



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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2ND QUARTER 1991 DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS  
CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN

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THE SIX MAJOR INDUSTRY GROUPS WITH THE LARGEST VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1991 ARE : TEXTILES, INCLUDING KNITTING; CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS; WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR; MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, PARTS AND COMPONENTS; PROFESSIONAL AND OPTICAL EQUIPMENT; AND BASIC METALS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS.

THIS IS ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THESE GROUPS TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 79.2% OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1991.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES IN THE ABSOLUTE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1991 OVER THE SAME QUARTER OF 1990 WERE : MACHINERY, EQUIPMENT, APPARATUS, PARTS AND COMPONENTS (+\$501 MILLION); TEXTILES, INCLUDING KNITTING (+\$467 MILLION); CONSUMER ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS (+\$337 MILLION); WEARING APPAREL, EXCEPT FOOTWEAR (+\$264 MILLION); CHEMICALS AND CHEMICAL PRODUCTS (+\$206 MILLION); AND PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS, PRINTING AND PUBLISHING (+\$190 MILLION).

IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1991 OVER THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1990 WERE : TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT (+142.0%); PRODUCTS OF PETROLEUM AND COAL (+89.4%); BEVERAGES (+39.0%); FOOD (+25.2%); AND RUBBER PRODUCTS (+21.7%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, SEVERAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES RECORDED DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1991 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1990.

THEY WERE : PLASTIC PRODUCTS (-\$205 MILLION OR -9.2%); FOOTWEAR, EXCEPT RUBBER, PLASTIC AND WOODEN FOOTWEAR (-\$68 MILLION OR -31.9%); WOOD AND CORK PRODUCTS, FURNITURE AND FIXTURES (-\$23 MILLION OR -12.8%); AND NON-METALLIC MINERAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT PRODUCTS OF PETROLEUM AND COAL (-\$13 MILLION OR -9.2%).

OUTSIDE THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, DOMESTIC EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM THE FISHING INDUSTRY DECREASED BY \$8 MILLION OR 3.8% AS COMPARED WITH THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1990, WHILE DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF ELECTRICITY INCREASED BY \$93 MILLION OR 51.7%.

THE ABOVE STATISTICS ON DOMESTIC EXPORTS ANALYSED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN ARE DERIVED BY RE-GROUPING ALL SIX-DIGIT MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS UNDER THE EXTERNAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM ACCORDING TO THE INDUSTRIES IN WHICH THESE MERCHANDISE ITEMS ARE NORMALLY PRODUCED.

TRANSACTIONS IN GOLD AND SPECIE ARE EXCLUDED.

THE INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION USED IS THE HONG KONG STANDARD INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION (HSIC).

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THE HSIC IS TO BE DISTINGUISHED FROM THE UNITED NATIONS STANDARD INTERNATIONAL TRADE CLASSIFICATION (SITC) USED IN THE REGULAR TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS IN THAT THE FORMER IS MORE RELATED TO PRODUCTION PROCESSES WHEREAS THE LATTER IS MORE GEARED TO END USES OF PRODUCTS.

CAUTION SHOULD BE TAKEN WHEN REFERRING TO THESE DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN. CERTAIN MERCHANDISE EXPORT ITEMS MAY REQUIRE SEVERAL INTERMEDIATE PROCESSING STAGES IN THEIR PRODUCTION.

HOWEVER, IN COMPILING THE ABOVE STATISTICS, THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE ITEM HAS BEEN WHOLLY ALLOCATED TO THE INDUSTRY IN WHICH THE ITEM IS FINALLY PRODUCED.

BESIDES, DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS OF A PARTICULAR INDUSTRY MAY INCLUDE PRODUCTS WHICH ARE PRODUCED AS SECONDARY PRODUCTS BY ESTABLISHMENTS CLASSIFIED UNDER OTHER INDUSTRIES.

FURTHER DETAILS OF MERCHANDISE DOMESTIC EXPORT STATISTICS CLASSIFIED BY INDUSTRIAL ORIGIN MAY BE FOUND IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE.

COPIES OF THE TABLE ARE ALSO OBTAINABLE FROM THE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 839 3250).

A TABLE SHOWING MORE DETAILED BREAKDOWNS OF SIMILAR STATISTICS FOR SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IS ALSO INCLUDED IN THE REPORT "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE, JUNE 1991".

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Value of merchandise domestic exports classified by industrial origin  
for the second quarter of 1991

(Value in HK\$'000)

Industrial origin of the commodities exported	Merchandise domestic exports			
	1991 2nd qtr.	1990 2nd qtr.	Value change	% change
<u>Agriculture and Fishing</u>				
Agricultural, livestock and poultry production	1,995	1,860	+135	+7.3
Fishing	200,477	208,484	-8,008	-3.8
<u>Mining and Quarrying</u>				
	1,766	2,316	-550	-23.8
<u>Manufacturing</u>				
Food	547,641	437,296	+110,345	+25.2
Beverages	131,219	94,430	+36,789	+39.0
Tobacco manufactures	791,562	730,751	+60,810	+8.3
Textiles (including knitting)	11,214,694	10,747,680	+467,014	+4.3
Wearing apparel, except footwear	10,082,923	9,818,607	+264,316	+2.7
Leather and leather products, except footwear and wearing apparel	446,556	422,920	+23,636	+5.6
Footwear, except rubber, plastic and wooden footwear	144,278	211,967	-67,689	-31.9
Wood and cork products, furniture and fixtures	154,907	177,594	-22,687	-12.8
Paper and paper products, printing and publishing	1,681,672	1,492,007	+189,665	+12.7
Chemicals and chemical products	1,677,823	1,472,274	+205,548	+14.0
Products of petroleum and coal	2,707	1,430	+1,278	+89.4
Rubber products	33,040	27,151	+5,889	+21.7
Plastic products	2,018,039	2,222,994	-204,955	-9.2
Non-metallic mineral products, except products of petroleum and coal	125,288	138,012	-12,724	-9.2
Basic metals and fabricated metal products	2,475,077	2,368,570	+106,507	+4.5
Machinery, equipment, apparatus, parts and components	5,601,641	5,101,005	+500,636	+9.8
Consumer electrical and electronic products	10,111,870	9,774,394	+337,476	+3.5
Transport equipment	120,591	49,826	+70,765	+142.0
Professional and optical equipment	5,227,437	5,168,286	+59,151	+1.1
Other manufacturing industries	3,333,319	3,196,273	+137,047	+4.3
<u>Electricity</u>				
	272,346	179,546	+92,799	+51.7
<u>Miscellaneous items</u>				
(e.g. developed photographic plates and film, antiques, and works of art)	25,730	32,389	-6,659	-20.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,424,596</b>	<b>54,078,064</b>	<b>+2,346,532</b>	<b>+4.3</b>

Notes: 1. Individual entries of a column may not add up exactly to the corresponding total due to rounding. All percentage changes are calculated from unrounded figures.

2. As from 1991, the above statistics are published by major industry groups based on the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification (HSIC). In order to compare the 1991 figures with the 1990 ones, the value changes and percentage changes between the second quarter of 1991 and the second quarter of 1990 for the respective major industry groups are derived after re-grouping the values of export items in the second quarter of 1990 according to the HSIC. The HSIC-based statistics may not be strictly comparable with the domestic export statistics classified by industrial origin for earlier years due to the change in industrial classification.

Industrial Research Section,  
Census & Statistics Department,  
Hong Kong.

Tel.: 839 3250

August 1991

NEW AIRPORT GREATLY BENEFITS THE NEW TERRITORIES

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THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK REPRESENTS A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE FUTURE OF HONG KONG AS THE PROJECT TAKES THE TERRITORY BEYOND 1997 WELL INTO THE 21ST CENTURY AND PAVES THE WAY FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC TIES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND CHINA.

HONG KONG WOULD HAVE A BIGGER, BETTER AND MORE MODERN AIRPORT BEFITTING ITS STATUS AS A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL CITY AND COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL CENTRE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR ALBERT LAM, AT A DINNER TALK HE DELIVERED TO THE CHINESE MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING.

FOCUSSING ON THE BENEFITS THAT THE NEW AIRPORT PROJECT AND THE RELATED DEVELOPMENTS WOULD BRING TO THE NEW TERRITORIES, HE POINTED OUT THAT THEY WOULD PROVIDE PLENTY OF NEW JOBS AND WOULD CREATE MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

FOR LANTAU ISLAND WHERE THE AIRPORT WOULD BE BUILT, MR LAM NOTED THAT THE NEW AIRPORT WITH SOME LARGE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS SUCH AS THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING, THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY AND AN AIRPORT RAILWAY LINKING LANTAU WITH THE NEW TERRITORIES MAINLAND, WOULD ALLOW THE DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL OF THE ISLAND TO BE MORE FULLY REALISED.

HE ADDED THAT THE TWO NEW TOWNS BEING PLANNED ON LANTAU - TUNG CHUNG AND TAI HO - WOULD UPON FULL DEVELOPMENT HOUSE 260,000 PEOPLE.

HE ALSO ESTIMATED THAT PLANS FOR DEEP WATERFRONT INDUSTRY AND CONTAINER TERMINALS NEAR THE NORTHEASTERN END OF LANTAU, TOGETHER WITH THE NEW AIRPORT AND THE TWO NEW TOWNS, WOULD PROVIDE SOME 120,000 JOBS BY THE YEAR 2011.

AS TO THE BENEFITS TO THE WEST COAST OF THE NEW TERRITORIES MAINLAND, MR LAM SAID THE LANTAU FIXED CROSSING AND THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY WOULD LINK UP LANTAU ISLAND WITH TSUEN WAN, KWAI TSING AND TUEN MUN, AND THROUGH ROUTE 3, WITH YUEN LONG.

ROUTE 3, WHEN COMPLETED, WOULD RUN FROM LOK MA CHAU ON THE NORTH TO SAI YING PUN ON THE SOUTH VIA THE THIRD CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL, AND WOULD BE A STRATEGIC LINK BETWEEN CHINA AND HONG KONG.

"BEING SITUATED AT THE CROSSROADS OF THESE TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS, TSUEN WAN AND KWAI TSING'S POSITION IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF HONG KONG WILL BE FURTHER ENHANCED," MR LAM SAID.

/FURTHERMORE, HE .....

FURTHERMORE, HE SAID, ROUTE 5 TOGETHER WITH THE MANY ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN TSUEN WAN AND KWAI CHUNG, SUCH AS THE WIDENING OF KWAI CHUNG ROAD AND THE IMPROVEMENTS TO TEXACO ROAD, WOULD LINK UP VARIOUS PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES EFFICIENTLY WITH THE NEW AIRPORT AND WOULD ENSURE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EASTERN NEW TERRITORIES WOULD CONTINUE.

MR LAM ALSO HIGHLIGHTED OTHER BENEFITS THE NEW AIRPORT WOULD BRING, SUCH AS THE AVAILABILITY OF ADDITIONAL LAND FOR PUBLIC OPEN SPACE, AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES WITH THE CLOSURE OF KAI TAK.

IT WOULD ALSO HELP ALLEVIATE THE EXISTING NOISE POLLUTION AND TRAFFIC CONGESTION PROBLEMS GENERATED BY KAI TAK.

STRESSING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS MINDFUL OF THE POSSIBLE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS THAT THE PROJECT MIGHT GENERATE, MR LAM SAID STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN TO MINIMISE THE ADVERSE IMPACT ON RESIDENTS.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDY ON AIR QUALITY, WATER QUALITY, NOISE AND VISUAL IMPACT SHOULD PROVIDE US WITH SOME POINTERS TO REDUCE THE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT TO A MINIMUM, HE SAID.

ADDITIONALLY, MR LAM SAID, THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION WOULD ENSURE THAT PUBLIC CONCERNS ARISING FROM THE NEW AIRPORT AND RELATED PROJECTS WOULD BE PROPERLY ADDRESSED AND BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

"WE SHALL ALSO CO-ORDINATE GOVERNMENTAL ACTION TO ENSURE THAT ANY INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO RESIDENTS IS KEPT TO A MINIMUM," THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES ADDED.

MR LAM APPEALED FOR PUBLIC SUPPORT AND THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ENSURE THAT THE NEW AIRPORT BECOMES A SUCCESS.

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#### EXPANSION OF WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OUTLINED

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THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT HAS COMPLETED CONCEPTUAL PLANNING FOR AN ENHANCED SYSTEM TO COPE WITH AN ULTIMATE WATER SUPPLY OF UP TO 1,100 MILLION CUBIC METRES (MCM) PER YEAR FROM CHINA, WHICH IS 480 MCM OVER THE EXISTING DESIGN CAPACITY.

THE DIRECTOR OF WATER SUPPLIES, MR WONG KWOK-LAI, SAID THIS (THURSDAY) EVENING THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORKS WOULD BE DIVIDED INTO STAGES. THE FIRST STAGE ESTIMATED AT \$1,900 MILLION WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETED BY 1995 AND THE REMAINING STAGES ESTIMATED AT \$900 MILLION WOULD BE PROGRAMMED OVER THE PERIOD 1995 TO 2001.

/HE SAID .....

HE SAID THE STAGE I WORKS OF THE PROJECT WOULD COMPRISE SEVERAL MAJOR PUMPING STATIONS, WITH A TOTAL PUMPING CAPACITY OF 7.6 MCM PER DAY.

IT ALSO INCLUDES CONSTRUCTION OF TUNNELS AND LAYING OF OVER 15 KILOMETRES OF PIPES OF OVER TWO METRES IN DIAMETER FROM MUK WU (A PLACE AT THE BORDER ADJACENT TO MAN KAM TO) TO TAI PO TAU.

THE WORKS ARE UNDER DETAILED DESIGN STAGE AND THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION WORKS IS TO BE GAZETTED BY THE END OF THIS YEAR.

SPEAKING AT A DINNER MEETING OF THE KWUN TONG ROTARY CLUB, MR WONG SAID THE NEW CHINA WATER SCHEME PROJECT WAS ONE OF THE MAJOR PROJECTS WHICH WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT IN THE COMING YEARS TO MEET THE INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR WATER.

THE DIRECTOR POINTED OUT THAT IN THE LAST 10 YEARS, THE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF FRESH WATER IN HONG KONG HAD INCREASED FROM 1.39 MCM IN 1980 TO 2.39 MCM IN 1990, AN AVERAGE INCREASE OF 5.6 PER CENT PER YEAR.

THE NUMBER OF METERS INSTALLED ALSO INCREASED FROM 920,000 IN 1980 TO 1,810,000 IN 1990.

MR WONG SAID: "IT IS EXPECTED THAT UNLESS THE WATER INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES SUCH AS DYEING, ELECTROPLATING ETC WERE TO RECEDE ON ACCOUNT OF LIKELY PROBLEMS TO COMPLY WITH THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL REQUIREMENTS, THE WATER CONSUMPTION WILL CONTINUE TO INCREASE AT A RATE OF 3.5 PER CENT PER YEAR.

"THIS MEANS THAT BY 2001 THE AVERAGE DAILY DEMAND OF FRESH WATER WILL BE 3.23 MCM."

MR WONG ALSO NOTED THAT SINCE MORE THAN 33 PER CENT OF THE TERRITORY'S AREA, VIRTUALLY ALL THE SUITABLE LAND, HAD ALREADY BEEN DEVELOPED AS WATERWORKS CATCHMENT, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO BUILD ANOTHER RESERVOIR OF SUBSTANTIAL SCALE.

UNDER THE AVERAGE RAINFALL CONDITION, THE YIELD OF HONG KONG'S CATCHMENT IS ONLY 342 MCM PER YEAR, OR 0.937 MCM PER DAY, THAT IS ONLY 39 PER CENT OF LAST YEAR'S AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION.

"THIS MEANS THAT WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR ALTERNATIVE SUPPLY SOURCES TO COPE WITH THIS INCREASING DEMAND.

"THIS IS PROVIDED FOR BY SUPPLY FROM CHINA FOR WHICH A LONG TERM AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SECURED FOR SUPPLY WITH ANNUAL INCREASING QUANTITIES UP TO THE TURN OF THE NEXT CENTURY," HE SAID.

MR WONG SAID ONE OF THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES OF HIS DEPARTMENT WAS TO EXPAND THE EXISTING WATER SYSTEM IN ORDER TO RECEIVE, TREAT AND DISTRIBUTE ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY FROM CHINA.

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ON THE OTHER HAND, THE DEPARTMENT WAS ALSO PLANNING TO REPLACE, WHEREVER POSSIBLE, FRESH WATER FLUSHING WITH SEA WATER SUCH THAT FRESH WATER COULD BE CONSERVED.

WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW AIRPORT AND THE RE-DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION TO THE NEW TOWNS, NEW SYSTEMS HAVE TO BE INSTALLED TO MEET SUCH DEMAND.

HE CITED NORTH LANTAU WHERE THERE WAS AT PRESENT NO MAINS WATER SUPPLY.

"AS A MUCH LONGER LEAD TIME IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A PERMANENT WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, A TEMPORARY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IS BEING IMPLEMENTED TO MEET THE WATER REQUIREMENT OF THE AREA DUE TO THE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES FOR THE NEW AIRPORT AND OTHER INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS," MR WONG SAID.

"MOREOVER, THE PERMANENT WATER SUPPLY IS BEING PLANNED FOR AN ULTIMATE CAPACITY OF 300,000 CUBIC METRES PER DAY WITH A STAGE I CAPACITY OF 150,000 CUBIC METRES.

"IT WILL COMPRISE A SUBMARINE PIPELINE LINKING TAI LAM CHUNG RESERVOIR AND NORTH LANTAU, WHERE A TREATMENT WORKS AND THE ASSOCIATED PUMPING STATIONS, SERVICE RESERVOIRS AND PIPE SYSTEMS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED TO SUPPLY THE NEW AIRPORT AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH LANTAU.

"THE STAGE I OF THE PROJECT IS ESTIMATED AT \$1,700 MILLION AND IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN MID-1996.

"THE REMAINING STAGES ARE ESTIMATED AT \$1,430 MILLION AND THE TIMING IS DEPENDENT ON THE ACTUAL PROGRESS OF THE DEVELOPMENTS."

MR WONG ADDED THAT HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD SEE THE COMPLETION OF THE \$515 MILLION PAK KONG TREATMENT WORKS AND STAGE I OF AU TAU TREATMENT WORKS LATER THIS YEAR.

THE MA ON SHAN TREATMENT WORKS IS ALSO UNDER PLAN TO MEET THE WATER DEMAND OF MA ON SHAN AND PART OF SHA TIN NEW TOWN WITH WORK SCHEDULED TO START IN LATE 1993.

APART FROM THE ENGINEERING RELATED ASPECTS OF WORK, MR WONG SAID HIS DEPARTMENT, WHICH HAD A DUAL NATURE OF BOTH A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT AND A PUBLIC UTILITY, WAS NOW STRENGTHENING ITS CONSUMER SERVICE TO STREAMLINE ACTIVITIES AND ENHANCE RELATIONSHIP WITH CONSUMERS TO COPE WITH THE GROWING CONSUMER AWARENESS AND INCREASING NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS.

THESE INCLUDED THE COMPUTERISATION OF CONSUMERS' RECORDS AND THE STREAMLINING OF ENQUIRY AND COMPLAINTS SERVICES TO CONSUMERS.

MR WONG EXPLAINED THAT CONSUMER ENQUIRIES AND COMPLAINTS USUALLY CAME UNDER TWO MAJOR CATEGORIES - ACCOUNTS ORIENTED OR TECHNICALITY ORIENTED. THE FORMER INCLUDED ENQUIRIES ON ABNORMAL WATER BILLS, CHANGE OF CONSUMERSHIP AND SO ON AND THE LATTER CONSISTED OF POOR WATER QUALITY, INTERRUPTION OF SUPPLY, MAIN BURST, AND SO ON.

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"THERE ARE TWO DIFFERENT TELEPHONE ANSWERING SYSTEMS PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT TO HANDLE THE TWO KINDS OF ENQUIRIES AROUND THE CLOCK," MR WONG SAID.

"FOR ACCOUNTS ORIENTED ENQUIRIES, A MANNED TELEPHONE ENQUIRY CENTRE PROVIDES ANSWERS DURING OFFICE HOURS.

"AN ENQUIRY HOTLINE IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS A DAY TO PROVIDE PRE-RECORDED MESSAGES ON COMMON TOPICS SUCH AS HOW TO DEAL WITH A HIGH WATER BILL, HOW TO CHANGE A CONSUMER TITLE AND HOW TO OBTAIN A REFUND OF WATER DEPOSIT.

"TECHNICAL ENQUIRIES DURING OFFICE HOURS ARE REFERRED TO THE RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONAL TEAMS WHILST MANNED ENQUIRY STAFF AND EMERGENCY TEAMS ARE SET UP TO HANDLE TECHNICAL FAULTS AFTER OFFICE HOURS."

HE ALSO ENCOURAGED CONSUMERS TO MAKE ENQUIRIES WITH REGARD TO THE POSITION OF THEIR ACCOUNTS OR WATER BILLS AT THE VARIOUS CONSUMER ENQUIRY CENTRES UNDER THE DEPARTMENT WHICH ARE LOCATED AT CONVENIENT SPOTS THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

"THESE CENTRES ALSO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR OUR VARIOUS TECHNICAL SERVICES SUCH AS FOR A NEW SUPPLY AND FOR APPROVAL OF PLUMBING PROPOSALS," HE SAID.

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#### ESTABLISHMENT OF CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE APPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS APPROVED A RECOMMENDATION BY THE EDUCATION COMMISSION TO SET UP A CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (CDI) AS A NEW DIVISION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT IN 1992-93.

THE CDI WILL BE A FULL-TIME PROFESSIONAL BODY DEDICATED TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT. IT WILL BE ABLE TO RECRUIT OPENLY AND EMPLOY ON CONTRACT TERMS PROFESSIONALS AND EXPERIENCED PEOPLE FROM WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE CIVIL SERVICE.

THIS REFORM PROPOSAL IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT NO. 4 TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION FOLLOWING A TWO-MONTH PUBLIC CONSULTATION EXERCISE, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

"ONCE ESTABLISHED, THE CDI WILL SERVE AS THE SECRETARIAT OF A RECONSTITUTED AND MORE REPRESENTATIVE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (CDC), MEMBERS OF WHICH WOULD BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR.

"THE CDI WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CURRICULUM PLANNING, INCLUDING RESEARCH, EXPERIMENTATION, INNOVATION AND EVALUATION. IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE AND UPDATE CURRICULUM GUIDES AND SUBJECT SYLLABI, DEVELOP RESOURCE MATERIALS AND MANAGE RESOURCE CENTRES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

/IN ADDITION .....

IN ADDITION, THE INSTITUTE WILL LIAISE WITH THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY, THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ADVISORY INSPECTORATE AND TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTIONS ON THE DEVELOPMENT AND EVALUATION OF THE CURRICULUM.

ANOTHER OF THE CDI'S MAIN FUNCTIONS WOULD BE REVIEWING TEXTBOOKS AND PROVIDING RESOURCE LIBRARY SERVICES.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL ALSO ENDORSED THE EDUCATION COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL FOR THE CDI TO TAKE UP THE FOLLOWING TASKS :

- (A) TO PROMOTE THE ADOPTION AND USE OF THE ACTIVITY APPROACH MORE EXTENSIVELY, TOGETHER WITH THE APPLICATION OF ADEQUATE INCENTIVES;
- (B) TO FACILITATE THE FURTHER INTEGRATION OF SUBJECTS AT PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SECONDARY LEVELS;
- (C) TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING A MODULAR CURRICULUM AT THE JUNIOR SECONDARY LEVEL;
- (D) TO CONSIDER, FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF (B) AND (C), THE BALANCE OF THE COMMON CORE CURRICULUM IN TERMS OF THE RANGE OF SUBJECTS TO BE COVERED IN OUR SYSTEM OF FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION;
- (E) TO DEVELOP THE CURRICULA AND PROVIDE MATERIALS TO SUIT THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AT BOTH ENDS OF THE ABILITY RANGE;
- (F) TO FURTHER THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FRAMEWORK OF ATTAINMENT TARGETS AND TARGET-RELATED ASSESSMENTS RECOMMENDED IN CHAPTER 5 OF ECR4;
- (G) TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF INTRODUCING A MASTERY LEARNING PROGRAMME; AND
- (H) TO DEVELOP THE CURRICULUM MATERIAL NECESSARY TO SUPPORT SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE PROCESS OF ADAPTING TO THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION THEY HAVE CHOSEN, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT OF THOSE WHICH CHOOSE THE CHINESE LANGUAGE.

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NEW ICAC COMMISSIONER  
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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED THAT MR PETER JAMES ALLAN WILL SUCCEED MR DAVID JEAFFRESON AS COMMISSIONER OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION ON DECEMBER 1, 1991.

MR JEAFFRESON WILL BE RETIRING AFTER 30 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON MR PETER JAMES ALLAN AND MR DAVID JEAFFRESON ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MR PETER JAMES ALLAN, JP  
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AGED 46, MR ALLAN QUALIFIED AS A BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR OF THE SUPREME COURT OF NEW ZEALAND IN 1970. HE JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS A CROWN COUNSEL IN 1979. THROUGH A SERIES OF PROMOTIONS, HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF LAW OFFICER IN APRIL 1988.

HE HAS SERVED IN THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER. HE HAS BEEN CROWN SOLICITOR AND HEAD OF THE CIVIL DIVISION OF THE LEGAL DEPARTMENT SINCE APRIL 1, 1988.

MR DAVID G. JEAFFRESON, CBE  
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AGED 59, MR JEAFFRESON JOINED THE HONG KONG CIVIL SERVICE AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER IN 1961. HE ROSE TO HIS PRESENT RANK OF SECRETARY, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT IN 1977. DURING THE EARLY YEARS OF HIS CAREER, MR JEAFFRESON SERVED IN THE FORMER ESTABLISHMENT BRANCH, LANDS BRANCH, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT AND FINANCE BRANCH.

MORE RECENTLY, HE WAS DEPUTY FINANCIAL SECRETARY FROM 1972 TO 1976, SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES FROM 1976 TO 1982, AND SECRETARY FOR SECURITY FROM 1982 TO 1988, WHEN HE TOOK UP HIS PRESENT APPOINTMENT AS COMMISSIONER, INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION.

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REAPPOINTMENTS TO SALARIES STANDING COMMITTEE  
AND STANDING COMMISSION

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THE GOVERNOR HAS REAPPOINTED MR MARTIN BARROW AND MR VINCENT LO AS MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON DIRECTORATE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE UPON THE EXPIRY OF THEIR CURRENT TERMS, THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE APPOINTMENT IS FROM AUGUST THIS YEAR TO OCTOBER 1994.

THE GOVERNOR HAS ALSO REAPPOINTED MRS NELLIE FONG WONG KUT-MAN AS MEMBER OF THE STANDING COMMISSION ON CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE. THE APPOINTMENT IS FOR TWO YEARS, FROM SEPTEMBER 1 THIS YEAR, WHEN HER CURRENT TERM EXPIRES, TO AUGUST 1993.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE AND THE STANDING COMMISSION ADVISE THE GOVERNOR ON THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES GOVERNING THE PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR DIRECTORATE AND NON-DIRECTORATE CIVIL SERVICE RESPECTIVELY.

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GOVT STATEMENT ON HK TELECOMMUNICATIONS' OFFER TO STAFF  
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COMMENTING ON A LETTER ISSUED YESTERDAY (WEDNESDAY) TO STAFF OF THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE CO. LTD (TELCO) AND HONG KONG TELECOM INTERNATIONAL LTD (HKTI), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE OFFER OF COMMON TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT TO STAFF OF THE TWO COMPANIES IN NO WAY CONSTITUTED A MERGER OF THEIR OPERATIONS.

"STAFF OPTING FOR THE NEW PACKAGE WOULD CONTINUE TO BE EMPLOYED BY THE TWO COMPANIES, WHICH WOULD REMAIN SEPARATE LEGAL ENTITIES," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED THAT THE HONG KONG TELECOMMUNICATIONS GROUP HAD APPROACHED THE GOVERNMENT OVER THIS MATTER.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD EMPHASISED TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE COMPANIES CONCERNED THE NEED TO CONSULT FULLY WITH STAFF THROUGH ALL AVAILABLE CHANNELS AND TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THEM OVER THE NEW TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

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ACTIONS BY ANTI-SMUGGLING TASK FORCE SUCCESSFUL  
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TOUGH AND SUCCESSFUL ACTIONS SPEARHEADED BY THE ANTI-SMUGGLING TASK FORCE AGAINST HIGH-POWERED SPEEDBOAT HAVE VIRTUALLY ERADICATED THE SMUGGLING OF STOLEN CARS TO CHINA.

THIS WAS STATED BY MR JOHN THOMSON, POLICE SENIOR STAFF OFFICER OF THE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL TASK FORCE WHICH WAS FORMED IN FEBRUARY AMID GROWING PUBLIC CONCERN ON RAMPANT SEA SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES.

MR THOMSON TOLD A ROTARY CLUB (HARBOUR) LUNCH MEETING TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE NUMBER OF LUXURY CARS REPORTED STOLEN IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF THIS YEAR WAS 52 AND NEARLY ALL HAD BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY RECOVERED IN HONG KONG.

IN COMPARISON, 316 LUXURY CARS WERE REPORTED STOLEN IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE YEAR AND MOST OF THEM WERE NOT RECOVERED AND WERE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN SMUGGLED TO CHINA THROUGH THE USE OF HIGH-POWERED SPEEDBOAT, HE NOTED.

WITH CO-OPERATION FROM THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES, THE RESULTS WERE DRAMATIC, ACCORDING TO MR THOMSON.

HE SAID THE TASK FORCE WAS GIVEN THE NECESSARY LEGAL MUSCLE IN APRIL TO COMBAT SMUGGLING, WITH ITS ENFORCEMENT TARGET AIMED DIRECTLY AT HIGH-POWERED SPEEDBOATS BUILT FOR SMUGGLING PURPOSES.

THE TASK FORCE IS STAFFED BY OFFICERS FROM THE POLICE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT, WITH MILITARY LIAISON OFFICERS ATTACHED.

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THE SIGHTINGS OF THESE SPEEDBOATS, WHICH COULD HIT 70 KNOTS, DROPPED TO AN AVERAGE OF 185 A MONTH BETWEEN APRIL AND JUNE, 85 PER CENT DOWN FROM THE AVERAGE MONTHLY SIGHTINGS OF 1,250 REGISTERED IN THE FIRST THREE MONTHS OF THIS YEAR. THE AVERAGE SIGHTINGS OF THESE SPEEDBOATS WERE FURTHER REDUCED TO 23 IN JULY.

ARMED WITH NEW LEGAL POWERS, MR THOMSON SAID: "WE RAIDED THE BOATYARDS AND SEIZED A LARGE NUMBER OF SPEEDBOATS WHICH WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND HAVE CONTINUED TO SEIZE THESE VESSELS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

"THE CHINESE AUTHORITIES ALSO MOUNTED AN INITIATIVE AGAINST THESE BOATS AND SEIZED OR DESTROYED A LARGE NUMBER.

"THE SMUGGLERS HAVE LEARNED THAT THE PRESENCE OF A SPEEDBOAT IN HONG KONG WATERS BRINGS UNWANTED ATTENTION AND THE ANTI-SMUGGLING TASK FORCE BREAKING DOWN THEIR NECKS," HE SAID.

WITH THE HUGH PROFITS INVOLVED, MR THOMSON SAID, HOWEVER, THAT SMUGGLERS WOULD CERTAINLY ATTEMPT TO FIND WAYS TO CIRCUMVENT THE LAWS -- BY USING BOATS WHICH CONFORMED TO CURRENT LICENSING CONDITIONS.

"ALTHOUGH WORRYING, THIS NEW TREND HAS REDUCED THE VOLUME OF ILLICIT CARGO AND OF COURSE, THE NEW BOATS WHICH ARE SMALLER AND CANNOT TAKE A VEHICLE," MR THOMSON SAID.

HE ASSURED THAT THE TASK FORCE WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN A TIGHT GRIP OVER SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES WHICH WERE CONTROLLED LARGELY BY TRIADS.

"IF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN HONG KONG DO NOT ACT TO CONTAIN THIS MENACE, THEN WE FAIL IN OUR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER IN THE WATERS OF HONG KONG," MR THOMSON STRESSED.

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OPEN SEA MARICULTURE INTERESTS ACAF SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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MEMBERS OF THE AQUACULTURE SUB-COMMITTEE UNDER THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES (ACAF) WHO SAW FOR THEMSELVES AN EXPERIMENT ON OPEN SEA MARICULTURE OFF CLEAR WATER BAY TODAY (THURSDAY) WERE DEEPLY INTERESTED BY THE NEW FISH FARMING TECHNIQUE.

THE TECHNIQUE INVOLVES THE SETTING UP OF A CAGE SYSTEM WHICH CAN WITHSTAND STRONG CURRENT AND WAVE ACTION IN THE OPEN SEA. FISH ARE REARED IN THE CAGE AS IN CONVENTIONAL FISH FARMS.

ONE SUCH CAGE SYSTEM COSTING \$340,000 HAS BEEN INSTALLED IN WATERS OFF TAI HANG TUN OF CLEAR WATER BAY IN MAY THIS YEAR BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH A LOCAL FISH FARMING COMPANY, TO EXPERIMENT THE NEW MARICULTURE TECHNIQUE IN LOCAL CONDITIONS.

/THE 5,000 .....

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THE 5,000 TAILS OF PURPLE AMBERJACK STOCKED IN THE CAGE HAS REPORTED STEADY GROWTH SO FAR AND THE CAGE HAS REMAINED INTACT DESPITE RECENT TYPHOONS.

MEMBERS WERE TOLD THAT THE EXPERIMENT WILL TAKE TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE. THEY ALSO LEARNT THAT IN TERMS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, OPEN SEA MARICULTURE EXCELS IN-SHORE FISH FARMING.

ON THE SAME TRIP, MEMBERS VISITED THE TUNG LUNG CHAU FISH CULTURE ZONE WHICH WAS DESIGNATED IN EARLY MAY THIS YEAR.

MEMBERS PRESENT TODAY INCLUDED ANDREW WONG, LEUNG JICK-CHIU, CHAN KAR-LUEN, MORIYOSHI IWAO AND OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ECONOMIC SERVICES BRANCH AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

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1992 EDITION OF HK IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST  
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THE COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT THE EXISTING HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST (HARMONIZED SYSTEM) FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATION WILL BE REPLACED BY A NEW EDITION AS FROM JANUARY 1, 1992.

THE HARMONIZED COMMODITY DESCRIPTION AND CODING SYSTEM, OR HARMONIZED SYSTEM FOR SHORT, IS AN INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND CODING SYSTEM DESIGNED BY THE CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL (CCC) AND ADOPTED BY MANY COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD INCLUDING MOST OF HONG KONG'S MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS.

HONG KONG HAS PLANNED TO ADOPT THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM IN TWO STAGES. IN THE CURRENT CLASSIFICATION LIST, WHICH WAS INTRODUCED IN 1988, PART BUT NOT ALL OF THE CCC HARMONIZED SYSTEM IS FOLLOWED.

IN THE 1992 EDITION, ALL OF THE COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND CODES IN THE CCC HARMONIZED SYSTEM WILL BE ADOPTED, THUS MAKING HONG KONG'S COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND CODES FOR IMPORT AND EXPORT DECLARATIONS TOTALLY COMPATIBLE WITH THOSE USED BY MOST COUNTRIES IN THE WORLD.

"THE USE OF STANDARDISED COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND CODES SUCH AS THE HARMONIZED SYSTEM HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF REDUCING COSTS IN REDESCRIBING, RECLASSIFYING AND RECORDING GOODS AS THEY MOVE FROM ONE COUNTRY TO ANOTHER," A CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

"ITS OTHER ADVANTAGES INCLUDE FACILITATING THE STANDARDISATION OF TRADE DOCUMENTATION AND TRANSMISSION OF DATA; FACILITATING THE COMPARISON AND ANALYSIS OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE STATISTICS; AND REDUCING UNCERTAINTY IN THE NEGOTIATION AND INTERPRETATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS."

/AS FROM .....

THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1991

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AS FROM JANUARY 1 NEXT YEAR, IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS SHOULD FOLLOW THE 1992 EDITION OF THE HONG KONG IMPORTS AND EXPORTS CLASSIFICATION LIST (HARMONIZED SYSTEM) IN COMPLETING IMPORT OR EXPORT DECLARATIONS.

IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS ARE REMINDED TO LODGE SUCH DECLARATIONS WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER THE IMPORTATION OR EXPORTATION OF GOODS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE NEW CLASSIFICATION LIST WILL BE PUBLISHED FOR SALE AROUND OCTOBER.

TO FAMILIARISE IMPORTERS AND EXPORTERS WITH THE NEW COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND CODING SYSTEM, FREE TRAINING SEMINARS WILL BE ORGANISED NEAR THE END OF THIS YEAR. MORE DETAILS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN DUE COURSE.

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#### GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIOLOGICAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

THE GRADING WILL BE ANNOUNCED BIWEEKLY DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT E. COLI DATA OBTAINED BY THE EPD IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME. AS WITH LAST YEAR, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH WHICH HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A VERY LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG IN RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIOLOGICAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

/AN EPD .....

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AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID: "BEACHES WITH HIGHLY DEVELOPED HINTERLANDS ARE LIKELY TO BE MORE POLLUTED THAN THE GRADES SUGGEST DURING AND AFTER HEAVY RAIN.

"BATHERS SHOULD AVOID SUCH BEACHES FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS AFTER A STORM, LONGER IF THE WEATHER REMAINS OVERCAST OR LESS IF THERE IS STRONG SUNSHINE."

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

GRADE "1" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 24 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED RISK OF MINOR ILLNESS TO SWIMMERS IS UNDETECTABLE.

GRADE "2" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS FAIR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 180 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 10 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "3" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE. THE E. COLI COUNT IS NO MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS NO MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

GRADE "4" INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE E. COLI COUNT IS MORE THAN 610 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS MORE THAN 15 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE. NORMALLY, THE CLOSURE OF A BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "4" GRADE OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, THE REOPENING OF A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "3" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, TWO BATHING BEACHES, NAMELY CASTLE PEAK AND OLD CAFETERIA, HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM IN THE WATER AT THESE TWO BEACHES.

IN ADDITION, ROCKY BAY BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. THESE THREE BEACHES ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING LIST.

/THE GRADES .....

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THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG AS AT TODAY ARE LISTED BELOW:

BEACH -----	PREVIOUS GRADING ----- (AS AT 15.8.91)	PRESENT GRADING ----- (AS AT 29.8.91)
HONG KONG SOUTH -----		
BIG WAVE BAY	2	2
CHUNG HOM KOK	2	2
DEEP WATER BAY	2	2
HAIRPIN	2	2
MIDDLE BAY	2	2
REPULSE BAY	1	1
SHEK O	2	3
SOUTH BAY	1	1
ST STEPHEN'S	1	1
TURTLE COVE	1	1
STANLEY MAIN	2	2
ROCKY BAY	X	X
TO TEI WAN*	1	1
TUEN MUN DISTRICT -----		
OLD CAFETERIA	X	X
NEW CAFETERIA	3	3
CASTLE PEAK	X	X
KADOORIE	3	3
BUTTERFLY	3	3
SAI KUNG DISTRICT -----		
CAMPERS	2	1
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	2	2
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	2	2
HAP MUN BAY	1	1
KIU TSUI	1	1
PAK SHA CHAU	1	1
SILVERSTRAND	3	3
TRIO (HEBE HAVEN)	2	1
ISLANDS DISTRICT -----		
CHEUNG SHA UPPER	1	1
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	1	2
DISCOVERY BAY*	1	1
HUNG SHING YEH	1	1
KWUN YAM WAN	1	1

/TONG FUK .....

TONG FUK	1	1
LO SO SHING	1	1
PUI O	1	1
SILVERMINE BAY	2	2
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	2	1
TUNG O*	1	1

TSUEN WAN DISTRICT  
-----

ANGLERS'	4	4
APPROACH	3	3
CASAM	3	3
GEMINI	3	3
HOI MEI WAN	3	3
LIDO	3	3
TING KAU	3	4
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	2	2

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN CLOSED FOR SWIMMING PURPOSES.  
\* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES.

THE FOLLOWING BEACHES HAVE CHANGED GRADING ON THIS OCCASION:

TUNG WAN ON CHEUNG CHAU, CAMPERS AND TRIO (HEBE HAVEN), FROM "2" TO "1"; CHEUNG SHA LOWER, FROM "1" TO "2"; SHEK O, FROM "2" TO "3"; AND TING KAU, FROM "3" TO "4".

THE CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY OF THESE BEACHES.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF THE EPD, DR M.J. BROOM, ON TEL. 835 1234.

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VARIETY SHOW TO CLOSE NORTH DISTRICT SYP

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A VARIETY SHOW WILL BE HELD AT THE NORTH DISTRICT TOWN HALL IN SHEUNG SHUI TOMORROW (FRIDAY) EVENING TO CONCLUDE THE DISTRICT'S SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME (SYP).

THERE WILL BE SINGING PERFORMANCES AND GAMES. FREE ADMISSION TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE'S FANLING PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF NORTH DISTRICT GOVERNMENT OFFICES BUILDING, 3 PIK FUNG ROAD.

IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS, OVER 25,000 YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE DISTRICT HAVE PARTICIPATED IN MORE THAN 150 RECREATIONAL, CULTURAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES UNDER THE SYP.

ORGANISED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT SYP ORGANISING COMMITTEE, THESE ACTIVITIES WERE SPONSORED BY THE NORTH DISTRICT BOARD AND THE ROYAL HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB.

OFFICIATING AT TOMORROW'S CLOSING CEREMONY WILL BE THE SYP COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR PETER LEE; NORTH DISTRICT OFFICER, MR WILLIAM HUI; AND NORTH DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR RAYMOND PANG.

ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE NORTH DISTRICT SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMME WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 7.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE RECITAL HALL OF THE NORTH DISTRICT TOWN HALL IN LUNG SUM ROAD, SHEUNG SHUI.

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

\* \* \* \* \*

	DATE	\$ MILLION
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CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	28.8.91	600
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	29.8.91	-19
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+19
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		NEUTRAL

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 113.0 \*-0.2\* 29.8.91

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

CLOSING YIELDS OF EXCHANGE FUND BILLS

	29.8.91	28.8.91
MATURING IN 1 WEEK	5.57 PCT	5.34 PCT
1 MONTH	5.25 PCT	5.18 PCT
3 MONTHS	5.46 PCT	5.59 PCT
6 MONTHS	5.96 PCT	5.98 PCT
12 MONTHS	6.39 PCT	6.43 PCT
TOTAL BILLS TRANSFERRED	4,290 MN	10,594 MN*

\* RECORD HIGH

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