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MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1993

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MONDAY, JUNE 7, 1993

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HK EXPECTED TO TAKE A LEAD ON ENVIRONMENT

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, TODAY (MONDAY) EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT HONG KONG CAN GIVE A LEAD REGIONALLY AND BEYOND ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS.

"I BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT WE MUST MAKE PROTECTING OUR PRECIOUS PLANET A TOP PRIORITY," HE SAID.

ADDRESSING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE SECOND ANNUAL BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENT WEEK, MR PATTEN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO STRENGTHEN ALL POLLUTION CONTROLS UNDER A NETWORK OF LEGISLATION.

"WE ALSO PROVIDE THE INFRASTRUCTURE, INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THAT INDUSTRY NEEDS TO MEET THESE STANDARDS," HE SAID.

ON INFRASTRUCTURE, A CHEMICAL WASTE TREATMENT CENTRE HAS RECENTLY BEEN OPENED ON TSING YI. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PUBLIC DUMPS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND A CENTRALISED INCINERATOR TO HELP INDUSTRY TO GET RID OF SPECIAL SOLIDS.

AS REGARDS INFORMATION, THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT PUBLISHES AN UPDATED GUIDE ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION EACH YEAR FOR MANUFACTURERS.

ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, THE HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL HAS HELPED THE INDUSTRY TO DEAL WITH ITS PROBLEMS.

NOTING THAT CLEANER TECHNOLOGY PAYS OFF, THE GOVERNOR SAID: "BEING A FRIEND TO THE ENVIRONMENT DOES NOT MEAN BEING A STRANGER TO PROFIT."

IT CAN NOT ONLY LEAD TO GREATER PRODUCTIVITY BUT TO SAVINGS ON RAW MATERIALS AND WASTE DISPOSAL AS WELL AS MORE ORDERS FROM ENVIRONMENTALLY CONSCIOUS FOREIGN FIRMS, MR PATTEN SAID.

THE GOVERNOR CALLED FOR MORE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL CONSUMERS, BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS BETWEEN DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS.

THE GOVERNOR PRAISED THE PRIVATE SECTOR COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT FOR SPONSORING VARIOUS INITIATIVES TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE NEED TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT.

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RATEABLE PROPERTY VALUES UNDER REVIEW

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THE RATING AND VALUATION DEPARTMENT IS PREPARING FOR A GENERAL REVALUATION UNDER WHICH RATEABLE VALUES OF ALL PROPERTIES IN HONG KONG WILL BE REVIEWED.

THE REVISED RATEABLE VALUES WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 NEXT YEAR.

SOME 364,000 REQUISITION FORMS ARE BEING DESPATCHED TO RATEPAYERS TODAY (MONDAY), SEEKING DETAILS OF RENTS AND OTHER TERMS OF TENANCIES FOR DIFFERENT CATEGORIES OF PROPERTY INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PREMISES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID ABOUT ONE IN EVERY THREE RATEPAYERS WOULD RECEIVE A FORM BECAUSE THE FORMS WERE ISSUED ONLY TO RATEPAYERS OF PROPERTIES WHERE RENTS WERE LIKELY TO BE RECENTLY NEGOTIATED.

RATEPAYERS WHO RECEIVE THE FORMS MUST COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE 21 DAYS ALLOWED.

IF THEY CANNOT RETURN THE FORM WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD, THEY MAY APPLY, WITH REASONS, FOR AN EXTENSION.

"FAILURE TO RETURN THE FORM MAY RESULT IN PENALTIES BEING IMPOSED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

ANYONE WHO IS IN DOUBT AS TO HOW TO COMPLETE THE FORM MAY TELEPHONE THE ENQUIRY NUMBER PRINTED ON THE FORM, OR MAY VISIT THE DEPARTMENT ON 17TH FLOOR, HENNESSY CENTRE, 500 HENNESSY ROAD, CAUSEWAY BAY, HONG KONG.

HELP MAY ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM ANY PUBLIC ENQUIRY SERVICE CENTRE AT DISTRICT OFFICES.

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EXCO YET TO DECIDE ON PAY REVISION

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THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID THIS (MONDAY) EVENING THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HAD YET TO MAKE A FINAL DECISION ON THE PAY REVISION FOR CIVIL SERVANTS.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OFFICIATING AT THE ZONTA CLUB OF VICTORIA'S INSTALLATION CEREMONY, MRS CHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD OF COURSE CONSIDER THE STAFF'S CLAIM AND A FURTHER PAPER WOULD BE PUT TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING ON JUNE 22.

ON THE OPEN DEBATE SOUGHT BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COUNCILS, MRS CHAN SAID: "I THINK WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO STAFF THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEW.

/"THE GOVERNMENT .....

"THE GOVERNMENT ON THE ONE HAND TAKES VERY SERIOUSLY ITS OBLIGATIONS AS A GOOD EMPLOYER. BUT THE GOVERNMENT AT THE SAME TIME ALSO HAS A WIDER OBLIGATION TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE."

ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF INDUSTRIAL ACTION BY THE STAFF, MRS CHAN SAID SHE VERY MUCH HOPED THAT THE CIVIL SERVANTS WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER WHATEVER ACTION THEY WOULD TAKE AND THAT THEY WOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT OF THE INTEREST OF THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.

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APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATOR

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THE GOVERNMENT WILL APPOINT A JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATOR AT D8 (SECRETARY) LEVEL TO TAKE OVER FROM THE REGISTRAR, SUPREME COURT AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE HEAD AND CONTROLLING OFFICER OF THE JUDICIARY, ASSISTING THE CHIEF JUSTICE IN THE OVERALL ADMINISTRATION OF THE JUDICIARY.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) SAID NECESSARY FUNDS FOR THE POST WOULD BE SOUGHT FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE JUDICIARY AT PRESENT WAS PRIMARILY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE REGISTRAR, SUPREME COURT, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

THERE IS HOWEVER A NEED TO APPOINT A HIGH-RANKING ADMINISTRATOR TO TAKE CHARGE OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE JUDICIARY TO COPE WITH THE INCREASING ACTIVITIES OF THE JUDICIARY AND TO MEET RISING EXPECTATIONS ABOUT EFFICIENCY IN THE JUDICIAL PROCESS.

"THE NEW JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATOR WILL FOCUS ON ADMINISTRATIVE WORK AND WILL OCCUPY A NON-JUDICIAL POST IN THE JUDICIARY."

"THE POST SHOULD BE RANKED AT D8 LEVEL TO PUT HIM AT A SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL TO DISCHARGE HIS DUTIES EFFECTIVELY," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PROPOSAL WILL BE PUT TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

RECRUITMENT OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATOR WILL BEGIN AS SOON AS THE NECESSARY FUNDS HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

IT IS HOPED THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE MADE BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

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HKQAA PASSES ITS FIRST INT'L AUDIT

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THE SIGNING OF AN IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE BRITISH STANDARDS INSTITUTE (BSI) AND THE HONG KONG QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY (HKQAA) SIGNIFIES THAT THE TWO ORGANISATIONS REGARD THE STANDARD AND QUALITY OF EACH OTHER'S WORK AS EQUIVALENT.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, MR HAMISH MACLEOD, TODAY (MONDAY) AT THE SIGNING CEREMONY OF THE AGREEMENT.

MR MACLEOD SAID HONG KONG HAD REACHED A POINT WHERE THE WORK OF THE HKQAA NEEDED TO BE ACKNOWLEDGED AND ACCEPTED INTERNATIONALLY AND THAT THE AGENCY HAD SUCCESSFULLY PASSED ITS FIRST INTERNATIONAL AUDIT.

"THE AGENCY NEEDED TO DEMONSTRATE ITS COMPETENCE AND CREDIBILITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION FIELD," HE SAID.

FOLLOWING THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT, BSI QUALITY MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATES CAN NOW BE AWARDED TO COMPANIES IN HONG KONG, BASED ON AUDIT WORK CARRIED OUT BY HKQAA AND SIMILARLY BSI CAN UNDERTAKE WORK FOR THE AGENCY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY OFFERED HIS CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HKQAA FOR SUCCESSFULLY NEGOTIATING THIS AGREEMENT AND EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION TO BSI FOR HELPING THE AGENCY SO MUCH IN ITS FORMATIVE YEARS.

BSI, AS THE UNITED KINGDOM'S OFFICIAL STANDARDS AUTHORITY, HAS MAINTAINED A SPLENDID TRACK RECORD FOR MANY YEARS IN RELATION TO STANDARDS AND QUALITY. THE INSTITUTION HAS PIONEERED THE DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY STANDARDS.

IN PLANNING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AGENCY AND IN THE SUBSEQUENT TECHNICAL WORK ASSOCIATED WITH ITS DAILY OPERATIONS, BSI HAS BEEN OF CONSIDERABLE ASSISTANCE WITH PROVISION OF TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW AND IN OVERSEEING SOME OF THE INITIAL AUDIT PROCESSES.

MR MACLEOD NOTED THAT FOR SOME YEARS THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAD VIEWED QUALITY AS ONE OF A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT FACTORS THAT WOULD FACILITATE THE UPGRADING OF INDUSTRY AND ITS ON-GOING DEVELOPMENT HERE.

"JUST OVER A DECADE AGO, WE BEGAN A PROGRAMME OF BUILDING UP A SOUND QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF MOVES TOWARDS BETTER QUALITY PRODUCTION IN OUR INDUSTRIES," HE SAID.

"A SERIES OF GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED INITIATIVES RESULTED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT BY INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT STANDARDS AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY, THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME AND THE PRODUCT STANDARDS INFORMATION BUREAU.

WITH THESE ESSENTIAL QUALITY SUPPORT SERVICES FIRMLY ESTABLISHED, THE GOVERNMENT BEGAN TO EXAMINE THE BROADER ISSUES OF QUALITY, MR MACLEOD SAID.

/"COMPANIES WERE .....

"COMPANIES WERE ENCOURAGED TO INCORPORATE QUALITY INTO COMPANIES' STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLANS. BUSINESSES IN HONG KONG LOOKING TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES WERE BEING INTRODUCED TO THE CONCEPT OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS," HE ADDED.

THE CONCEPT AND THE BENEFITS OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT APPLIED TO THE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS PRIVATE COMPANIES, MR MACLEOD SAID, ADDING THAT SOME GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS WERE NOW MOVING TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION (ISO) 9000 CERTIFICATION.

"THE GOVERNMENT'S COMMITMENT TO QUALITY IS WELL ILLUSTRATED BY OUR PRINTING ORGANISATION AND BY OUR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME," HE SAID.

"IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION THAT WITHIN THE NEXT FEW YEARS CONTRACTORS AND CONSULTANTS FOR MAJOR PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS WILL HAVE TO BE CERTIFIED TO ISO 9000 STANDARDS, IF THEY ARE TO CARRY OUT WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT," MR MACLEOD SAID.

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TWO MOTION DEBATES AT WEDNESDAY'S LEGCO MEETING

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THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL DEBATE TWO MOTIONS, ONE ON THE INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND THE OTHER ON LAND SUPPLY FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING AT ITS MEETING ON WEDNESDAY.

THE FIRST MOTION WILL BE MOVED BY THE HON HENRY TANG. THE HON ALLEN LEE WILL PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT MOTION.

THE OTHER MOTION WILL BE MOVED BY THE HON LEE WING-TAT.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE WHILE THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY WILL MOVE ANOTHER MOTION UNDER THE BETTING DUTY ORDINANCE.

MEMBERS WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 19 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER THREE BILLS AT THE MEETING.

OF THEM, THE LAYOUT-DESIGN (TOPOGRAPHY) OF INTEGRATED CIRCUITS BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS. DEBATE ON IT IS DUE TO BE ADJOURNED.

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

THEY ARE: BUILDINGS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1993 AND LIFTS AND ESCALATORS (SAFETY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993.

IN ADDITION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL PRESENT THE SECURITIES AND FUTURES COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 1992/93.

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

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CUSTOMS TRADE DECLARATION COUNTERS CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

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CUSTOMS HONG KONG COLLECTION OFFICE, LOCATED AT HARBOUR BUILDING, CENTRAL, WILL CLOSE SOME OF THEIR TRADE DECLARATION COUNTERS FROM JUNE 15 TO JULY 24 FOR INSTALLATION OF NEW PROGRAMMABLE CASH REGISTERS.

COUNTERS FOR PROCESSING LODGEMENT OF ONE TO 50 TRADE DECLARATIONS WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE RENOVATION PERIOD.

THE OFFICE WILL PROVIDE LIMITED SERVICES FOR PROCESSING LODGEMENT OF 30 TO 50 TRADE DECLARATIONS WITH PAYMENT BY CHEQUE.

OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE, SUCH AS BULK LODGEMENT OF MORE THAN 50 TRADE DECLARATIONS AND NORMAL DISKETTE LODGEMENT, WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

DECLARANTS AFFECTED ARE ENCOURAGED TO DECLARE THEIR LODGEMENT AT THE KOWLOON COLLECTION OFFICE ON GROUND FLOOR, MIDDLE ROAD MULTI-STOREY CARPARK BUILDING, TSIM SHA TSUI.

A SPOKESMAN FOR CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT SAID THE MODIFICATIONS WOULD RESULT IN SPEEDIER PROCESSING.

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SURVEY STARTS ON WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE SURVEY OF WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS FOR 1992 HAD STARTED.

THE ANNUAL SURVEY IS PART OF A CONTINUOUS PROGRAMME TO COMPILE STATISTICS ON THE STRUCTURE AND PERFORMANCE OF VARIOUS ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN HONG KONG.

THE SURVEY AIMS TO OBTAIN UP-TO-DATE STATISTICAL DATA FOR EVALUATING THE CONTRIBUTION OF VARIOUS ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT AND FOR ASCERTAINING THEIR COST STRUCTURE, OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS AND SALES LEVELS.

THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE USEFUL TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN FORMULATING POLICIES AND MAKING DECISIONS.

THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR FREDERICK HO, APPEALED TO THE MANAGERMENTS OF ALL SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS TO FULFIL THEIR LEGAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES BY RETURNING PROMPTLY THE COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRES AND CO-OPERATING WITH OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT IN THE COURSE OF THE SURVEY.

/HE STRESSED .....

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HE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WOULD BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE.

ONLY AGGREGATE INFORMATION THAT DOES NOT REVEAL DETAILS OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE RELEASED.

MR HO ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AUDITED ACCOUNTS WERE NOT ESSENTIAL FOR THE SUPPLY OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DATA REQUIRED IN THE SURVEY.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ACCEPTS FIGURES BASED ON PRELIMINARY ACCOUNTS OR ESTIMATES WHICH ARE CORRECT TO THE BEST OF THE RESPONDENTS' KNOWLEDGE AT THE TIME OF SUBMISSION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE, IF AUDITED ACCOUNTS ARE NOT YET AVAILABLE.

ABOUT 9,300 ESTABLISHMENTS WILL BE ENUMERATED IN THE PRESENT ROUND OF THE SURVEY, COVERING THE FOLLOWING ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES: WHOLESALE; RETAIL; IMPORTS AND EXPORTS; RESTAURANTS; HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES.

INFORMATION TO BE SOUGHT IN THE SURVEY INCLUDES: TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, ORIGIN OF INVESTMENT, FLOOR AREA, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES (THAT IS, WAGES, SALARIES AND OTHER EMPLOYEE BENEFITS), OPERATING EXPENSES, TOTAL VALUE OF PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE, SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS, CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND STOCKS AND OTHER RELATED INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESS OPERATION OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS.

THE SURVEY IS CONDUCTED UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS (ANNUAL SURVEY OF WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS) ORDER 1984, WHICH WAS MADE UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE (CHAPTER 316).

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO THE SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS.

THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THE QUESTIONNAIRES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT BY JULY 31, THIS YEAR.

IF REQUIRED, OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT WILL VISIT INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND HELP THEM COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

THESE OFFICERS WILL EACH CARRY A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD AND A CERTIFICATE FOR CONDUCTING THE SURVEY WHILST ON DUTY, WHICH ARE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION.

ANY ENQUIRES REGARDING THE SURVEY MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1278.

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EARLY WELFARE PAYMENT  
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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE HOLDING CASH ORDER COUPONS MAY RECEIVE THEIR WELFARE PAYMENT EARLIER IF THEIR PAYDAY FALLS ON THE COMING PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AT THE END OF THIS WEEK.

A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN TODAY (MONDAY) SAID PAYMENT SCHEDULED BETWEEN JUNE 12 AND 14 WOULD BE ADVANCED TO JUNE 9 TO 11 RESPECTIVELY.

ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE FOR RECIPIENTS TO COLLECT THEIR PAYMENTS AT THE DESIGNATED POST OFFICES AND TREASURY SUB-OFFICES, HE SAID.

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CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEMBERS VISIT SCHOOL  
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EIGHT MEMBERS OF THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, LED BY ITS CHAIRMAN, MR ANDREW SO KWOK-WING, TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED BELILIOS PUBLIC SCHOOL IN NORTH POINT TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING ABOUT SCHOOL OPERATIONS.

THIS IS PART OF A SERIES OF PROGRAMMES ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL TO OBTAIN FIRST-HAND INFORMATION ABOUT THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN SCHOOLS.

THE PARTY WAS MET AND BRIEFED BY THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, MISS SHERIFA KHAN, AND THE TEACHING STAFF ON VARIOUS TOPICS RELATING TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.

THE COUNCIL WILL BE VISITING MORE SCHOOLS IN THE FUTURE.

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POK OI HOSPITAL DIRECTORS VISIT SWD  
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THE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF POK OI HOSPITAL TODAY (MONDAY) PAID A COURTESY VISIT TO THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, AND EXCHANGED VIEWS WITH HIM ON WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE YEAR.

THE BOARD CHAIRMAN, DR SIDNEY SIU, OUTLINED THE HOSPITAL'S MEDICAL, EDUCATIONAL AND WELFARE SERVICES AS WELL AS PLANNED PROJECTS TO MR STRACHAN.

"POK OI WILL ATTACH MORE IMPORTANCE TO ELDERLY SERVICES IN VIEW OF THE AGEING POPULATION," DR SIU SAID.

MR STRACHAN COMMENDED POK OI HOSPITAL FOR ITS UNFAILING CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY AND ASSURED THE BOARD MEMBERS THAT THE DEPARTMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE ITS FULLEST SUPPORT TO THEIR PLANS.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE  
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STORAGE IN LOCAL RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 55.4 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 324.746 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 344.325 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 58.8 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,545
REVERSAL OF LAF	+1,255
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	2,800
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-1,480
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,320
LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER	TWI 112.0 **0.0* 7.6.93

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	2.53 PCT	15 MONTHS	2408	4.375	100.64	3.86
1 MONTH	2.79 PCT	18 MONTHS	2411	4.625	100.92	4.00
3 MONTHS	3.09 PCT	21 MONTHS	2502	4.75	100.96	4.20
6 MONTHS	3.35 PCT	24 MONTHS	2505	3.75	98.95	4.37
12 MONTHS	3.66 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 11,308 MN

CLOSED JUNE 7, 1993

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