES CALL FOR CLOSER CONTACT BETWEEN BANKING AND OTHER FINANCIAL REGULATORS," HE SAID.

"THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SECRECY PROVISIONS ARE IN LINE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BASLE COMMITTEE," HE ADDED.

CLAUSES 40 AND 41 RESPECTIVELY WIDEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH THE COMMISSIONER MAY DISCLOSE INFORMATION ON AUTHORISED INSTITUTIONS.

"THESE INCLUDE PERMITTING DISCLOSURE TO OTHER DOMESTIC REGULATORS AND OVERSEAS BANKING REGULATORS ON THE GROUND OF ENABLING OR ASSISTING THEM TO PERFORM THEIR FUNCTIONS AND REMOVING THE RESTRICTION THAT AN OVERSEAS BANKING REGULATOR MUST HAVE A DIRECT SUPERVISORY ROLE OVER THE INSTITUTION CONCERNED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

A NUMBER OF MISCELLANEOUS AMENDMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN PROPOSED. THESE INCLUDE THE ADDITION OF TWO FURTHER NEW GROUNDS IN SECTION 29 ON WHICH A BANKING LICENCE MAY BE REVOKED; THE PERMISSION OF THE USE OF THE NAME OF A BANK BY ITS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE UNDER SECTION 97; AND THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION 97A WHICH MAKES IT AN OFFENCE FOR A PERSON TO FALSELY INDICATE THAT HE IS AN AUTHORISED INSTITUTION.

"THE PROPOSALS IN THE BILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED WITH AND ARE GENERALLY WELCOMED BY THE BANKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE," HE SAID.

"THE HONG KONG ASSOCIATION OF BANKS AND THE HONG KONG DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ASSOCIATION HAVE BEEN CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSED CHANGES TO PART XV," HE ADDED.

THE BILL IS SCHEDULED FOR INTRODUCTION INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAY 8 THIS YEAR.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR TONY NICOLLE, WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TAKE FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS ON THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991 AT 4.30 PM TODAY (FRIDAY) AT HIS OFFICE ON 28TH FLOOR, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, HONG KONG.

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IMPROVED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SHUE YAN COLLEGE STUDENTS

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THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAS APPROVED THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW PACKAGE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SHUE YAN COLLEGE STUDENTS, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SUBJECT TO ENDORSEMENT BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, THE IMPROVED PACKAGE OF ASSISTANCE, WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECT TO A MEANS TEST, WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM THE 1991-92 SCHOOL YEAR.

EXPLAINING DETAILS OF THE NEW PACKAGE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID STUDENTS OF THE COLLEGE WHO MEET THE EXISTING CRITERIA OF ELIGIBILITY WOULD RECEIVE GRANTS IN ADDITION TO LOANS UNDER THE STUDENT FINANCE ASSISTANCE SCHEME.

THEY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY INTEREST ON LOANS AT THE SAME RATE (AT 2.5 PER CENT PER ANNUM) AS THAT CHARGED TO STUDENTS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS AND COLLEGES OF EDUCATION.

"THE GRANTS WILL IMPROVE THE PACKAGE OF ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS OF SHUE YAN COLLEGE, WHICH IS A PRIVATELY-RUN POST-SECONDARY COLLEGE.

"AT PRESENT, SHUE YAN COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS, BUT NOT GRANTS, FROM THE GOVERNMENT," HE SAID.

UNDER THE NEW PACKAGE, AN ELIGIBLE STUDENT COULD RECEIVE A MAXIMUM GRANT OF \$4,700 AND A MAXIMUM LOAN OF \$10,300 PER YEAR.

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BANKING LICENCE REVOKED

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THE BANKING LICENCE OF THE KYOWA BANK, LTD HAS BEEN REVOKED AT ITS REQUEST WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

"AFTER THE MERGER OF THE KYOWA BANK, LTD AND THE SAITAMA BANK, LTD IN JAPAN ON APRIL 1 THIS YEAR, KYOWA CEASED TO BE A SEPARATE INDEPENDENT ENTITY CARRYING ON BANKING BUSINESS IN ITS OWN RIGHT IN HONG KONG," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

KYOWA AND SAITAMA WERE GRANTED A BANKING LICENCE TO OPERATE IN HONG KONG IN 1984 AND 1982 RESPECTIVELY.

AFTER THE REVOCATION, THERE ARE 166 LICENSED BANKS IN HONG KONG, OF WHICH 136 ARE INCORPORATED OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

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PROPOSED LINKING OF BUS ONLY LANES AT HUNG MUI KUK INTERCHANGE

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THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT PROPOSES TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO LINK UP THE EXISTING KOWLOON-BOUND BUS ONLY LANES ON HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AND LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD IN SHA TIN.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (FRIDAY): "THERE IS A GAP OF ABOUT 300 METRES AT THE HUNG MUI KUK INTERCHANGE BETWEEN THE EXISTING BUS ONLY LANE ON LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD AND THAT ON HUNG MUI KUK ROAD.

"BUSES ARE STILL REQUIRED TO MERGE WITH THE GENERAL TRAFFIC AND SUFFER THE SAME DELAY AS THE GENERAL TRAFFIC BEFORE ENTERING INTO THE BUS ONLY LANE ON LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD.

"IT IS THEREFORE PROPOSED TO LINK THE TWO BUS ONLY LANES TO MAKE BUS JOURNEY TIME EVEN MORE RELIABLE AND TO IMPROVE MERGING AND SAFETY AT THE INTERCHANGE," HE SAID.

THE PROPOSED WORKS INCLUDE MAINLY THE WIDENING OF THIS 300-METRE SECTION OF THE KOWLOON-BOUND LANE OF HUNG MUI KUK ROAD AND LION ROCK TUNNEL ROAD AT THE INTERCHANGE.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;

/* SHA TIN

- * SHA TIN DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 2 TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD, SHA TIN; AND
- * SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, SIXTH FLOOR, KCR HOUSE, SHA TIN STATION.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN JUNE 25 THIS YEAR.

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PROPOSED FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS TAI WO HAU ROAD

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO BUILD A FOOTBRIDGE ACROSS TAI WO HAU ROAD AT ITS JUNCTION WITH HING FONG ROAD IN KWAI CHUNG TO PROVIDE A SEGREGATED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING FOR THE KWAI SHING CIRCUIT HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME (HOS) DEVELOPMENT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY) THAT THE KWAI SHING CIRCUIT HOS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, WHEN COMPLETED IN MAY 1993, WOULD PROVIDE ABOUT 700 DOMESTIC UNITS.

WITH THE COMPLETION OF REDEVELOPMENT OF KWAI SHING, KWAI FONG AND KWAI HING ESTATES IN THE DISTRICT, THE DEMAND FOR ROAD CROSSING FACILITIES OVER TAI WO HAU ROAD AND TO SUN KWAI HING GARDEN WOULD INCREASE.

THE PROPOSED COVERED FOOTBRIDGE, WHICH IS THREE-METRE WIDE WITH AN ACCESS STAIRCASE ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF TAI WO HAU ROAD, WILL BE LINKED TO THE EXISTING STAIRCASE OF SUN KWAI HING GARDEN.

CAISSON FOUNDATION AND BRIDGE SUPPORTS WILL BE CONSTRUCTED ON BOTH SIDES OF TAI WO HAU ROAD.

PEDESTRIANS USING THIS FOOTBRIDGE WILL BE ABLE TO GO TO THE SUN KWAI HING GARDEN PLAZA AND ADJOINING MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY ENTRANCE DIRECTLY FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF TAI WO HAU ROAD.

A NOTICE ON THE PROPOSED WORKS WAS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

THE PLAN AND SCHEME MAY BE INSPECTED AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, HARBOUR BUILDING, 38 PIER ROAD, CENTRAL;
- * KWAI TSING DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 10TH AND 11TH FLOORS, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN; AND

/* KWAI TSING

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- * KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE, SECOND FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG.

ANY PERSON WHO WISHES TO OBJECT TO THE PROPOSED WORKS SHOULD WRITE TO THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, EAST WING, SECOND FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG NOT LATER THAN JUNE 25 THIS YEAR.

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DREDGING AT SOUTH OF MA WAN

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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO DREDGE WITHIN AN AREA OF 93.542 HECTARES OF SEABED SOUTH OF MA WAN FOR MATERIALS FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTION AND FUTURE RECLAMATION PROJECTS IN THE TERRITORY.

THE AREA WILL BE BACKFILLED TO A LEVEL NOT HIGHER THAN THE ORIGINAL SEABED WITH THE SURPLUS DREDGED MATERIAL FROM THE SAME AREA OR DREDGED OR EXCAVATED MATERIAL FROM ELSEWHERE.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREA AFFECTED WAS DESCRIBED IN A NOTICE OF AUTHORISATION PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HIS INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED WILL BE INJURIOUSLY AFFECTED BY THE PROJECT MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 25 NEXT YEAR.

THE SUBMISSION SHALL STATE THE SUM OF MONEY HE IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IN FULL AND FINAL SETTLEMENT OF HIS CLAIM AND SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH PARTICULARS WHICH HE POSSESSES TO SUBSTANTIATE HIS CLAIM.

THE GAZETTE NOTICE TOGETHER WITH ITS RELATED PLAN CAN BE SEEN AT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- * THE SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER);
- * THE TSUEN WAN DISTRICT OFFICE, FIRST FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN;
- * THE KWAI CHUNG AND TSING YI PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICES CENTRE, KWAI TSING DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, KWAI HING GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 166-174 HING FONG ROAD, KWAI CHUNG; AND
- * THE KWAI TSING DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, 10TH FLOOR, TSUEN WAN STATION MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, 174-208 CASTLE PEAK ROAD, TSUEN WAN.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SEWERS

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THE DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEWERS FROM THE WINSLOW STREET PUMPING STATION TO HOK YUEN STREET AS PART OF A COMPREHENSIVE SCHEME FOR IMPROVING THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN TO KWA WAN AND HUNG HOM.

UPON COMPLETION OF THE SCHEME, SEWAGE IN TO KWA WAN AND HUNG HOM WILL BE CONVEYED TO A NEW SEWAGE SCREENING PLANT NEAR BAILEY STREET.

WORKS UNDER THIS CONTRACT INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF GRAVITY AND PRESSURE SEWERS OF UP TO 1,050 MILLIMETRES IN DIAMETER WITH A TOTAL LENGTH OF ABOUT 1,620 METRES ALONG CHATHAM ROAD NORTH, COOKE STREET, WALKER ROAD, STATION LANE, GILLIES AVENUE, TSING CHAU STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD.

THE CONTRACT IS SCHEDULED TO START IN AUGUST AND WILL TAKE ABOUT 18 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE DEPARTMENT'S DESIGN DIVISION AND CONSTRUCTION WILL BE SUPERVISED BY ITS NEW WORKS DIVISION.

FORMS OF TENDER AND FURTHER PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER, NEW WORKS DIVISION, DRAINAGE SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, KOWLOON.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING TENDERS IS NOON ON MAY 17.

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TENDERS INVITED FOR REFURBISHMENT OF RTHK STUDIO

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THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE REFURBISHMENT OF STUDIO ONE IN RADIO TELEVISION HONG KONG BROADCASTING HOUSE, KOWLOON.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN JULY AND TAKE ABOUT SIX MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

TENDER FORMS AND PARTICULARS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FIFTH FLOOR, MAIN BLOCK, APB CENTRE, 9 SUNG PING STREET, TO KWA WAN.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDER IS NOON ON MAY 17.

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DREDGING FOR MARINE SAND OFF PO TOI
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THE GOVERNMENT IS TO PROCEED WITH DREDGING WORKS IN THE SEABED NEAR PO TOI WEST AND PO TOI EAST FOR MATERIALS FOR USE IN CONSTRUCTION AND FUTURE RECLAMATIONS.

THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THE DREDGING ARE WITHIN ABOUT 1,360 HECTARES AND 1,620 HECTARES OF FORESHORE AND SEABED OF THE TWO ISLANDS RESPECTIVELY.

THE EXTENT OF THE AREAS WAS DESCRIBED IN SEPARATE NOTICES PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY (FRIDAY).

ANY PERSON WHO CONSIDERS THAT HE HAS AN INTEREST, RIGHT OR EASEMENT IN OR OVER THE FORESHORE AND SEABED INVOLVED MAY SUBMIT A WRITTEN OBJECTION TO THE DIRECTOR OF BUILDINGS AND LANDS BEFORE JUNE 25 THIS YEAR.

THE NOTICES TOGETHER WITH THEIR RELATED PLANS CAN BE SEEN ON NOTICE BOARDS NEAR THE SITES.

THE PLANS CAN ALSO BE SEEN AT THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT SURVEY AND MAPPING OFFICE, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, HONG KONG (WHERE COPIES CAN BE PURCHASED ON ORDER); AND AT THE RESPECTIVE DISTRICT OFFICES AND DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES.

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KANG YUNG STUDY HALL DECLARED A MONUMENT
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THE KANG YUNG STUDY HALL IN WO HANG VILLAGE, SHA TAU KOK WAS TODAY (FRIDAY) GAZETTED AS A HISTORICAL BUILDING UNDER THE ANTIQUITIES AND MONUMENTS ORDINANCE.

BUILT BY THE LI CLAN, HAKKAS OF THE AREA, DURING THE EARLY QING DYNASTY, THE KANG YUNG STUDY HALL ORIGINATED FROM A SMALL PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR 20 TO 30 STUDENTS ESTABLISHED IN THE VILLAGE.

IT WAS REBUILT AND RENAMED AS KANG YUNG SHU UK (STUDY HALL) DURING THE REIGN OF QIAN LONG (1736 - 1795).

ACCORDING TO LOCAL LEGEND, THE STUDY HALL WAS THEN EXPANDED INTO A TWO-STORY BUILDING WITH SIX CLASSROOMS AND BOARDING SPACES ACCOMMODATING OVER 100 STUDENTS. AS IT IS CLOSE TO THE COUNTY SEAT OF NAN TOU, THE HALL BECAME A WELL-KNOWN BOARDING INSTITUTION FOR ADVANCED STUDIES AND ATTRACTED STUDENTS FROM AS FAR AS TAI PO, SHA TIN AND TSUEN WAN.

/SCHOLARS STUDIED

SCHOLARS STUDIED AT THE SHU UK TO PREPARE FOR THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION HELD AT NAN TOU, STRIVING TO OBTAIN THE QUALIFICATION OF "SHENG-YUAN". THOSE WHO PASSED THIS PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION WERE KNOWN AS "XIU-CAI".

FOLLOWING THE ABOLITION OF THE IMPERIAL EXAMINATION SYSTEM IN 1904 AND SUBSEQUENT TO THE BRITISH TAKEOVER, THE KANG YUNG STUDY HALL WAS TURNED INTO THE KANG YUNG SCHOOL WHICH SERVED AS AN IMPORTANT LOCAL INSTITUTION UNTIL THE SUMMER OF 1986 WHEN THE LAST GROUP OF PUPILS HAD DEPARTED.

SINCE THEN, THE BUILDING HAS BEEN LEFT UNOCCUPIED.

AS THE STUDY HALL WAS BUILT PURELY FOR TEACHING PURPOSE, ITS ARCHITECTURE IS SIMPLE AND MAINLY FUNCTIONAL.

IT IS A TWO-HALL BUILDING WITH TWO STOREYS, PROVIDING CLASSROOMS AND LIVING QUARTERS FOR STUDENTS. IT IS A RECTANGULAR STRUCTURE OF GREEN BRICK CAVITY WALLS, WITH UNFIRED MUD-BRICKS FOR INTERNAL PARTITIONS.

ITS FRONT ELEVATION LOOKS UNUSUALLY HIGH, WHICH MIGHT BE THE RESULT OF A THOROUGH RENOVATION IN THE 11TH YEAR OF THE TONG ZHI REIGN (1872) AS INDICATED ON THE FASCIA ABOVE THE MAIN ENTRANCE.

THE STUDY HALL WILL BE FULLY RESTORED LATER THIS YEAR. THE RESTORATION COSTS OF ABOUT \$2.9 MILLION WILL BE MET BY THE GOVERNMENT.

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MOBILE MISSION TO SPREAD UC MESSAGES

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THE URBAN COUNCIL'S MOBILE PUBLICITY VAN WILL CONTINUE WITH ITS MISSION THIS WEEK TO ENHANCE PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE COUNCIL'S IMPORTANT ROLES AND FUNCTIONS AND TO ENCOURAGE REGISTERED VOTERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORTHCOMING MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS ON MAY 5.

SINCE APRIL 1, THE MOBILE PUBLICITY VAN HAS BEEN STAGING A SERIES OF EXHIBITIONS ON WHEELS AT CENTRES OF POPULATION IN THE URBAN AREAS AS PART OF ITS EFFORT TO PROMOTE THE MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ELECTIONS.

"THE EXHIBITIONS HAVE BEEN WARMLY RECEIVED, ATTRACTING THOUSANDS OF VISITORS ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS," A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

AIMED TO INTRODUCE THE MULTI-FACETED SERVICES OF THE COUNCIL, THE ROVING EXHIBITION WILL MOVE TO VICTORIA PARK, CAUSEWAY BAY TOMORROW AND TO TELFORD GARDENS KOWOON BAY ON SUNDAY TO ENABLE LOCAL RESIDENTS TO HAVE AN INSIGHT INTO THE COUNCIL'S EFFORTS IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN HONG KONG.

OPENING HOURS FOR THE EXHIBITIONS AT THESE TWO VENUES ARE FROM 11 AM TO 6 PM.

"THE EXHIBITION FEATURES THE COUNCIL'S WIDE-RANGING SERVICES INCLUDING PUBLIC HEALTH, FOOD HYGIENE, RECREATION AND LEISURE SERVICES, CULTURE AND ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTATIONS, AS WELL AS ART, MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICES IN THE FORM OF PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAYS AND VIDEO PRESENTATIONS.

"AN INFORMATION LEAFLET DETAILING THE WORK OF THE TWO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS WILL ALSO BE DISTRIBUTED TO VISITORS DURING THE EXHIBITIONS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

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PARK'N SHOP FINED
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PARK'N SHOP LIMITED WAS FINED \$9,000 AT THE SHA TIN MAGISTRACY TODAY (FRIDAY) FOR SELLING PREPACKED SEAWEEED BY WEIGHT SHORT OF THE QUANTITY PURPORTED TO BE SUPPLIED.

THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT PROSECUTED THE COMPANY UNDER THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ORDINANCE WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT IN 1989.

PACKETS OF SEAWEEED SEIZED FROM TWO OF THE DEFENDANT COMPANY'S SUPERMARKETS WERE TESTED AT THE GOVERNMENT LABORATORY AND THE DEFICIENCY IN NET WEIGHT WAS FOUND TO RANGE FROM 79.8 PER CENT TO 86 PER CENT.

THE COURT HEARD THAT OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, ACTING ON A COMPLAINT, PERFORMED PRELIMINARY WEIGHING TESTS ON NINE PACKETS OF SEAWEEED DISPLAYED FOR SALE AT THE PARK'N SHOP SUPERMARKET AT GUANGDONG MOUNTAIN BUILDING, 147-151 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL, ON OCTOBER 29 LAST YEAR.

ALL WERE SEIZED FOR INVESTIGATION AFTER THEY WERE FOUND TO BE BELOW THE STATED NET WEIGHT.

THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DEFENDANT COMPANY UNDERTOOK TO WITHDRAW THE SEAWEEED FROM SALE. HOWEVER 27 PACKETS FOUND ON SALE AT ONE OF THE PARK'N SHOP SUPERMARKETS AT SHA TIN NEW TOWN PLAZA DURING A CUSTOMS INSPECTION CARRIED OUT ON NOVEMBER 7 WERE FOUND TO BE SHORT OF THE PURPORTED NET WEIGHT.

THE PRINCIPAL TRADE CONTROLS OFFICER OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT'S TRADING STANDARDS INVESTIGATION BUREAU, MR ANDREW WONG, SAID RETAILERS SHOULD ENSURE THAT PREPACKED GOODS FOR SALE IN THEIR SHOPS WERE OF THE QUANTITY PURPORTED TO BE SUPPLIED.

HE SAID FROM TIME TO TIME THE DEPARTMENT CARRIED OUT CHECKS ON THE ACCURACY OF THE STATED NET WEIGHT OF PREPACKED RICE, FROZEN MEAT AND OTHER FOOD ITEMS IN SUPERMARKETS AND RETAIL AND DEPARTMENT STORES.

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SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE ON 1990 CRIME VICTIMISATION SURVEY

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THE JANUARY 1991 ISSUE OF THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS CONTAINS A SPECIAL REVIEW ARTICLE OUTLINING THE OBJECTIVES, THE DESIGN AND SUMMARY FINDINGS OF THE 1990 CRIME VICTIMISATION SURVEY.

THE SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED IN JANUARY 1990 BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE.

SUCH A SURVEY WAS CONDUCTED FOR THE FOURTH TIME AND IT COVERED CRIMINAL ACTS THAT TOOK PLACE DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1989. PUBLIC OPINIONS ON SOME ISSUES OF SENTENCING AND THE TRIAD RENUNCIATION SCHEME WERE ALSO COLLECTED.

THE SURVEY RESULTS SHOWED THAT IN 1989 THERE WERE 293,400 CASES OF CRIME VICTIMISATION, REPRESENTING A DROP OF 30 PER CENT FROM 205,800 CASES IN 1986.

THE HONG KONG MONTHLY DIGEST OF STATISTICS IS NOW ON SALE AT \$48 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND THE PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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POLICE CLUB ORGANISES CAR RACE ON SUNDAY

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THE POLICE MOTORING CLUB, ONE OF THE SPORTS AND RECREATION CLUBS IN THE ROYAL HONG KONG POLICE FORCE, IS ORGANISING A CAR RACE IN TAI PO ON SUNDAY (APRIL 28).

THE EVENT, KNOWN AS "PMC HILL CLIMB 91 SERIES I", WILL BE HELD FROM 8.30 AM TO 7 PM ALONG A TWO-KILOMETRE COURSE OPPOSITE TO THE TAI PO INDUSTRIAL AREA.

ASIDE FROM THE POLICE MOTORING CLUB, CONTESTANTS WILL INCLUDE MEMBERS OF MOTOR SPORTS CLUB OF HONG KONG LIMITED, BRITISH ARMY MOTORING ASSOCIATION, FERRARRI OWNERS' CLUB, PORCHE OWNERS' CLUB, CLASSIC CAR CLUB AND GENTLEMEN RACERS' CLUB.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FORCE SPORTS COUNCIL, SENIOR ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE MR DONALD MCFARLANE WILL OFFICIATE AND PRESENT TROPHIES TO WINNERS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE WELCOME TO COVER THE EVENT.

/REFRESHMENT AND

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REFRESHMENT AND TRANSPORT WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE GATHERING POINT IN TAI PO POLICE STATION AT 8.45 AM ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS.

THERE WILL ALSO BE DESIGNATED AREAS ALONG THE RACECOURSE FOR THE PRESS TO TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS.

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TUEN MUN BONSAI SHOW OPENS TODAY

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THE ANNUAL TUEN MUN BONSAI SHOW IS A WELL ESTABLISHED AND A MAJOR EVENT IN THE HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR, THE DIRECTOR OF REGIONAL SERVICES, MR HAIDER BARMA, SAID THIS (FRIDAY) MORNING.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THIS YEAR'S BONSAI SHOW, MR BARMA ADDED THAT IT WAS FITTING TO STAGE THE SHOW AT CHING CHUNG KOON.

"ITS TRANQUILITY, BEAUTIFUL SCENERY AND TRADITIONAL CHINESE ARCHITECTURE HELP TO BRING OUT ALL THE EXQUISITENESS OF BONSAI," HE SAID.

THIS YEAR'S MAIN ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE A FICUS RETUSA SHAPED IN THE LIKENESS OF A DRAGON AS WELL AS A LARGE COLLECTION OF FINELY-STYLED BUDDHIST PINES.

WINNING ENTRIES IN A BONSAI COMPETITION HELD TO PROMOTE THE ART OF BONSAI AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE ALSO DISPLAYED AMONG THE 300 POTTED PLANTS FEATURED IN THE SHOW.

THE EXHIBITION IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC DAILY FROM 8 AM TO 6 PM UNTIL MAY 5. ADMISSION IS FREE.

JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE TAOIST CHING CHUNG KOON, THE TUEN MUN DISTRICT OFFICE AND SEVERAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, THE EXHIBITION IS SPONSORED BY THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION, THE KOWLOON MOTOR BUS COMPANY (1933) LTD, THE HONG KONG FERRY (HOLDINGS) COMPANY LTD, AND THE LIGHT RAIL DIVISION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY CORPORATION.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1991

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CHILDREN'S DRAWING CONTEST IN YAU TSIM

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OVER 2,000 CHILDREN AGED FOUR TO 13 ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THE 1991 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN DRAWING CONTEST ON SUNDAY (APRIL 28).

THE CONTEST WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 11.30 AM AT THE PIAZZA OF THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI.

IT HAS BEEN JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, THE URBAN COUNCIL, HARBOUR JAYCEES AND SING TAO LIMITED WITH SPONSORSHIP FROM HONG KONG TELECOM.

THE DRAWINGS WILL BE ON THE THEMES OF "I LOVE HONG KONG", "PICNICKING" AND "MY WORLD".

PRIZES WILL INCLUDE SCHOLARSHIPS, PLAQUES, GAME SETS AND FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO A CHILDREN MAGAZINE.

THE CONTEST IS OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN IN THE RIGHT AGE GROUP AND REGISTRATION CAN BE MADE ON THE SPOT.

AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD AT 9 AM WITH THE YAU TSIM ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER, MISS CLARA TANG, AND URBAN COUNCILLOR MR WU MAN-KEUNG OFFICIATING.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE 1991 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN DRAWING CONTEST ON SUNDAY (APRIL 28). IT WILL BE HELD BETWEEN 9.30 AM AND 11.30 AM AT THE PIAZZA OF THE HONG KONG CULTURAL CENTRE IN TSIM SHA TSUI. THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BEGIN AT 9 AM.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN MAY

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN/CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 23 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC IS WARNED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

/FOLLOWING ARE

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1991

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FOLLOWING ARE THE DATES AND TIMES THAT FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE:

	DATE	TIME
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	MAY 1 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 2 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 3 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 6 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 7 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 8 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 9 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 10 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 13 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 14 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
	MAY 15 (WEDNESDAY)	12.01 AM - 11.59 PM
	MAY 16 (THURSDAY)	12.01 AM - 11.59 PM
	MAY 17 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 20 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 21 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 22 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 11.59 PM
	MAY 23 (THURSDAY)	12.01 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 24 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 27 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 28 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 29 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 30 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
	MAY 31 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM

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FARE INCREASE ON NT GMB ROUTE 43
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM SUNDAY (APRIL 28), THE FARE FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 43 (TUEN MUN TOWN CENTRE (SAN TSING STREET) TO SO KWUN WAT) WILL BE REVISED FROM \$3.30 TO \$3.80 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE FARE FOR THE SHORT-WORKING JOURNEY BETWEEN TUEN MUN TOWN CENTRE (SAN TSING STREET) AND TSING YUNG STREET WILL BE INCREASED FROM \$2 TO \$2.50.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 1991

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ACTION ON ILLEGAL STRUCTURE IN KOWLOON CITY

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THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS SEEKING TO CLOSE AN UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURE AT THIRD FLOOR, 183B KOWLOON CITY ROAD SO THAT IT CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT DANGER TO THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM THE HONG KONG DISTRICT COURT ON MAY 9 WAS POSTED ON THE STRUCTURE TODAY (FRIDAY).

DEMOLITION WORK IS EXPECTED TO START ONCE THE CLOSURE ORDER IS GRANTED.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

HKEF

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	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	25.4.91	480
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	26.4.91	+26
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-26
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.5 *-0.1* 26.4.91

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
91-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEI

ISSUE NUMBER	MATURING ON	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION
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Q115	10.7.91	360 +120
Q116	17.7.91	350 +130
Q117	24.7.91	358.5 +121.5

/Q105

Q105	1.5.91	650	-170
Q106	8.5.91	563.5	-83.5
Q107	15.5.91	501	-21
Q108	22.5.91	440	+40
Q109	29.5.91	480	+0
Q110	5.6.91	300	+180
Q111	12.6.91	420	+60
Q112	19.6.91	660	-180
Q113	26.6.91	560	-80
Q114	3.7.91	460	+20

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
182-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEJ

ISSUE NUMBER	MATURING ON	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION	
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H001	1.5.91	170	+90
H002	15.5.91	227.5	+32.5
H003	29.5.91	220	+40
H004	12.6.91	250	+10
H005	26.6.91	230	+30
H101	10.7.91	143	+117
H156	24.7.91	150	+110
H157	7.8.91	189.5	+70.5
H158	21.8.91	160	+100
H159	4.9.91	140	+120
H160	18.9.91	210	+50
H161	2.10.91	-10	+270
H162	17.10.91	120	+140

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
364-DAY EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

HKEK

ISSUE NUMBER	MATURING ON	OUTSTANDING \$ MILLION	
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Y187	26.2.92	170	+90
Y188	25.3.92	190	+70
Y189	22.4.92	200	+60

AVERAGE DAILY TRANSFER FOR WEEK ENDING 26.4.91 WAS 5,438 MN