



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
HK MUST PROVIDE INCREASING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND MAINTAIN ACADEMIC STANDARDS: GOVERNOR .....	1
BCCHK -- LEGAL SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG CLARIFIED .....	2
FOUR FUND-RAISING PERMITS ISSUED .....	2
UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS FOR MARCH - MAY 1991 RELEASED .....	3
INCREASES OF ACTIVITY FOR COMPANY REGISTRY .....	5
MARCH EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS RELEASED .....	6
GOVT SEEKS VIEW ON LAW TO PREVENT CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME .....	11
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 1990-91 REVIEW .....	12
PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF FIRST QUARTER SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES RELEASED .....	13
THREE DEBATES IN LEGCO ON WEDNESDAY .....	16
RATEPAYERS GIVEN REMINDER ON THIRD QUARTER PAYMENT .....	17
MUSIC OFFICE RECRUITS PROFESSIONAL STAFF .....	18
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS .....	19

MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

- 1 -

HK MUST PROVIDE INCREASING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES  
AND MAINTAIN ACADEMIC STANDARDS: GOVERNOR

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IF HONG KONG IS TO BUILD ON ITS ACHIEVEMENTS, IT MUST CONTINUE TO PROVIDE INCREASING OPPORTUNITIES FOR EDUCATION, THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

AT THE SAME TIME, ACADEMIC STANDARDS MUST CONTINUE TO BE MAINTAINED AND RECOGNISED INTERNATIONALLY, HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "QUALITY ASSURANCE IN HIGHER EDUCATION" INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION, SIR DAVID NOTED THAT THE ENTHUSIASM FOR LEARNING HAD BEEN AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN HONG KONG'S POST-WAR ECONOMIC SUCCESS.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD SET THE AMBITIOUS TARGET OF NEARLY DOUBLING THE INTAKE OF FIRST DEGREE STUDENTS BY SEPTEMBER 1994.

"THIS IS NO EASY TASK. BUT IT IS VITALLY IMPORTANT IF THE DEMAND IN HONG KONG FOR ARTICULATE, WELL-EDUCATED YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN IS TO BE MET," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID EXPLAINED THAT SUCH DEMAND WAS GROWING RAPIDLY AS HONG KONG'S ECONOMY UNDERWENT A FUNDAMENTAL CHANGE.

AS THE SERVICES SECTOR WAS BLOSSOMING, BANKS, RETAILERS, TRADING COMPANIES, HOTELS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS BUSINESSES ALL SAW OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH.

TO MAKE THE MOST OF THESE OPPORTUNITIES, THEY NEEDED A STEADY FLOW OF YOUNG RECRUITS, SIR DAVID SAID.

ON THE PARTICULAR CHALLENGE FOR HONG KONG'S HIGHER EDUCATION, SIR DAVID POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS TO COMBINE THE SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS GRADUATING FROM POLYTECHNICS AND UNIVERSITIES WHILE, AT THE SAME TIME, MAINTAINING AND, WHERE POSSIBLE, RAISING ACADEMIC STANDARDS.

BUT OF COURSE EVALUATING AND MAINTAINING ACADEMIC STANDARDS WAS A CHALLENGE FOR ALL PLACES OF LEARNING, HE ADDED.

"THE HIGHER THE LEVELS AND STANDARDS OF LEARNING, THE MORE COMPLEX THE PROCESS OF EVALUATION AND COMPARISON," HE SAID.

SIR DAVID SAID HONG KONG WAS ALSO FACING THE PROBLEM OF TRYING TO MAKE SURE THAT IT HAD THE RIGHT INSTITUTIONS TO TEST AND KEEP ITS STANDARDS HIGH.

ON THIS, HE SAID, THE HONG KONG COUNCIL FOR ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION HAD JUST BEEN SET UP TO TAKE ON THE ROLE PREVIOUSLY PLAYED BY THE BRITISH COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL ACADEMIC AWARDS.

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MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

- 2 -

BCCHK -- LEGAL SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG CLARIFIED

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THE ADMINISTRATOR IN LUXEMBOURG HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO A SALE OF THE BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE HONG KONG LTD. (BCCHK), THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING, MR DAVID CARSE, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HOWEVER, THAT WAS ONLY ONE STAGE IN THE PROCESS OF SELLING THE BANK AND DISCUSSIONS ARE GOING ON WITH INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE HOPE OF IDENTIFYING A BUYER FOR THE BANK IN HONG KONG.

"WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING IS TO CLARIFY THE LEGAL SITUATION IN LUXEMBOURG BUT WE CANNOT AS YET GUARANTEE THAT THERE WILL BE A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME," HE SAID.

MEANWHILE, EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING BY THE COMMISSIONER'S STAFF TO RECOVER THE BANK'S ASSETS FROM OVERSEAS.

"SO FAR, A TOTAL OF \$2 BILLION WORTH OF ASSETS HAVE BEEN RETURNED TO HONG KONG FROM OVERSEAS," HE SAID.

MEASURES TO SECURE AN EARLY PARTIAL CASH PAYMENT FOR DEPOSITORS ARE BEING URGENTLY EXPLORED.

MR CARSE HELD A MEETING WITH A GROUP OF DEPOSITORS THIS MORNING AND THERE WAS A USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

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FOUR FUND-RAISING PERMITS ISSUED

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A SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT THIS (MONDAY) EVENING SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD ISSUED FOUR PERMITS TO ORGANISATIONS FOR HOLDING ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC PLACE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FLOOD VICTIMS IN CHINA.

"WE HAVE, SO FAR, RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 17 WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR A PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION PERMIT AND WE ARE STILL PROCESSING THE REMAINING 13 APPLICATIONS," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED MORE THAN 100 ENQUIRIES REGARDING ORGANISATION OF ACTIVITIES TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE VICTIMS IN CHINA.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE DEPARTMENT IS HANDLING, AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, APPLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION PERMITS FOR ANY FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC PLACES.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT MATTERS CONCERNING APPLICATIONS FOR A PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION PERMIT CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 576 5922.

IN ORDER TO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT IN EXPEDITING ITS WORKS, APPLICANTS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS:

/\* THE PURPOSE .....

- \* THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND-RAISING ACTIVITY TOGETHER WITH THE PROPOSED DATE, TIME AND LOCATIONS.
- \* PERMISSION FROM THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES - IN THE CASE OF A FUND-RAISING EVENT IN A PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE, THE PERMISSION OF HOUSING DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE OBTAINED. IN PUBLIC STREETS, PRIOR APPROVAL SHOULD BE OBTAINED FROM THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT, WHILE IN A COMMERCIAL COMPLEX, THE MANAGEMENT'S PERMISSION SHOULD BE SOUGHT.
- \* AN AGREEMENT FROM THE ORGANISATION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TRANSFER OF THE DONATION TO ITS DESTINATION SHOULD BE OBTAINED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID UPON COMPLETION OF AN APPROVED FUND-RAISING OPERATION, THE ORGANISER SHOULD SUBMIT A CERTIFIED AUDIT REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITHIN 90 DAYS.

"IF THE DONATION COLLECTED IS TO BE TRANSFERRED OUTSIDE HONG KONG, THE ORGANISER SHOULD PLACE AN ADVERTISEMENT IN AT LEAST ONE LOCAL CHINESE AND ONE ENGLISH NEWSPAPER WITHIN 90 DAYS," HE ADDED.

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UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS  
FOR MARCH - MAY 1991 RELEASED  
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BOTH THE UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE ROSE DURING THE PERIOD MARCH - MAY 1991, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST LABOUR FORCE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR MARCH - MAY 1991 WAS 2.4%, COMPARED WITH 1.4% FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1991 AND 1.6% FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE INCREASES OF 1% OVER THE PRECEDING THREE-MONTH PERIOD AND 0.8 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT.

THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED PERSONS IN MARCH - MAY 1991 WAS ESTIMATED AT 67,500, COMPARED WITH 40,500 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1991 AND 44,200 IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE FOR MARCH - MAY 1991 WAS 1.9%, COMPARED WITH 1.1% FOR DECEMBER 1990 - FEBRUARY 1991 AND 1.0% FOR THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

THE INCREASES OF 0.8 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE PRECEDING THREE-MONTH PERIOD AND 0.9 OF A PERCENTAGE POINT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER ARE BOTH STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT.

- 4 -

THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF UNDEREMPLOYED PERSONS IN MARCH - MAY 1991 WAS 54,100, COMPARED WITH 30,600 IN THE THREE MONTHS ENDING FEBRUARY 1991 AND 26,900 IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD A YEAR EARLIER.

CONSISTENT WITH THE CURRENT RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO), PERSONS WHO WORKED LESS THAN 35 HOURS A WEEK DUE TO ECONOMIC REASONS (SUCH AS SLACK WORK, MATERIAL SHORTAGE, MECHANICAL BREAKDOWN AND INABILITY TO FIND FULL-TIME WORK) WERE REGARDED AS UNDEREMPLOYED ONLY IF THEY WERE EITHER SEEKING OR AVAILABLE FOR MORE WORK.

AS THE PROPORTION OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS (FOR EXAMPLE PEOPLE WHO HAVE JUST LEFT SCHOOL) VARIES FROM MONTH TO MONTH, UNEMPLOYMENT RATES THAT HAD BEEN SEASONALLY ADJUSTED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE VARIATIONS IN THE NUMBER OF FIRST-TIME JOB-SEEKERS SHOULD BE USED IN MAKING COMPARISONS OVER TIME.

THE PROVISIONAL SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR APRIL - JUNE 1991 WAS 2.4% AND THE PROVISIONAL UNDEREMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 1.7% .

THE UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT STATISTICS WERE OBTAINED FROM A CONTINUOUS GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY CONDUCTED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE SURVEY FOR MARCH - MAY 1991 COVERED A QUARTERLY SAMPLE OF SOME 10,600 HOUSEHOLDS OR 37,000 PERSONS, SELECTED SCIENTIFICALLY TO REPRESENT THE LAND-BASED CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONAL POPULATION IN HONG KONG.

PERSONAL AND LABOUR FORCE DATA WERE OBTAINED IN THE SURVEY BY INTERVIEWING EACH INDIVIDUAL MEMBER AGED 15 AND ABOVE IN THE HOUSEHOLDS SAMPLED.

IN THE SURVEY, THE DEFINITIONS USED IN MEASURING UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOLLOW CLOSELY THOSE RECOMMENDED BY THE ILO.

DETAILED ANALYSIS OF LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS IS GIVEN IN THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY WHICH IS PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES A YEAR.

THE NEXT REPORT COVERING THE QUARTER ENDING JUNE 1991 WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AROUND SEPTEMBER 20 AT \$13.50 PER COPY.

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MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

- 5 -

INCREASES OF ACTIVITY FOR COMPANY REGISTRY  
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THERE HAVE BEEN INCREASES OF ACTIVITY IN MOST AREAS FOR THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 1990, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, MR NOEL GLEESON, FOR THE COMPANIES REGISTRY TODAY (MONDAY).

THE COMPANIES REGISTRY FIGURES SHOWED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF COMPANIES ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF JUNE 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL NUMBER AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1990 HAD INCREASED BY 7% FROM 265,452 TO 284,045.

MEANWHILE, THE NUMBER OF NEW COMPANIES REGISTERED DURING THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 HAD INCREASED 66% FROM 12,513 TO 20,797 AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1990.

FOLLOWING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF THE NAME RESERVATION SYSTEM AT THE END OF NOVEMBER 1990 AND THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW NAME SYSTEM IN MARCH 1991, THE TIME TAKEN TO REGISTER A NEW COMPANY WAS REDUCED FROM AN AVERAGE OF 6 WEEKS TO 7 WORKING DAYS.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OVERSEA COMPANIES WHICH HAD ESTABLISHED A PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG UNDER PART XI OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE AT THE END OF JUNE 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE TOTAL NUMBER AT THE END OF DECEMBER 1990 INCREASED BY 3% FROM 2,635 TO 2,727.

THE NUMBER OF NEW OVERSEA COMPANIES ESTABLISHING A PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG UNDER PART XI DURING THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 WAS 200, AN INCREASE OF 8% COMPARED WITH THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1990.

NO SEPARATE STATISTICS ARE MAINTAINED ON HOW MANY OVERSEA COMPANIES INCORPORATE LOCAL SUBSIDIARIES OR TAKE UP A MAJORITY SHAREHOLDING IN A HONG KONG COMPANY.

IN THE FIRST HALF YEAR OF 1991 EXISTING COMPANIES INCREASED THEIR NOMINAL CAPITAL BY \$13,898 MILLION, A DECREASE OF 15% COMPARED TO THE SAME PERIOD OF 1990, WHILE THE NOMINAL CAPITAL OF NEW COMPANIES INCORPORATED DURING JANUARY - JUNE 1991 INCREASED BY 36% FROM \$1,577 MILLION TO \$2,139 MILLION COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990.

THE TOTAL AMOUNT SECURED BY CHARGES REGISTERED ON THE ASSETS OF COMPANIES INCREASED BY 40% FROM \$32,637 MILLION TO \$45,578 MILLION, AND THE NUMBER OF CHARGES FILED IN THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 HAD INCREASED BY 8% FROM 14,467 TO 15,643 OVER THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1990, WHILE THE AMOUNT REPAID ON CHARGES, AS EVIDENCED BY CERTIFICATES OF SATISFACTION, DECREASED BY 55% FROM \$8,970 MILLION TO \$4,057 MILLION, AND THE NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES HAD INCREASED BY 21% FROM 6,345 TO 7,656 IN THE SAME PERIOD.

DURING THE PERIOD, A TOTAL OF 93 PROSPECTUSES OF PUBLIC COMPANIES, INCLUDING 55 IN RESPECT OF MUTUAL FUNDS, WERE APPROVED AS AGAINST 72 PROSPECTUSES, INCLUDING 51 IN RESPECT OF MUTUAL FUNDS, DURING THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1990.

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MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

- 6 -

THE NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS RECEIVED FOR FILING DURING THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THAT FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990 INCREASED BY 16% FROM 416,120 TO 483,214 AND THE NUMBER OF SEARCHES MADE UNDER THE MICROFILM SYSTEM (INTRODUCED IN APRIL 1990) DURING THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THAT FOR THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990 INCREASED BY 62% FROM 428,238 TO 692,289.

THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SUMMONSES ISSUED BY THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES AGAINST COMPANIES AND THEIR DIRECTORS FOR BREACHES OF THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE, MAINLY FOR FAILURE TO FILE ANNUAL RETURNS WITH ACCOUNTS, IN THE FIRST 6 MONTHS OF 1991 WAS 60, COMPARED WITH 70 DURING THE SAME PERIOD IN 1990.

DURING THE PERIOD, 5 SUMMONSES WERE WITHDRAWN (E.G. BECAUSE OF NON-SERVICE), 40 RESULTED IN CONVICTIONS COMPARED WITH 78 IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1990 AND 113 REMAIN TO BE HEARD BY THE COURT (66 IN THE SAME PERIOD OF 1990).

THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FINES IMPOSED FOR CONVICTIONS IN THE FIRST HALF YEAR OF 1991 WAS \$122,680, COMPARED WITH \$172,160 IN THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1990.

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MARCH EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS RELEASED  
\* \* \* \* \*

EMPLOYMENT IN THE SERVICE SECTORS INCREASED IN MARCH 1991 OVER MARCH 1990. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR DECREASED. THUS, ACCORDING TO THE FIGURES RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, THE SHIFT IN EMPLOYMENT FROM MANUFACTURING TO SERVICES CONTINUED.

THERE WERE 696,800 PERSONS ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR IN MARCH 1991, REPRESENTING A DECREASE OF 8.9 PER CENT FROM MARCH 1990.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AT 852,700 IN MARCH 1991, WAS 10.3 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN MARCH 1990.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AT 276,700, WAS UP BY 5.1 PER CENT.

EMPLOYMENT ON CONSTRUCTION SITES, AT 66,700, WAS 10 PER CENT LOWER THAN IN MARCH 1990.

THE EMPLOYMENT FIGURES FOR MARCH 1991 IN THE SELECTED MAJOR ECONOMIC SECTORS, WITH COMPARISONS WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR MARCH 1990 AND DECEMBER 1990, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

/SELECTED MAJOR .....

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	PERSONS ENGAGED (EMPLOYMENT) IN @			PERCENTAGE CHANGE #	
	MAR 90	DEC 90	MAR 91	MAR 91 OVER MAR 90	MAR 91 OVER DEC 90
MANUFACTURING	764,700	715,600	696,800	-8.9	-2.6
CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	74,200	69,100	66,700	-10.0	-3.5
WHOLESALE AND ** RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	773,300	829,400	852,700	+10.3	+2.8
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	263,300	276,600	276,700	+5.1	*

@ FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST HUNDRED.

# BASED ON UNROUNDED EMPLOYMENT FIGURES.

\* LESS THAN 0.05 PER CENT INCREASE

\*\* EXCLUDING HAWKERS, STREET VENDORS, RETAIL PITCHES (OTHER THAN MARKET STALLS)

COMPARING MARCH 1991 WITH DECEMBER 1990, EMPLOYMENT IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR AND ON CONSTRUCTION SITES DECREASED BY 2.6 PER CENT AND 3.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, EMPLOYMENT IN THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 2.8 PER CENT, WHILE EMPLOYMENT IN THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR WAS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED FROM A YEAR EARLIER.

A DEPARTMENTAL SPOKESMAN SAID THE STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN MARCH 1991 WERE DERIVED FROM THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL AND THE QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION SITES CONDUCTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

THESE SECTORS COVER THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE CONSTRUCTION SITES; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

BEGINNING FROM THE FIRST QUARTER 1991, THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL ADOPTED THE HONG KONG STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (HSIC) CODES FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF ECONOMIC SECTORS. FIGURES FOR MARCH AND DECEMBER 1990 HAVE ALSO BEEN REVISED TO CONFORM TO THE HSIC CODES FOR COMPARISON PURPOSE.

THUS, THE FIGURES CONTAINED IN THIS PRESS RELEASE MAY NOT BE FULLY COMPARABLE WITH THOSE IN THE PREVIOUS REPORTS DUE TO THE CHANGE IN CLASSIFICATION.

THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL AND THE QUARTERLY EMPLOYMENT SURVEY OF CONSTRUCTION SITES ALSO PROVIDE VACANCY STATISTICS FOR THE SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS. THE VACANCY DATA TOGETHER WITH A COMPARISON WITH THE CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR MARCH 1990 AND DECEMBER 1990 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN @			PERCENTAGE CHANGE #	
	MAR 90	DEC 90	MAR 91	MAR 91 OVER MAR 90	MAR 91 OVER DEC 90
MANUFACTURING	38,270	28,970	31,760	-17.0	+ 9.6
CONSTRUCTION (MANUAL WORKERS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES ONLY)	3,050	1,330	1,150	-62.3	-13.9
WHOLESALE AND ** RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	34,900	27,660	33,240	-4.8	+20.2
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	10,940	8,870	9,150	-16.3	+ 3.1

@ FIGURES ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST TEN.

# BASED ON UNROUNDED VACANCY FIGURES.

\*\* EXCLUDING HAWKERS, STREET VENDORS AND RETAIL PITCHES  
(OTHER THAN MARKET STALLS)

COMPARED WITH MARCH 1990, THE VACANCY SITUATION IMPROVED IN ALL MAJOR SECTORS, SUGGESTING THAT THE LABOUR MARKET SITUATION HAD BECOME LESS TIGHT IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR DECREASED BY 14.2 PER CENT IN MARCH 1991 OVER MARCH 1990.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES ON CONSTRUCTION SITES FELL SIGNIFICANTLY BY 62.3 PER CENT, WHILE THOSE IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, AND THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR FELL BY 17.0 PER CENT, 16.3 PER CENT AND 4.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 1990, AND BEARING IN MIND THE INFLUENCE OF SEASONAL FACTORS, THE NUMBER OF REPORTED VACANCIES IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR, THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR INCREASED BY 9.6 PER CENT, 20.2 PER CENT AND 3.1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN MARCH 1991.

HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF VACANCIES ON CONSTRUCTION SITES DECREASED CONSIDERABLY BY 13.9 PER CENT.

ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL ARE STATISTICS ON MONTHLY TOTAL PAYROLL IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR; THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR; AND THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR. QUARTERLY TOTALS FOR EACH OF THESE SECTORS ARE SHOWN IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	TOTAL QUARTERLY PAYROLL IN		% CHANGE*
	1ST QTR 1990	1ST QTR 1991	1ST QTR 1991 OVER 1ST QTR 1990
	HK\$ MN	HK\$ MN	
MANUFACTURING	12,630	13,370	+ 5.9
WHOLESALE AND ** RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	14,085	17,487	+24.2
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	7,358	8,785	+19.4

\* BASED ON UNROUNDED PAYROLL FIGURES

\*\* EXCLUDING HAWKERS, STREET VENDORS AND RETAIL PITCHES  
(OTHER THAN MARKET STALLS)

COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER A YEAR AGO, TOTAL PAYROLL IN THE ABOVE THREE SECTORS INCREASED BY 5.9 PER CENT, 24.2 PER CENT AND 19.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991.

AFTER ADJUSTMENT FOR VARIATIONS IN TOTAL MONTHLY PAYROLL BETWEEN MARCH 1990 AND MARCH 1991, ARISING FROM CHANGES IN THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT, A NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IS OBTAINED.

TO ALLOW FOR THE EFFECTS OF PRICE CHANGES, THE NOMINAL INDEX IS DEFLATED BY THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (A) (OCTOBER 89 - SEPTEMBER 90 = 100) TO GIVE THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED.

THESE TWO INDICES FOR MARCH 1990 AND MARCH 1991 ARE GIVEN IN THE TABLES BELOW :-

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (MARCH 1991 = 100)		% CHANGE
	MAR 90	MAR 91	MAR 91 OVER MAR 90
MANUFACTURING	89.1	100.0	+12.2
WHOLESALE AND ** RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	87.3	100.0	+14.5
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	85.1	100.0	+17.5

SELECTED MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY	REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED (MARCH 1991 = 100)		% CHANGE
	MAR 90	MAR 91	MAR 91 OVER MAR 90
MANUFACTURING	100.1	100.0	-0.1
WHOLESALE AND ** RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	98.1	100.0	+1.9
FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES	95.6	100.0	+4.6

\*\* EXCLUDING HAWKERS, STREET VENDORS AND RETAIL PITCHES  
(OTHER THAN MARKET STALLS)

BETWEEN MARCH 1990 AND MARCH 1991, AN INCREASE OF 12.2 PER CENT WAS REGISTERED IN THE NOMINAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR.

FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 14.5 PER CENT AND FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR, THE INCREASE WAS 17.5 PER CENT.

SALARY REVISION WAS REPORTED AS THE MAIN REASON FOR THE INCREASE IN PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED OVER THIS PERIOD.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED REGISTERED AN INCREASE OF 1.9 PER CENT FOR THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADES AND RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS SECTOR, AND 4.6 PER CENT FOR THE FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES SECTOR.

HOWEVER, THE REAL INDEX OF PAYROLL PER PERSON ENGAGED IN THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR RECORDED VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE.

DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STATISTICS, MARCH 1991 AND THE QUARTERLY REPORT OF EMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES AT CONSTRUCTION SITES, MARCH 1991.

THEY ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT \$13.50 PER COPY AND \$8.50 PER COPY RESPECTIVELY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AND AT THE SALES COUNTER OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AT 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

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GOVT SEEKS VIEW ON LAW TO PREVENT CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME  
\* \* \* \* \*

PUBLIC OPINION WILL BE SOUGHT AS TO WHETHER SPECIFIC LEGISLATION SHOULD BE ENACTED TO PROHIBIT PARENTS AND GUARDIANS FROM LEAVING CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME.

DETAILS OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION ARE BEING WORKED OUT. IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT THE THREE-MONTH CONSULTATION WILL BE LAUNCHED IN OCTOBER.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC, PARTICULARLY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, LAW BODIES, SOCIAL WELFARE PERSONNEL, WOMEN'S ASSOCIATIONS, AND PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WILL BE INVITED TO AIR THEIR VIEWS.

SPEAKING AT THE SOCIAL WELFARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SWAC) MEETING THIS (MONDAY) AFTERNOON, ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR ALFRED CHUI, SAID: "UNDER THE EXISTING LAW - SECTION 27 OF THE OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSONS ORDINANCE - THE POLICE CAN TAKE ACTION AGAINST PARENTS FOR 'WILFUL NEGLECT' OF THEIR CHILDREN."

IN VIEW OF THE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE, SWAC MEMBERS GENERALLY CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE THAT THE PUBLIC SHOULD BE CONSULTED BEFORE DECIDING ON WHETHER SPECIFIC LEGISLATION AGAINST PARENTS LEAVING THEIR CHILDREN UNATTENDED AT HOME SHOULD BE INTRODUCED.

MR CHUI ADDED THAT IN LINE WITH SWAC MEMBERS' RECOMMENDATIONS IN ITS PREVIOUS MEETINGS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD STRENGTHENED PUBLIC EDUCATION AND IMPROVED THE PROVISION OF SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, INCLUDING:

- \* A NEW PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN ON "DON'T LEAVE CHILDREN UNATTENDED" WAS LAUNCHED IN APRIL 1991;
- \* HOME SAFETY PROGRAMMES HAVE BEEN ORGANISED EXTENSIVELY AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL;
- \* AS AT JUNE 30, THIS YEAR, A TOTAL OF 31,266 NURSERY PLACES AND 1,181 DAY CRECHE PLACES WERE AVAILABLE; MORE NURSERY PLACES AND DAY CRECHES ARE PLANNED;
- \* THE PROVISION OF OCCASIONAL CHILD CARE ON A HALF-DAY OR FULL-DAY BASIS FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN TWO AND SIX HAS BEEN EXPANDED TO 150 PLACES IN 50 NURSERIES AND ADMISSION CRITERIA HAVE BEEN RELAXED TO ALLOW CENTRE SUPERVISORS FLEXIBILITY IN ACCEPTING NEEDY CHILDREN; AND
- \* EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE PARENTS IN THE SAME NEIGHBOURHOOD TO TAKE TURNS TO PROVIDE TEMPORARY CARE FOR CHILDREN WHEN THE NEED ARISES.

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COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY 1990-91 REVIEW

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ONE MAJOR RECOMMENDATION BY THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN 1990-91 IS THAT A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, PROFESSOR POON CHUNG-KWONG, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO REVIEW THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE DURING THE PAST YEAR, PROF POON SAID THIS WOULD INVOLVE THE REPLACEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ITSELF WITH A NEW SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BOARD.

"WE ARE AWAITING THE ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION ON THIS RECOMMENDATION," HE SAID.

PROF POON ALSO HIGHLIGHTED SOME OF THE MAIN FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE IN SUPERCOMPUTING, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) ENVIRONMENT AND MANPOWER, TOXIC SUBSTANCE CONTROLS, AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROMOTION.

ON SUPERCOMPUTING, PROF POON SAID THERE WAS NO PRESSING NEED FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE A DECISION ON WHETHER SUPERCOMPUTING FACILITIES SHOULD BE INSTALLED AND THE ROLE OF THE GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THIS WOULD BE RESOLVED NATURALLY IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS.

AS FOR THE IT ENVIRONMENT AND MANPOWER, PROF POON SAID IT WAS NOTED THAT HONG KONG WAS WELL PLACED IN TERMS OF THE BASE ON WHICH COMPETITIVE IT USAGE COULD BE BUILT.

"LOOKING AT THE POTENTIAL MANPOWER SHORTAGE, THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT INCREASES IN THE NUMBER OF IT RELATED VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND HIGHER EDUCATION PLACES COULD MEET THE CONSULTANT'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXPANSION IN THESE AREAS.

"THE COMMITTEE ADVISES THAT A GROUP BE FORMED TO GIVE FURTHER CONSIDERATION TO THE CHANNELLING OF INDUSTRY VIEWS INTO THE PLANNING OF IT-RELATED HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING," HE SAID.

MOVING ON TO TOXIC SUBSTANCE CONTROLS, PROF POON SAID IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC TO INTRODUCE CONTROLS ON TOXIC SUBSTANCES IN ALL HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS AT THIS STAGE THOUGH CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CONTROL SPECIFIED CATEGORIES OF HOUSEHOLD CHEMICALS WHOSE TOXIC EFFECTS COULD BE ACUTE.

ON THE PROMOTION OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, PROF POON SAID THAT FOLLOWING A SURVEY OF EXISTING ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN, THE COMMITTEE CONCLUDED THAT A GREAT DEAL OF ACTIVITY HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN INFORMAL SCIENCE EDUCATION, WITH THE NEW SCIENCE MUSEUM REPRESENTING ONE MAJOR INITIATIVE.

"CO-ORDINATION, HOWEVER, IS RELATIVELY LIMITED AND, WHILE FORMAL CO-ORDINATION WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE, THERE IS SCOPE TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF SUCH ACTIVITIES.

"ALONG THESE LINES, THE COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED THE INCLUSION OF A CALENDER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACTIVITIES IN THE SCIENCE MUSEUM NEWSLETTER AND THE EXTENSION OF HONG KONG PRODUCTIVITY COUNCIL'S DATABASE OF TRAINING PROGRAMMES TO INCLUDE RELEVANT INFORMATION," HE SAID.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF FIRST QUARTER SURVEY  
OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES RELEASED

\* \* \* \* \*

THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991, ESTIMATED AT \$9,232 MILLION, WAS 7% HIGHER THAN IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1990, WHILE THE VOLUME WAS 6% LOWER, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE PROVISIONAL ESTIMATE OF TOTAL PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991 WAS \$3,621 MILLION, REPRESENTING A 5% INCREASE IN VALUE TERMS OVER THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990.

ANALYSED BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT, THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" (COMPRISING HERB TEA SHOPS, CREAMERIES AND OTHER OUTLETS SELLING BEANCURD JELLY, AND SO ON) RECORDED THE LARGEST PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991 (+22%) WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990.

THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY FAST FOOD SHOPS (+17%), NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS (+7%), CHINESE RESTAURANTS (+5%) AND BARS (+5%).

IN VOLUME TERMS, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" AND FAST FOOD SHOPS INCREASED BY 9% AND 5% RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THOSE FOR BARS, NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND CHINESE RESTAURANTS DECREASED BY 3%, 6% AND 8% RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991 WITH THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THIS COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RESTAURANTS RECEIPTS DECREASED BY 2% IN VALUE AND 6% IN VOLUME, AND THE VALUE OF PURCHASES BY RESTAURANTS FELL BY 3%.

IN VALUE TERMS, TOTAL RECEIPTS OF "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES" AND FAST FOOD SHOPS INCREASED BY 3% AND 1% RESPECTIVELY, THAT OF NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED, WHILE THOSE OF CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND BARS DECREASED BY 2% AND 10% RESPECTIVELY.

IN VOLUME TERMS, ALL RESTAURANT TYPES RECORDED A DECLINE IN TOTAL RECEIPTS, THE MAGNITUDE BEING 1% FOR "OTHER EATING AND DRINKING PLACES", 2% FOR FAST FOOD SHOPS, 5% FOR NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS, 6% FOR CHINESE RESTAURANTS AND 12% FOR BARS.

THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$1.50 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. : 802 1258).

NOTE TO EDITORS:

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED FIGURES FOR THE TOTAL RECEIPTS AND TOTAL PURCHASES OF THE ENTIRE RESTAURANT SECTOR FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990 AND FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE FROM OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 TAKEN AS 100.

ALSO TABULATED ARE COMPARISONS OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1991 RESULTS WITH THOSE FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 1990 AND FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1990.

TABLE 1 : TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

		4th qtr. 1990 (Revised figures)	1st qtr. 1991 (Provisional figures)
Total restaurant receipts	(in HK\$ million)	9 401	9 232
Total purchases by restaurants	(in HK\$ million)	3 745	3 621

TABLE 2 : VALUE AND VOLUME INDEXES OF TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS FOR 4TH QUARTER 1990 AND 1ST QUARTER 1991

(Quarterly average of October 84 - September 85 = 100)

Type of restaurant	Index of total restaurant receipts	4th quarter	1st quarter	1st qtr. 1991 compared with 4th qtr. 1990		1st qtr. 1991 compared with 1st qtr. 1990	
		1990	1991	Points	%	Points	%
Chinese restaurants	Value	198	193	-5	-2	+10	+5
	Volume	117	110	-7	-6	-9	-8
Non-Chinese restaurants	Value	200	199	*	*	+13	+7
	Volume	122	116	-6	-5	-7	-6
Fast food shops	Value	269	271	+2	+1	+40	+17
	Volume	177	173	-4	-2	+7	+5
Bars	Value	178	159	-19	-10	+8	+5
	Volume	131	116	-15	-12	-4	-3
Other eating and drinking places	Value	170	175	+5	+3	+32	+22
	Volume	111	110	-2	-1	+9	+9
Entire restaurant sector	Value	202	199	-4	-2	+12	+7
	Volume	123	116	-7	-6	-7	-6

Notes: 1. Figures denoting changes are derived from unrounded figures.  
2. \* denotes a figure within  $\pm 0.5$ .

MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991.

- 16 -

THREE DEBATES IN LEGCO ON WEDNESDAY

\* \* \* \* \*

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 17 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER NINE BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (JULY 17).

DEBATES ON NINE BILLS WILL BE RESUMED AND EACH IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THEY ARE THE BANKING (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1991, TRADE DESCRIPTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991, SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (1990-91) BILL 1991, OFFICIAL SOLICITOR BILL 1991, SURVEYORS REGISTRATION BILL 1991, PLANNERS REGISTRATION BILL 1991, TOWN PLANNING (AMENDMENT) (NO.2) BILL 1991, TELEVISION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 AND A PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL, THE ELECTORAL PROVISION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991.

IN ADDITION, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE PUBLIC FINANCE ORDINANCE, THE SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE DUTIABLE COMMODITIES ORDINANCE WHILE THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE LANDLORD AND TENANT (CONSOLIDATION) ORDINANCE.

THE HON MARTIN LEE WILL MOVE A MOTION ON CHILD CARE. THE MOTION READS: "IN LIGHT OF THE TRAGEDY EARLIER THIS YEAR IN HO MAN TIN AND THE INADEQUACY OF THE CURRENT CHILD-CARE SYSTEM IN HONG KONG, THIS COUNCIL URGES THE GOVERNMENT TO TAKE IMMEDIATE STEPS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND WIDEN THE AVAILABILITY OF CHILD-CARE SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY."

THERE WILL ALSO BE TWO ADJOURNMENT DEBATES ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN AND THE IMPORTATION OF LABOUR RESPECTIVELY.

THE HON LEUNG WAI-TUNG WILL RAISE THE MATTER OF "THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS OF WOMEN" WHILE THE HON PANG CHUN-HOI WILL RAISE THE MATTER OF "IMPORTATION OF LABOUR".

IN OTHER BUSINESS, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY WILL SPEAK ON THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT 1990.

THE THIRD ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLAINTS WILL ALSO BE TABLED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SITTING AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR SEATS IN THE PUBLIC GALLERIES BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

- 17 -

RATEPAYERS GIVEN REMINDER ON THIRD QUARTER PAYMENT

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RATEPAYERS SHOULD BY NOW HAVE RECEIVED DEMAND NOTES FOR RATES FOR THE QUARTER JULY 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1991 WHICH ARE DEMANDED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RATING ORDINANCE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TREASURY SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

ANY RATEPAYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A DEMAND NOTE MAY BRING A RATES DEMAND NOTE FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER AND MAKE PAYMENT AT ANY OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

- \* THE TREASURY HEADQUARTERS COLLECTION AND PAYMENT OFFICE, WANCHAI TOWER II, FIRST FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI;
- \* THE CENTRAL SUB-TREASURY, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, (SIDE ENTRANCE TO THE BUILDING IN ICE HOUSE STREET);
- \* THE NORTH POINT SUB-TREASURY, ODEON BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 28 SHU KUK STREET, NORTH POINT;
- \* THE SAI WAN HO SUB-TREASURY, EASTERN LAW COURTS BUILDING, GROUND FLOOR, 29 TAI ON STREET, SAI WAN HO, EASTERN DISTRICT;
- \* THE YAU MA TEI SUB-TREASURY, KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, FOURTH FLOOR, 405 NATHAN ROAD, (MARKET STREET ENTRANCE);
- \* THE KOWLOON CITY SUB-TREASURY, MAN SANG COMMERCIAL BUILDING, FIRST FLOOR, 348-352 PRINCE EDWARD ROAD, (CORNER OF PRINCE EDWARD ROAD AND JUNCTION ROAD).

ANY RATEPAYER WHO HAS NOT RECEIVED A DEMAND NOTE AND CANNOT PRODUCE A RATES DEMAND NOTE FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUARTER SHOULD INQUIRE FORTHWITH AT THE TREASURY RATES SECTION, WANCHAI TOWER II, 30TH FLOOR, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, HONG KONG.

NON-RECEIPT OF THE DEMAND NOTE DOES NOT ALTER THE REQUIREMENT THAT THE RATES MUST BE PAID BY 4 PM ON JULY 31, 1991 AND UNLESS SO PAID MAY BE SUBJECT TO A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT IMPOSED UNDER SECTION 22 OF THE RATING ORDINANCE.

A FURTHER SURCHARGE OF 10 PER CENT MAY BE ADDED TO ACCOUNTS, INCLUDING THE NORMAL FIVE PER CENT SURCHARGE, WHICH REMAIN UNPAID SIX MONTHS AFTER THE DUE DATE.

RATEPAYERS WHO HAVE SUBMITTED A VALID DIRECT DEBIT AUTHORISATION SHOULD NOTE THAT PAYMENT SHOULD BE MADE BY POST OR IN PERSON AS STIPULATED IN THE DEMAND NOTE UNLESS THE WORDING "PAYMENT TO BE MADE BY AUTOPAY" IS SHOWN IN THE DEMAND NOTE.

IN THIS CASE THEIR PAYMENT OF RATES WILL BE MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT TO THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS ON JULY 31, 1991. RATEPAYERS SHOULD ENSURE THAT THEIR BANK ACCOUNTS CONTAIN THE NECESSARY FUNDS ON THAT DATE.

/RATES ARE .....

RATES ARE PAYABLE ON VACANT PROPERTIES BUT ARE REFUNDABLE UNDER THE CONDITIONS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 30 OF THE ORDINANCE.

UNDER SECTIONS 30(1A) AND (2A), HOWEVER, NO REFUNDS WILL BE PAYABLE IN THE CASE OF A VACANT TENEMENT LAST USED OR INTENDED TO BE USED WHOLLY OR PRIMARILY FOR DOMESTIC PURPOSES OR FOR THE PARKING OF VEHICLES, UNLESS VACANT BY REASON OF AN ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT.

TO AVOID THE POSSIBLE INCONVENIENCE OF QUEUEING, RATEPAYERS ARE URGED TO PAY BY CHEQUE OR MONEY ORDER SENT BY POST OR BY EARLY PERSONAL ATTENDANCE AT ANY OF THE OFFICES LISTED ON THE BACK OF THE DEMAND NOTE.

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MUSIC OFFICE RECRUITS PROFESSIONAL STAFF

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THE MUSIC OFFICE IS RECRUITING FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL STAFF IN AURAL, THEORY AND CHORAL TEACHING.

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL ENTER AS AN ASSISTANT MUSIC OFFICER II WITH A PAY SCALE BETWEEN \$9,975 AND \$16,165 PER MONTH.

CANDIDATES SHOULD BE GRADUATES OF EITHER THE HONG KONG CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC, THE ACADEMY FOR PERFORMING ARTS, THE HONG KONG BAPTIST COLLEGE, OR HAVE A DEGREE IN MUSIC FROM A RECOGNISED UNIVERSITY, OR POSSESS EITHER LRSM, LRAM, GTCL, ARCM OR EQUIVALENT.

APPLICANTS MUST BE MAJOR IN EITHER PIANO OR SINGING. SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL BE REQUIRED TO TEACH AURAL AND THEORY TRAINING CLASSES; PROVIDE PIANO ACCOMPANIMENT; PLAN AND PREPARE TRAINING CURRICULUM; TRAIN CHORAL GROUPS AND PARTICIPATE IN MUSIC FUNCTION.

WORKING IN THE NEW TERRITORIES AND AT IRREGULAR HOURS MAY ALSO BE REQUIRED.

APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE ON G.F. 340 AND FORWARDED TO THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER (PERSONNEL AND GENERAL), MUSIC OFFICE, 25TH FLOOR, WAN CHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI NOT LATER THAN JULY 22.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL. 823 5340.

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MONDAY, JULY 15, 1991

- 19 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
\* \* \* \* \*

	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	13.7.91	530
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	15.7.91	+97*
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		-147
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL
*O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED	-50 MN	
OTHER FOWARDS	+147 MN	
TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 113.7 *-0.2* 15.7.91		

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

	12.7.91	15.7.91
MATURING IN 1 WEEK	6.07 PCT	5.87 PCT
1 MONTH	6.16 PCT	6.02 PCT
3 MONTHS	6.29 PCT	6.16 PCT
6 MONTHS	6.29 PCT	6.18 PCT
12 MONTHS	6.72 PCT	6.51 PCT
TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED	3,364 MN	5,550 MN

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