



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1990

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1990

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GOVERNOR VISITS POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID WILSON, TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED THE POLICE TRAINING SCHOOL AND SAW THE ACTUAL TRAINING IN PHASES OF NEW RECRUITS.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, MR LI KWAN-HA, AND THE DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, MR KEITH LOMAS, SIR DAVID HAD A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT THE RECRUITS TRAINING IN BEAT INCIDENTS, INTERNAL SECURITY, FIREARMS TRAINING AND SELF DEFENCE.

SIR DAVID LATER JOINED THE STAFF AT THE JUNIOR POLICE OFFICERS STAFF CLUB FOR REFRESHMENTS.

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CHINESE OFFICIALS TO VISIT HONG KONG

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AT THE INVITATION OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT, A GROUP OF FIVE OFFICIALS OF THE HONG KONG AND MACAO AFFAIRS OFFICE, CHINESE STATE COUNCIL WILL VISIT HONG KONG FROM NOVEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 1 FOR A NINE-DAY PROGRAMME OF VISITS AND BRIEFINGS.

THE GROUP WILL BE LED BY MR CHEN ZUO'ER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF A DEPARTMENT OF THE HONG KONG AND MACAO AFFAIRS OFFICE.

THE VISIT IS ONE OF A SERIES WHICH HAVE TAKEN PLACE OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS TO GIVE CHINESE OFFICIALS A FIRST-HAND UNDERSTANDING OF HOW HONG KONG WORKS.

THE VISITORS WILL BE BRIEFED BY SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON VARIOUS KEY ASPECTS OF HONG KONG, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS, HOUSING AND SOCIAL WELFARE DEVELOPMENTS, BROADCASTING, FINANCIAL AND MONETARY AFFAIRS, AND THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

THEY WILL VISIT THE CONTAINER TERMINAL, THE STOCK EXCHANGE, THE FUTURES EXCHANGE AND THE CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, AND OBSERVE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND A COURT IN ACTION.

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1990

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GOVT STATEMENT ON VBP JUDGEMENT

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AT THE SUPREME COURT TODAY (MONDAY) JUDGEMENT WAS GIVEN IN FAVOUR OF A GROUP OF 111 VIETNAMESE IN THEIR CLAIM THAT THEY HAD BEEN ILLEGALLY DETAINED UNDER SECTION 13D(1) OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL STUDY THE DECISION VERY CLOSELY AND WILL CONSIDER WHETHER TO APPEAL.

THESE PEOPLE WILL BE EXAMINED UNDER SECTION 4 OF THE IMMIGRATION ORDINANCE AND WILL BE DETAINED PENDING THAT EXAMINATION. AS IT APPEARS THEY HAVE NO RIGHT TO LAND IN HONG KONG, IT IS LIKELY THAT THEY WILL THEN BE DETAINED PENDING THEIR REMOVAL FROM HONG KONG.

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STATEMENT ON MARINE DEPT'S DECISION CONCERNING SURVEYS OF SHIPS

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IN RESPONSE TO PRESS ENQUIRIES, THE MARINE DEPARTMENT CLARIFIES THAT THERE IS INDEED A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE SHIP SURVEYOR GRADE AND THEIR STAFF ASSOCIATION, ON THE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION TO FURTHER DELEGATE SURVEYS OF SHIPS JOINING THE NEW AUTONOMOUS HONG KONG SHIPPING REGISTER WHICH WILL BE OPENED FOR BUSINESS ON DECEMBER 3 THIS YEAR, MARINE OFFICERS ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THIS ISSUE.

AT THE MOMENT, MOST OF THE SURVEYS WHICH ARE ASSESSMENTS OF THE FITNESS OF A SHIP FOR REGISTRATION ON THE HONG KONG REGISTER ARE ALREADY DONE BY RECOGNISED PROFESSIONAL SURVEY AUTHORITIES WHICH ARE KNOWN AS CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES.

THE MARINE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION IN RESPONSE TO HONG KONG SHIPOWNERS' REQUEST IS TO ALLOW AUTHORISED CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES IN ADDITION TO THE DEPARTMENT TO UNDERTAKE THE FOLLOWING SURVEYS:

- SAFETY EQUIPMENT
- TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, AND
- CREW ACCOMMODATION

IN OTHER WORDS, MARINE DEPARTMENT SURVEYORS WOULD NOT AS A RULE CONDUCT THESE SURVEYS BUT WOULD CARRY OUT A THOROUGH AUDIT INSPECTION OF ALL THE SURVEYS INCLUDING THE ABOVE CONDUCTED BY THE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES.

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THIS IS TO ENSURE THAT THE SHIP MEETS ALL THE REQUIREMENTS WITH REGARD TO SAFETY, POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CREW WELFARE BEFORE THE SHIP IS ACCEPTED FOR REGISTRATION.

THE DEPARTMENT IS OF THE VIEW THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS, WHICH ARE WELCOME TO HONG KONG SHIPOWNERS, WOULD NOT ONLY PRESERVE THE MERITS OF THE PRESENT SYSTEM OF SHIP SURVEYS BUT WOULD ALSO STRENGTHEN THE CLOSE LINK BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SHIPS ON ITS REGISTER.

IN ADDITION, IT ALSO GIVES AN OPPORTUNITY TO MONITOR THE CLASSIFICATION SOCIETIES' INTERPRETATION OF THE REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO SURVEYORS APPLICABLE TO HONG KONG REGISTERED SHIPS.

UNFORTUNATELY, DESPITE A NUMBER OF DISCUSSIONS WITH THE STAFF ASSOCIATION AND SURVEYORS, THERE IS A RELUCTANCE ON THE PART OF SOME SURVEYORS TO ACCEPT THESE NEW ARRANGEMENTS.

WHILST THE DEPARTMENT HAS SOME SYMPATHY TO THE SURVEYORS CONCERNS REGARDING THE DETAIL ASPECTS OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS, THE DEPARTMENT TOTALLY REJECTS THEIR ASSERTION THAT THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS ARE IMPRACTICAL AND WOULD COMPROMISE THE SAFETY STANDARDS OF HONG KONG REGISTERED SHIPS.

INDEED THE NEW SURVEY ARRANGEMENTS ARE IN LINE WITH THE PRACTICE OF THE MAJORITY OF THE WORLD'S RESPECTED SHIPPING REGISTERS.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS ALSO STUDIED VERY CAREFULLY THE ALTERNATIVE PUT UP BY THE STAFF ASSOCIATION BUT HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT FOR LEGAL, ETHICAL AND OTHER REASONS IT IS UNABLE TO ENDORSE IT.

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HK LOOKS FORWARD TO SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF TALKS

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HONG KONG LOOKS FORWARD TO A SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF THE URUGUAY ROUND TALKS RESULTING IN AN AGREEMENT WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY LEAD TO LIBERALISATION OF WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRADE AND INDUSTRY, MR JOHN CHAN, SAID THIS TODAY (MONDAY) AT THE OPENING OF THE FOURTH INTERSTOFF ASIA IN HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL FABRIC SHOW AT THE CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE.

MR CHAN SAID AS A FREE TRADE ECONOMY HONG KONG WAS A STAUNCH SUPPORTER OF THE MULTILATERAL TRADING SYSTEM ADVOCATED BY THE GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE (GATT) AND ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE URUGUAY ROUND.

HE SAID ONE OF THE SUBJECTS UNDER DISCUSSION IN THE URUGUAY ROUND, WHICH FOR OBVIOUS REASONS WAS OF VITAL CONCERN TO HONG KONG, WAS TEXTILES AND CLOTHING.

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HE SAID THE NEGOTIATING GROUP FOR THIS TOPIC WAS TASKED TO SEEK AGREEMENT ON A MODALITY TO PHASE OUT DISCRIMINATORY RESTRAINTS UNDER THE MULTI-FIBRE ARRANGEMENT.

"THESE RESTRICTIONS ARE A DEPARTURE FROM GATT PRINCIPLES AND HAVE LIMITED AND DISTORTED WORLD TRADE IN TEXTILES AND CLOTHING SINCE 1974.

"HONG KONG SUPPORTS THE INTEGRATION OF THE TEXTILES AND CLOTHING SECTOR INTO THE GATT BY MEANS OF AN MFA-BASED TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT. INDEED, THIS IS THE VIEW OF THE MAJORITY OF PARTICIPANTS," HE SAID.

NEARLY 300 MANUFACTURERS FROM 25 COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES ARE TAKING PART IN THE THREE-DAY EXHIBITION.

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EXTERNAL TRADE STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER RELEASED

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TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN SEPTEMBER 1990, AT \$108,476 MILLION, GREW BY 12 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS AS COMPARED WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, ACCORDING TO THE DETAILED FIGURES ON THE VALUE OF TRADE IN SEPTEMBER 1990 RELEASED TODAY (MONDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS, AT \$19,525 MILLION, SHOWED VIRTUALLY NO CHANGE, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS ROSE BY 15 PER CENT TO \$35,100 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 9 PER CENT TO \$54,625 MILLION. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT TO \$53,852 MILLION.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE TRADE IN JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990, AT \$910,162 MILLION, INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989. OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 1 PER CENT TO \$161,600 MILLION, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 15 PER CENT TO \$292,694 MILLION.

THUS, THE VALUE OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT TO \$454,294 MILLION. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS INCREASED BY 8 PER CENT TO \$455,869 MILLION.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

/COMPARING SEPTEMBER

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE RECORDED A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE OF 46 PER CENT. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, TAIWAN, THE NETHERLANDS AND CHINA ALSO INCREASED, BY 23 PER CENT, 19 PER CENT, 18 PER CENT AND 10 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO CANADA, THE USA, JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA DECREASED BY 20 PER CENT, 12 PER CENT, 11 PER CENT AND 9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY, WHILE THAT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM WAS VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

COMPARING JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO TAIWAN AND SINGAPORE, BY 36 PER CENT AND 27 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO BOTH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND CHINA INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT, AND THAT TO THE NETHERLANDS INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT.

HOWEVER, THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM DECREASED BY 17 PER CENT, 16 PER CENT AND 15 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO JAPAN AND THE USA ALSO DECREASED IN VALUE TERMS, BY 10 PER CENT AND 8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR TOBACCO AND TOBACCO MANUFACTURES (BY \$764 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT); ARTIFICIAL RESINS AND PLASTIC MATERIALS, AND CELLULOSE ESTERS AND ETHERS (BY \$562 MILLION OR 21 PER CENT); PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$535 MILLION OR 4 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY \$12 MILLION OR LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$1,819 MILLION OR 9 PER CENT), AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF (BY \$807 MILLION OR 6 PER CENT). DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF CLOTHING DECREASED BY \$192 MILLION OR LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT IN VALUE TERMS.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS ARE SUMMARISED IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH SEPTEMBER 1989, THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL THE MAJOR SUPPLIERS INCREASED. A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF 41 PER CENT WAS RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM SWITZERLAND.

/THOSE FROM

THOSE FROM THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, ITALY, SINGAPORE, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, JAPAN, TAIWAN, CHINA, THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE USA INCREASED BY 21 PER CENT, 19 PER CENT, 17 PER CENT, 17 PER CENT, 16 PER CENT, 16 PER CENT, 14 PER CENT, 13 PER CENT AND 6 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM ALL MAJOR SUPPLIERS. THE VALUE OF IMPORTS FROM CHINA, SWITZERLAND AND THE USA INCREASED BY 17 PER CENT, 15 PER CENT AND 11 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THOSE FROM SINGAPORE, TAIWAN, ITALY, THE UNITED KINGDOM, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, JAPAN AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY INCREASED BY 7 PER CENT, 6 PER CENT, 4 PER CENT, 3 PER CENT, 2 PER CENT, 1 PER CENT AND 1 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 4 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE RECORDED IN CLOTHING (BY \$6,394 MILLION OR 20 PER CENT); MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$5,899 MILLION OR 22 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$5,631 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY \$2,082 MILLION OR 4 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF IMPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR IRON AND STEEL (BY \$1,627 MILLION OR 17 PER CENT), AND TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$1,449 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO HONG KONG'S 10 MAJOR MARKETS ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 5.

THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO ALL THE MAJOR MARKETS INCREASED IN VALUE TERMS IN SEPTEMBER 1990 OVER SEPTEMBER 1989.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, TAIWAN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, BY 71 PER CENT, 45 PER CENT, 37 PER CENT AND 22 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THOSE TO CANADA, CHINA, THE USA, SINGAPORE, THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND JAPAN INCREASED BY 13 PER CENT, 11 PER CENT, 9 PER CENT, 7 PER CENT, 5 PER CENT AND 4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

COMPARING JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990 OVER THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, FRANCE, THE UNITED KINGDOM, TAIWAN, CANADA, THE USA AND SINGAPORE INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY, BY 57 PER CENT, 35 PER CENT, 27 PER CENT, 26 PER CENT, 25 PER CENT, 23 PER CENT AND 17 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

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THOSE TO JAPAN INCREASED BY 2 PER CENT, WHILE THOSE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND CHINA DECREASED BY 4 PER CENT AND LESS THAN 0.5 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

TABLE 6 SHOWS THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS.

COMPARING JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1990 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1989, CONSIDERABLE INCREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE REGISTERED FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (BY \$9,633 MILLION OR 32 PER CENT); CLOTHING (BY \$6,954 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT); TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT (BY \$5,424 MILLION OR 28 PER CENT); AND TEXTILES (BY \$1,471 MILLION OR 5 PER CENT).

HOWEVER, DECREASES IN THE VALUE OF RE-EXPORTS WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILE FIBRES AND THEIR WASTES (BY \$1,748 MILLION OR 44 PER CENT), AND MACHINERY SPECIALISED FOR PARTICULAR INDUSTRIES (BY \$1,039 MILLION OR 16 PER CENT).

ALL THE TRADE STATISTICS DESCRIBED HERE ARE MEASURED AT CURRENT PRICES AND NO ACCOUNT HAS BEEN TAKEN OF THE CHANGES IN PRICES BETWEEN THE PERIODS OF COMPARISON. A SEPARATE ANALYSIS OF THE PRICE AND VOLUME MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN SEPTEMBER 1990 WILL BE RELEASED IN EARLY DECEMBER 1990.

DETAILED STATISTICS ON TRADE VALUE BY COMMODITY AND BY COUNTRY ARE PUBLISHED IN TRADE STATISTICS REPORTS.

THE SEPTEMBER 1990 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG EXTERNAL TRADE" WITH DETAILED ANALYSES ON IMPORTS, EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS IN SEPTEMBER 1990 WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR SALE AROUND NOVEMBER 20 AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL AT \$27 PER COPY.

ENQUIRIES REGARDING REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL. NO. 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE STATISTICS TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL. NO. 823 4915).

TABLE 1: DOMESTIC EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	SEP 90 OVER SEP 89 (%)	JAN-SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-SEP 90 OVER JAN-SEP 89 (%)
USA	6,013	- 12	48,100	- 8
CHINA	4,051	+ 10	34,126	+ 7

F.R. OF GERMANY	1,454	+ 23	12,219	+ 7
UK	1,180	*	9,227	- 15
JAPAN	1,165	- 11	8,635	- 10
SINGAPORE	752	+ 46	5,402	+ 27
TAIWAN	475	+ 19	4,174	+ 36
CANADA	416	- 20	4,018	- 16
NETHERLANDS	398	+ 18	3,588	+ 3
AUSTRALIA	317	- 9	2,571	- 17

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 2: DOMESTIC EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	SEP 90 OVER SEP 89 (%)	JAN-SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-SEP 90 OVER JAN-SEP 89 (%)
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	6,364	- 3	51,099	*
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY JEWELLERY, GOLDSMITHS' AND SILVERSMITHS' WARES)	2,198	- 11	19,048	- 9
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	1,967	+ 12	14,820	+ 4
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	1,471	- 3	12,503	- 6
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	1,353	- 8	12,281	*

/TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND
SOUND RECORDING AND
REPRODUCING APPARATUS
AND EQUIPMENT

1,465 + 6 12,127 + 1

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 3: IMPORTS FROM 10 MAJOR SUPPLIERS

MAJOR SUPPLIER	SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	SEP 90 OVER SEP 89 (%)	JAN-SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-SEP 90 OVER JAN-SEP 89 (%)
CHINA	20,248	+ 14	166,729	+ 17
JAPAN	8,712	+ 16	72,270	+ 1
TAIWAN	4,739	+ 16	40,782	+ 6
USA	4,660	+ 6	38,838	+ 11
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	2,148	+ 17	20,257	+ 2
SINGAPORE	1,888	+ 17	17,382	+ 7
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,241	+ 21	10,366	+ 1
UK	1,112	+ 13	10,070	+ 3
SWITZERLAND	925	+ 41	8,076	+ 15
ITALY	833	+ 19	7,920	+ 4

TABLE 4: IMPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	SEP 90 OVER SEP 89 (%)	JAN-SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-SEP 90 OVER JAN-SEP 89 (%)
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	6,237	+ 6	56,313	+ 4

/ELECTRICAL MACHINERY,

ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	5,435	+ 18	45,917	+ 8
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,854	+ 9	38,166	+ 20
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	4,299	+ 26	34,806	+ 19
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	4,005	+ 10	33,131	+ 22
PHOTOGRAPHIC APPARATUS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, OPTICAL GOODS, WATCHES AND CLOCKS	2,981	+ 32	23,974	+ 11

TABLE 5: RE-EXPORTS TO 10 MAJOR MARKETS

MAJOR MARKET	SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	SEP 90 OVER SEP 89 (%)	JAN-SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-SEP 90 OVER JAN-SEP 89 (%)
CHINA	8,981	+ 11	78,165	*
USA	8,107	+ 9	63,863	+ 23
JAPAN	2,164	+ 4	16,677	+ 2
TAIWAN	1,716	+ 37	15,321	+ 26
F.R. OF GERMANY	1,933	+ 71	14,663	+ 57
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	1,029	+ 5	9,621	- 4
SINGAPORE	981	+ 7	9,324	+ 17
UK	1,106	+ 22	8,431	+ 27

/CANADA

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CANADA	581	+ 13	4,925	+ 25
FRANCE	537	+ 45	4,532	+ 35

* DENOTES LESS THAN 0.5%

TABLE 6: RE-EXPORTS OF THE MAJOR COMMODITY DIVISIONS

COMMODITY DIVISION	SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	SEP 90 OVER SEP 89 (%)	JAN-SEP 1990 (HKD MN.)	JAN-SEP 90 OVER JAN-SEP 89 (%)
MISCELLANEOUS MANUFACTURED ARTICLES (MAINLY BABY CARRIAGES, TOYS, GAMES AND SPORTING GOODS)	5,438	+ 14	39,976	+ 32
ARTICLES OF APPAREL AND CLOTHING ACCESSORIES	4,185	+ 8	34,019	+ 26
TEXTILE YARN, FABRICS, MADE-UP ARTICLES AND RELATED PRODUCTS	3,819	+ 5	33,197	+ 5
ELECTRICAL MACHINERY, APPARATUS AND APPLIANCES, AND ELECTRICAL PARTS THEREOF	3,205	+ 16	27,179	+ 9
TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND SOUND RECORDING AND REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND EQUIPMENT	3,225	+ 28	25,003	+ 28
TRAVEL GOODS, HANDBAGS AND SIMILAR CONTAINERS	1,186	+ 19	11,081	+ 27

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MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1990

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11 QUESTIONS, SIX BILLS ON LEGCO AGENDA
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MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL WILL ASK A TOTAL OF 11 QUESTIONS AND CONSIDER SIX BILLS AT THE COUNCIL'S MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (NOVEMBER 14).

OF THE SIX BILLS, ONE WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND DEBATES ON IT WILL BE ADJOURNED. IT IS THE CRIMINAL LAW (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990.

THE OTHER BILLS ARE EACH DUE TO BE GIVEN A SECOND READING, AND THEN TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND THIRD READING.

THEY ARE THE CONTROL OF EXEMPTION CLAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, FACTORIES AND INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, MERCHANT SHIPPING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, AGRICULTURAL PESTICIDES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990, AND EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990.

IN ADDITION, THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF AUDIT ON THE ACCOUNTS OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1990 AND THE RESULTS OF VALUE FOR MONEY AUDITS, AND THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING SERVICES AND THE ACCOUNTS OF HONG KONG FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 1990 WILL BE TABLED.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES AND THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 844 0899.

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SUNNIER THAN NORMAL IN OCTOBER
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OCTOBER 1990 WAS SUNNIER THAN NORMAL, ACCORDING TO THE MONTHLY WEATHER REPORT RELEASED BY THE ROYAL OBSERVATORY TODAY (MONDAY).

THE MONTH HAD ONE OF THE HIGHEST MONTHLY MEAN ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE ON RECORD, RANKING SEVENTH WITH AN AVERAGE OF 1,015.7 HPA.

THE MONTHLY RAINFALL WAS 100.7 MILLIMETRES, 17 PER CENT BELOW THE OCTOBER NORMAL OF 121.2 MILLIMETRES.

MOST OF THE RAIN FELL EARLY IN THE MONTH. THE TOTAL RAINFALL SINCE JANUARY 1, 1990 AMOUNTED TO 2,009.9 MILLIMETRES, WHICH WAS SEVEN PER CENT BELOW THE NORMAL OF 2,164.7 MILLIMETRES FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

THE FINE WEATHER AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER CONTINUED INTO THE FIRST DAY OF OCTOBER. THE MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE OF 30 DEGREES RECORDED THAT DAY WAS THE HIGHEST FOR THE MONTH.

/FRESH TO

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FRESH TO STRONG EASTERLY WINDS BROUGHT SOME LIGHT RAIN EARLY ON OCTOBER 2 AND SUBSEQUENTLY MUCH CLOUDIER WEATHER FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS.

AS TROPICAL DEPRESSION IRA LANDED AND DISSIPATED OVER VIETNAM, THE MOISTURE AND RAIN THUS RELEASED SPREAD NORTHWARDS TO THE SOUTH CHINA COASTAL AREAS.

TWO OUTBREAKS OF RAIN OCCURRED ON THE MORNINGS OF OCTOBER 4 AND 5 AND BROUGHT ABOUT 95 MILLIMETRES OF RAINFALL. THE RAIN WAS MUCH HEAVIER ON OCTOBER 5 AND WAS ACCOMPANIED BY ISOLATED THUNDERSTORMS.

CLOUDS BROKE DURING THE DAY ON OCTOBER 5, AND A DRY NORTHERLY AIRSTREAM SET IN THAT NIGHT.

FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS, THE DAILY MINIMUM RELATIVE HUMIDITY WAS CONSISTENTLY BELOW 60 PER CENT AND FINE WEATHER PREVAILED APART FROM SOME LIGHT RAIN IN THE EARLY HOURS OF OCTOBER 9.

IT BECAME MORE CLOUDY ON OCTOBER 13 ALONG WITH THE RETURN OF MOISTER CONDITIONS.

UNDER THE COMBINED EFFECT OF A PERSISTENT RIDGE OF HIGH PRESSURE OVER EASTERN CHINA AND THE PASSAGES OF A COUPLE OF TROPICAL DISTURBANCES OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA, A FRESH EASTERLY AIRSTREAM PREVAILED FOR THE NEXT SEVEN DAYS, WITH WINDS REACHING STRONG OFFSHORE EARLY ON OCTOBER 18.

THE WEATHER, MEANWHILE, STAYED ON THE FINE SIDE WITH ONLY SOME OCCASIONAL DRIZZLE AT NIGHT.

A CLOUDY INTERLUDE ON OCTOBER 21 WAS FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER THREE FINE DAYS. THE WEATHER ALSO WARMED UP GRADUALLY AHEAD OF AN APPROACHING COLD FRONT.

THE COLD FRONT CROSSED THE SOUTH CHINA COAST TOWARDS THE EVENING OF OCTOBER 24 AND BROUGHT SOME RAIN DURING THE NIGHT.

THE WEATHER REMAINED CLOUDY OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF DAYS AS THE COOL NORTHERLIES BROUGHT THE TEMPERATURE DOWN TO A MINIMUM OF 19.7 DEGREES EARLY ON OCTOBER 26. THIS WAS THE LOWEST FOR THE MONTH AS WELL AS THE LOWEST SO FAR IN THE CURRENT COOL SEASON.

THE COOL AIRSTREAM GRADUALLY LOOSENED ITS GRIP AND WINDS TURNED EASTERLY AGAIN ON OCTOBER 27. APART FROM SOME DRIZZLE WHICH OCCURRED MAINLY DURING THE NIGHT, THE WEATHER STAYED FINE TILL THE END OF THE MONTH.

FIVE TROPICAL CYCLONES OCCURRED OVER THE WESTERN NORTH PACIFIC AND THE SOUTH CHINA SEA.

DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, NO AIRCRAFT WAS DIVERTED DUE TO ADVERSE WEATHER. THUNDERSTORM WARNINGS WERE ISSUED ON OCTOBER 4 AND 5 AND A FLOOD WARNING WAS ISSUED ON OCTOBER 5.

/THE RED

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THE RED FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON OCTOBER 26 AND 27. THE YELLOW FIRE DANGER WARNING WAS IN EFFECT ON OCTOBER 6, 7, 21, 27 AND 28.

SIGNALS HOISTED DURING THE MONTH WERE AS FOLLOWS:

WEATHER SYSTEM	SIGNAL	DATE AND TIME OF HOISTING	DATE AND TIME OF LOWERING
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	OCTOBER 2 6.35 AM	OCTOBER 3 4.45 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	OCTOBER 9 10.40 AM	OCTOBER 10 10.20 AM
WINTER MONSOON	STRONG MONSOON	OCTOBER 18 2.10 AM	OCTOBER 18 10 AM

THE MONTH'S FIGURES AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL WERE:

TOTAL BRIGHT SUNSHINE	233.8 HOURS ;	23.9 HOURS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY GLOBAL SOLAR RADIATION	16.17 MJ/SQUARE METRE ;	0.33 MJ/SQUARE METRE ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL RAINFALL	100.7 MM ;	20.5 MM BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AMOUNT OF CLOUD	47 PER CENT ;	5 PER CENT LESS THAN NORMAL
MEAN RELATIVE HUMIDITY	73 PER CENT ;	1 PER CENT HIGHER THAN NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MAXIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	27.2 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	0.7 DEGREE CELSIUS BELOW NORMAL
MEAN AIR TEMPERATURE	25.1 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	0.1 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DAILY MINIMUM AIR TEMPERATURE	23.5 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	0.8 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
MEAN DEW POINT	19.8 DEGREES CELSIUS ;	0.5 DEGREE CELSIUS ABOVE NORMAL
TOTAL EVAPORATION	131.7 MM ;	27.2 MM BELOW NORMAL

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DETAILS OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCED
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MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SINGING OR COMPOSING LYRICS ARE INVITED TO JOIN A FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION (FLE) MUSIC CONTEST WHICH IS PART OF THIS YEAR'S FLE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE CAMPAIGN AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (MONDAY), THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR ALFRED CHUI, SAID ENTRY FORMS FOR THE CONTEST WERE AVAILABLE AT THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S YOUTH OFFICE AND BRANCH OFFICES OF THE MUSIC OFFICE.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE ENTRY IS NOVEMBER 22.

MR CHUI POINTED OUT THAT THIS YEAR THE CAMPAIGN'S THEME WAS THE MAINTENANCE OF A GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ADOLESCENTS AND THEIR PARENTS.

THE MUSIC CONTEST IS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE FLE PUBLICITY COMMITTEE, COMMERCIAL RADIO 1 AND THE MUSIC OFFICE.

IT WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THE LYRICS COMPETITION AND THE SINGING COMPETITION.

"FOR THE LYRICS COMPETITION, PARTICIPANTS CAN WRITE LYRICS EITHER TO THE MELODY OF POPULAR SONGS OR TO A MELODY THEY COMPOSED THEMSELVES," MR CHUI SAID.

"FOR THE SINGING COMPETITION, CONTESTANTS CAN EITHER PERFORM THE SONGS SUGGESTED BY THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE OR OTHER SONGS THAT CONVEY THE THEME OF THE FLE CAMPAIGN," HE ADDED.

THE CONTEST WILL BE HELD AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH STADIUM ON JANUARY 5 AND WILL BE BROADCAST ON COMMERCIAL RADIO 1 THE FOLLOWING DAY.

"IN ADDITION TO THE MUSIC CONTEST, THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE HAS PRODUCED A SERIES OF PUBLICITY MATERIALS INCLUDING POSTERS, RADIO PROGRAMMES, A TV COMMERCIAL AND A BOOKLET TO DISSEMINATE THE FLE MESSAGE," MR CHUI SAID.

"THEY WILL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A SERIES OF FLE ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL BE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL."

ALSO SPEAKING AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THE MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS AGNES ALLCOCK, SAID TRAINING COURSES ON SINGING, PERFORMANCE AND LYRIC WRITING SKILLS WOULD BE ORGANISED FOR RESIDENTS IN THE SWD'S MA TAU WAI GIRLS' HOME AND O PUI SHAN BOYS' HOME.

"WE HOPE THAT THROUGH THESE COURSES AND THE COMPETITION, THE MESSAGE OF HARMONIOUS FAMILY CAN REACH EVERY FAMILY IN THE TERRITORY," SHE SAID.

ALSO PRESENT AT TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE WAS THE SENIOR PRODUCER OF COMMERCIAL RADIO 1, MS JOANNE KAI.

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SURVEY ON AIR-CONDITIONED TRANSPORT SERVICES

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A SURVEY ON THE TRAVELLING CHARACTERISTICS OF AIR-CONDITIONED BUS AND COACH PASSENGERS WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY) TO FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 16).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID INSPECTORS CARRYING GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARDS WILL INTERVIEW PASSENGERS ON AIR-CONDITIONED DOUBLE-DECKER BUSES AND COACHES AS WELL AS AT BUS TERMINI THROUGHOUT THE TERRITORY.

HE URGED THE PUBLIC TO CO-OPERATE IN THE SURVEY, ADDING THAT THE DATA COLLECTED WILL BE TREATED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND USED FOR REFERENCE ONLY.

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QUALITY SERVICES DIVISION OFFICES ON MOVE

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THREE SECTIONS OF THE QUALITY SERVICES DIVISION OF THE INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT WILL OPERATE FROM NEW PREMISES AT WANCHAI TOWER II FROM TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THEY ARE THE PRODUCT STANDARDS INFORMATION BUREAU (PSIB), THE OFFICE OF THE HONG KONG LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME (HOKLAS) AND THE QUALITY ASSURANCE UNIT, WHICH WILL BE LOCATED ON THE 36TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER II, 7 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN TELEPHONE 829 4800 FOR ENQUIRIES.

THE QUALITY SERVICES DIVISION MAINTAINS MEASUREMENT AND DOCUMENTED STANDARDS AS AUTHORITATIVE REFERENCE POINTS FOR INDUSTRY. IT ALSO PROVIDES CALIBRATION SERVICES AND OPERATES A LABORATORY ACCREDITATION SCHEME.

THROUGH PSIB, THE DIVISION PROVIDES AN INFORMATION SERVICE TO INDUSTRY ON OVERSEAS PRODUCT SAFETY, HEALTH AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.

IT ALSO OPERATES THE HOKLAS TO ASSESS AND ACCREDIT LOCAL TESTING LABORATORIES TO INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

ANOTHER SECTION OF THE DIVISION -- THE STANDARD AND CALIBRATION LABORATORY -- WILL ALSO BE MOVING TO WANCHAI TOWER II EARLY NEXT YEAR. A FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE NEAR THE TIME OF ITS REMOVAL.

THE LABORATORY PROVIDES A CALIBRATION SERVICE TO MANUFACTURERS TO ENABLE THEM TO MEET MEASUREMENT STANDARDS REQUIRED FOR THEIR PRODUCTS.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SEMINARS FOR EASTERN RESIDENTS

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RESIDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT WORKS IN EASTERN DISTRICT AT THREE SEMINARS TO BE ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICE FROM MID-NOVEMBER.

THE SEMINARS HAVE BEEN ORGANISED FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF AREA COMMITTEES, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND OWNERS' CORPORATIONS TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON DISTRICT MATTERS.

SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINARS WILL BE THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR STEVE BARCLAY, AND OFFICIALS FROM THE URBAN SERVICES, TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING DEPARTMENTS.

THE FIRST SEMINAR WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY (NOVEMBER 16) AT THE CAUSEWAY BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR RESIDENTS IN NORTH POINT AND CAUSEWAY BAY AREAS. IT WILL BEGIN AT 8 PM.

FOR THOSE LIVING IN QUARRY BAY AND SHAU KEI WAN, THEY MAY ATTEND THE SEMINAR TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 19 (MONDAY), BEGINNING AT 7.30 PM AT THE EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM.

A THIRD SEMINAR WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 30 (FRIDAY) AT THE CHAI WAN COMMUNITY CENTRE. IT WILL ALSO BEGIN AT 7.30 PM.

EACH SEMINAR WILL LAST ABOUT TWO HOURS. ADMISSION IS FREE.

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