



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1992

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MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1992

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HONG KONG MUST BUILD FOR THE FUTURE: GOVERNOR
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WE WANTED HONG KONG TO REMAIN ONE OF ASIA'S TOP TOURIST DESTINATIONS AND THEREFORE MUST BUILD NOW FOR THE FUTURE, THE GOVERNOR, LORD WILSON, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE PACIFIC ASIA TRAVEL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE, THE GOVERNOR SAID THAT WAS WHY HONG KONG WAS PUTTING SO MUCH EFFORT INTO BUILDING A NEW AIRPORT WHICH WOULD BE ABLE TO HANDLE 35 MILLION PASSENGERS A YEAR WHEN IT OPENED IN 1997.

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT FROM A BUSINESS POINT OF VIEW, HONG KONG SHOULD FEEL GLAD AND PROUD OF THE FACT THAT IT WAS DOING RELATIVELY WELL AT A TIME WHEN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA WERE STILL STRUGGLING THROUGH THEIR RECESSIONS.

"THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION HAS GONE THROUGH A REMARKABLE PERIOD OF GROWTH DURING THE PAST DECADE, WITH RATES OF GROWTH DOUBLE OR EVEN THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF THOSE IN WESTERN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

"HONG KONG IS NO EXCEPTION. OUR ECONOMY HAS GROWN BY AN AVERAGE, IN REAL TERMS, OF EIGHT PER CENT EACH YEAR SINCE THE 1970S. HONG KONG'S PER CAPITA GDP IS NOW ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN ASIA," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE TREMENDOUS GROWTH IN THE REGION HAD LED TO GREATER DEMAND FOR BUSINESS AND LEISURE TRAVEL.

"AS A RESULT WE NOW SEE HUGE INVESTMENT IN AIRLINES, HOTELS, RESORTS AND TOURIST ATTRACTIONS," HE ADDED.

OUTLINING THE REASONS WHY HONG KONG WAS WELL PLACED TO PLAY A MAJOR PART IN THE TRAVEL BOOM, THE GOVERNOR SAID OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS, THE NUMBER OF OVERSEAS VISITORS TO HONG KONG HAD INCREASED FROM TWO-AND-A-HALF MILLION A YEAR TO SIX MILLION - WITH MORE AND MORE COMING FROM WITHIN THE REGION.

THESE VISITORS CONTRIBUTED SOME \$40 BILLION TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMY.

"THE IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM TO ALL THE ECONOMIES IN THIS REGION MEANS THAT WE SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE TO THIS PART OF THE WORLD," THE GOVERNOR SAID.

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HK PREPARES TO PLAY KEY ROLE IN PACIFIC : SES

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HONG KONG IS INVESTING HEAVILY IN THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENABLE THE TERRITORY TO GO ON PLAYING ITS KEY ROLE IN THE PACIFIC, THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES, MRS ANSON CHAN, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE PACIFIC ASIA TRAVEL ASSOCIATION PRESS LUNCHEON, MRS CHAN SAID HONG KONG IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE PACIFIC TRADING COMMUNITY.

"BEYOND 1997 WE WILL REMAIN INTEGRATED WITH THE PACIFIC," SHE STRESSED.

SHE SAID CERTAINLY FOR THE NEXT DECADE, AND PROBABLY WELL BEYOND, IT WAS LIKELY THAT THE ECONOMIES OF THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION WOULD OFFER THE WORLD'S MOST EXCITING BUSINESS PROSPECTS.

TURNING TO HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA, MRS CHAN SAID IN THE PAST DECADE HONG KONG'S ECONOMIC LINKS WITH CHINA HAD GONE FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.

"WE ARE NOW EACH OTHERS' LARGEST TRADING PARTNER, ACCOUNTING FOR ROUGHLY A THIRD OF EACH OTHER'S TRADE," MRS CHAN SAID, ADDING THAT SOUTHERN CHINA WITH WHICH HONG KONG HAD THE CLOSEST TIES WAS DESCRIBED BY ONE INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL AS "THE FASTEST GROWING ECONOMY ON EARTH".

OVER THE PAST DECADE, THE ANNUAL VALUE OF HONG KONG'S TRADE WITH CHINA HAS INCREASED SIX TIMES IN REAL TERMS. IN THE PAST TWO YEARS ALONE, IT HAS GROWN BY NEARLY 40 PER CENT.

SHE SAID SOME 40 PER CENT OF ALL CHINA'S EXPORTS PASSED THROUGH HONG KONG. TWO-THIRDS OF CHINA'S FOREIGN INVESTMENT CAME FROM, OR THROUGH, HONG KONG.

SOME THREE MILLION PEOPLE IN GUANGDONG WERE EMPLOYED BY HONG KONG FIRMS. THIS WAS FOUR TIMES HONG KONG'S TOTAL MANUFACTURING LABOUR FORCE, SHE ADDED:

THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997 WAS THUS NOT A THREAT TO LOCAL ECONOMY, SHE STRESSED.

"ON THE CONTRARY, IT SHOULD PROVIDE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING A PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HONG KONG KNOW-HOW AND CHINA'S RESOURCES AND MANPOWER.

"THIS ECONOMIC MOMENTUM WILL, I AM SURE, HELP TO CARRY US THROUGH MANY OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH WILL INEVITABLY SURROUND THE TRANSFER OF SOVEREIGNTY IN 1997," SHE SAID.

SHE SAID THE BEST GUARANTEE FOR HONG KONG'S FUTURE LAY IN THE CONTINUING ECONOMIC GROWTH WHICH IN TURN WAS DEPENDENT ON A THRIVING AND OPEN CHINA.

"OUR TWO ECONOMIES ARE NOW INEXTRICABLY INTERWINED. THE MORE OUR CAPITALIST VALUES CAN PERMEATE CHINA, THE MORE SECURE HONG KONG WILL BE AFTER 1997.

"IT IS THEREFORE VITAL FOR THE WORLD TO KEEP OPEN ITS LINKS WITH CHINA, WHETHER POLITICAL, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL. HONG KONG CANNOT BE ISOLATED FROM ANY PUNITIVE ACTION IMPOSED UPON CHINA," SHE SAID.

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\$732 MILLION SITE FORMATION CONTRACT FOR TUNG CHUNG AWARDED

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THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, DR NIP KAM-FAN, TODAY (MONDAY) SIGNED A \$732 MILLION CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE SITE FORMATION WORKS OF THE TUNG CHUNG DEVELOPMENT PHASE I.

THE TUNG CHUNG PHASE I DEVELOPMENT IS ONE OF THE 10 AIRPORT CORE PROGRAMME PROJECTS AND WILL FORM THE BASIS OF A NEW TOWN TO SERVE THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK.

PHASE I WILL ACCOMMODATE A POPULATION OF 20,000 AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN 1997 TO TIE IN WITH THE OPENING OF THE NEW AIRPORT.

PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING, COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT, OPEN SPACE AND THE ASSOCIATED GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONAL AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES WILL BE PROVIDED.

UNDER THE SITE FORMATION CONTRACT, AN AREA OF ABOUT 52 HECTARES WILL BE RECLAIMED FROM THE FORESHORE BETWEEN THE TUNG CHUNG BATTERY AND TAI PO, TOGETHER WITH A LAND AREA OF ABOUT 15 HECTARES TO BE FORMED IN THE TUNG CHUNG AREA.

THE LAND FORMED WILL ACCOMMODATE THE FIRST PHASE OF THE TUNG CHUNG NEW TOWN AS WELL AS THE SECTION OF THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY AND AIRPORT RAILWAY THROUGH TUNG CHUNG.

A CONSTRUCTION SUPPORT AREA WITH CARGO HANDLING FACILITIES WILL ALSO BE PROVIDED WHILE A 400-METRE WIDE FAIRWAY WILL BE DREDGED TO FACILITATE MARINE ACCESS TO THE TUNG CHUNG WATERFRONT, AND AN INTERIM FERRY PIER.

WORKS ON THE CONTRACT WILL BEGIN EARLY NEXT MONTH AND WILL TAKE TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE. EARLY HANDOVERS OF CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE WORK TO THE HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY ARE HOWEVER SPECIFIED IN THE CONTRACT TO ENSURE TIMELY COMMENCEMENT OF THE EXPRESSWAY AND HOUSING PROJECTS IN MEETING THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT OF THIS CONTRACT WILL BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE SOUTH WEST NEW TERRITORIES DEVELOPMENT OFFICE OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT AND ENGINEERING SUPERVISION WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE CONSULTANTS, MOTT MACDONALD HONG KONG LIMITED.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER OF THE CONTRACT IS CHINA HARBOUR ENGINEERING COMPANY.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT STUDIES ON
AIRPORT PROJECTS DISCUSSED

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ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EPCOM) HELD A MEETING TODAY DURING WHICH THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA) STUDIES ON THE FINAL PHASES OF THREE CORE PROJECTS RELATING TO THE NEW AIRPORT WERE DISCUSSED.

THE THREE CORE PROJECTS ARE THE NEW AIRPORT AT CHEK LAP KOK, THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY (TUNG CHUNG SECTION) AND THE NORTH LANTAU NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

EPCOM CHAIRMAN PROFESSOR WANG GUNGWU SAID MEMBERS NOTED THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS SET OUT IN THE EIA REPORTS AND CONSIDERED IT DESIRABLE FOR ALL THE PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN ORDER THAT THE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE PROJECTS COULD BE MITIGATED.

THERE WAS CONCERN THAT THE GROWTH OF THE AIRPORT TO THE PERIOD 2000-2030 MIGHT CAUSE NOISE NUISANCE TO SOME AREAS. IT WAS AGREED THAT FURTHER CHECKS ON THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE REPORTED BACK TO EPCOM FROM TIME TO TIME.

MEMBERS NOTED WITH PLEASURE THAT THE PROVISIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (PAA) HAD ACCEPTED VERBALLY THE "ON-SITE" RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MITIGATION AT ITS EXPENSE, AND THAT THE "OFF-SITE" RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD BE FUNDED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

IT WAS EPCOM'S VIEW THAT A FIRM FUNDING COMMITMENT FROM BOTH PAA AND THE GOVERNMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL MITIGATION MEASURES SHOULD BE SOUGHT.

THE MEETING ALSO DISCUSSED THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONAL IMPACTS OF THE NORTH LANTAU EXPRESSWAY'S TUNG CHUNG SECTION AND THE NORTH LANTAU NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

PROFESSOR WANG SAID THE MAJOR ISSUE OF CONCERN WAS THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONAL NOISE IMPACTS OF THE EXPRESSWAY ON EXISTING SENSITIVE RECEIVERS AND THE FUTURE NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT.

MEMBERS WERE HAPPY TO NOTE THAT MITIGATION MEASURES HAD BEEN ADOPTED IN THE ROADWORK DESIGN AS WELL AS THE MASTER LAYOUT PLAN OF THE NEW TOWN TO MITIGATE THE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

AIR-CONDITIONING AND WINDOW INSULATION WOULD BE PROVIDED FOR THE EXISTING SENSITIVE RECEIVERS. AFFECTED RESIDENTS IN THE TAI PO VILLAGE ON NORTH LANTAU WOULD ALSO BE RESITED IN 1993.

MEMBERS STRONGLY ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT AN ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING AND AUDIT PROGRAMME WOULD BE CARRIED OUT TO CHECK COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS DURING CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION PERIOD.

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1992

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SECRETARY FOR WORKS VISITS TSEUNG KWAN O

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THE SECRETARY FOR WORKS, MR JAMES BLAKE, TODAY (MONDAY) VISITED TSEUNG KWAN O TO SEE FOR HIMSELF THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS OF THE NEW TOWN FOR WHICH THE WORK ACTIVITIES HAVE ALREADY STARTED MOVING TO THE SOUTH EASTERN PART.

ACCOMPANIED BY THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT, DR NIP KAM-FAN, MR BLAKE WAS FIRST BRIEFED AT A VANTAGE LOCATION ON THE VARIOUS INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES ALREADY COMPLETED IN THE NORTHERN PART OF TSEUNG KWAN O, INCLUDING HANG HAU, TSUI LAM AND PO LAM AREAS.

THE NEW TOWN, WHICH WAS ONCE A REMOTE VILLAGE SETTLEMENT AND WHICH LATER TURNED INTO AN AREA MAINLY FOR SHIP BREAKING AND RELATED INDUSTRIES, HAS NOW BEEN BUILT UP WITH A POPULATION OF ABOUT 110,000.

MR BLAKE WAS TOLD THAT DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TOWN HAD NOW ENTERED A NEW PHASE WITH ENGINEERING WORKS CONCENTRATED ON THE SOUTH EASTERN PORTION OF THE NEW TOWN WHICH HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS THE SITE OF THE THIRD AND LARGEST INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN HONG KONG.

RECENTLY, A CONSULTANCY STUDY ON THE ENGINEERING FEASIBILITY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA AS A BASE FOR DEEP WATERFRONT INDUSTRIES HAS BEEN COMMISSIONED.

AT A BRIEFING BY THE PROJECT MANAGER OF THE SOUTH EAST NEW TERRITORIES, DR CHOI YU-LEUK, AT THE SITE OFFICE OF THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, THE SECRETARY LEARNT THAT WORKS ON THE FIRST CONTRACT FOR THE LAND FORMATION AND ANCILLARY WORKS ON THE ESTATES WERE NOW IN FULL SWING.

WITH AN ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF ABOUT \$1.04 BILLION FOR THE WHOLE PROJECT, ABOUT 90 HECTARES OF LAND WILL BE FORMED FOR THE ESTATE UPON FULL DEVELOPMENT BY THE END OF 1995 YIELDING A NET SALEABLE AREA OF ABOUT 70 HECTARES.

TO CONCLUDE HIS VISIT, MR BLAKE ALSO HAD A TRIP ON BOARD A LAUNCH TO SEE THE VARIOUS INTERESTING CONSTRUCTION WORKS CURRENTLY TAKING PLACE ALONG THE COASTAL AREA OF THE NEW TOWN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE PROJECT.

THESE INCLUDED SPECIAL RECLAMATION AND ENGINEERING TECHNIQUE BEING EMPLOYED IN MARINE SAND FILLING AND SEAWALL CONSTRUCTION AS WELL AS THE INSTALLATION OF "WICK" DRAINS WHICH IS A MODERN METHOD USED TO ACCELERATE CONSOLIDATION OF MARINE MUD IN RECLAMATION PROJECTS.

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BUDGET DEBATE TO RESUME ON WEDNESDAY
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THE CHIEF SECRETARY, FINANCIAL SECRETARY AND FOUR BRANCH SECRETARIES WILL SPEAK IN THE RESUMED DEBATE ON THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1992 AT THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 1).

THE FOUR BRANCH SECRETARIES ARE SECRETARY FOR SECURITY, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION AND MANPOWER, SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE AND SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS.

THE COMPUTER CRIMES BILL 1992 WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR FIRST AND SECOND READINGS AND DEBATE ON IT WILL BE ADJOURNED.

OTHER THAN THE APPROPRIATION BILL 1992, SECOND-READING DEBATES WILL BE RESUMED ON SIX OTHER BILLS AND EACH IS DUE TO GO THROUGH THE COMMITTEE STAGE AND BE GIVEN A THIRD READING.

THE BILLS ARE THE INLAND REVENUE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992, STAMP DUTY (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1992, NURSES REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992, MIDWIVES REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992, PHARMACY AND POISONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 AND UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992.

THE SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC SERVICES WILL MOVE A MOTION UNDER THE TELEPHONE ORDINANCE.

IN ADDITION, PROF EDWARD CHEN WILL PRESENT THE CONSUMER COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT 1990-91 AT THE MEETING.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING FROM THE PUBLIC GALLERIES. THEY MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 869 9492.

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NEW TELEPHONE GUIDE PUBLISHED
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A PUBLICITY PAMPHLET ON "HOW TO CHOOSE AND USE A TELEPHONE" WILL BE ISSUED ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 1), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE PAMPHLET WILL PROVIDE GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE TYPES OF TELEPHONE AVAILABLE IN HONG KONG AND SOME HINTS TO CONSUMERS WHEN BUYING A TELEPHONE.

"WE HOPE THAT THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE SUBJECT AFTER READING THE PAMPHLET SO THAT THEY CAN MAKE A WISE CHOICE," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE PUBLICATION OF THE PAMPHLET ALSO TIES IN WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW "PERMISSION TO CONNECT" PROCEDURES WITH EFFECT FROM APRIL 1 THIS YEAR.

THE NEW PROCEDURES INCLUDE:

- * PERMISSION TO CONNECT CERTIFICATION FROM HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY LTD. IS NOT REQUIRED FOR SINGLE LINE PUBLIC SWITCHED TELEPHONE NETWORK (PSTN) EQUIPMENT (E.G. TELEPHONES) BEFORE CONNECTION TO THE TELEPHONE NETWORK;
- * EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN A VOLUNTARY TEST, CALLED COMPLIANCE TEST, TO TEST THEIR SINGLE LINE PSTN EQUIPMENT;
- * THE TEST WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY CERTIFYING AGENCIES RECOGNISED BY THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SPECIFICATIONS ISSUED BY THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY; AND
- * A UNIFIED LABEL HAS BEEN DESIGNED FOR PRODUCTS WHICH HAVE PASSED THE TEST. MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS MAY AFFIX THE LABEL TO SUCH PRODUCTS.

THE PURPOSE OF THE COMPLIANCE TEST IS TO ENSURE THAT THE EQUIPMENT IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE NETWORK AND WILL NOT CAUSE ELECTRICAL HAZARDS TO USERS AND THE PERSONNEL OF THE NETWORK OPERATOR.

A WORKING GROUP COMPRISING REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POST OFFICE, CONSUMER COUNCIL, HONG KONG TELEPHONE CO. LTD., HONG KONG TELECOM INTERNATIONAL LTD., HONG KONG TELECOM ASSOCIATION AND HONG KONG TELECOM USERS GROUP WAS FORMED TO REVIEW EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR GIVING PERMISSION TO CONNECT TELECOMMUNICATIONS APPARATUS TO THE PUBLIC TELEPHONE AND TELEX NETWORKS.

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AUTHORITY HAS DECIDED RECENTLY TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW PROCEDURES AFTER CONSIDERING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP.

"IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW PROCEDURES IS ANOTHER STEP FORWARD TO LIBERALISE THE TESTING AND CERTIFICATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

INFORMATION ON THE COMPLIANCE TEST WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE PUBLICITY PAMPHLET.

COPIES OF THE PAMPHLET MAY BE OBTAINED FROM BRANCH POST OFFICES, PUBLIC ENQUIRY COUNTERS OF DISTRICT OFFICES AND CONSUMER ADVICE CENTRES OF THE CONSUMER COUNCIL.

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1992

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DRAGON BOAT RACES INVITE ENTRIES

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ENTRIES ARE BEING INVITED FOR THIS YEAR'S DRAGON BOAT RACES IN SHA TIN.

ANNOUNCING DETAILS OF THE RACE AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (MONDAY), ITS ORGANISING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR CHOW HEI-HUNG, SAID THE SHA TIN RACES HAD BEEN WELL-RECEIVED BY PRIVATE AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS, WITH MORE THAN 200 ENTRIES LAST YEAR.

HE SAID THIS YEAR'S RACES WOULD COST MORE THAN \$900,000.

THE RACES WILL BE HELD IN THE SHING MUN RIVER ON JUNE 5.

THEY WILL BE DIVIDED INTO THE MEN'S DIVISION, MEN'S MINI-BOAT DIVISION, AND THE WOMEN'S MINI-BOAT DIVISION.

THERE WILL ALSO BE INVITATION RACES FOR GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND PRIVATE COMPANIES.

THE WINNER OF THE MEN'S DIVISION WILL BE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL DRAGON BOAT RACE IN HONG KONG NEXT YEAR. ALL THE ENTRY TEAMS WILL ALSO BE GIVEN SOUVENIRS.

THE RACES ARE JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE SHA TIN SPORTS ASSOCIATION AND THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, AND SPONSORED BY THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND SHA TIN DISTRICT BOARD.

ENTRY FORMS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SPORTS ASSOCIATION ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF SAU TSUEN HOUSE, LEK YUEN ESTATE. THE DEADLINE IS APRIL 16.

FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT THE ASSOCIATION ON TEL. 691 5657.

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KWUN TONG MARRIAGE REGISTRY TO BE CLOSED

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THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT THE KWUN TONG MARRIAGE REGISTRY WOULD BE CLOSED FROM WEDNESDAY (APRIL 1).

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE CLOSURE WAS PART OF ITS EFFORTS TO DEPLOY RESOURCES EFFICIENTLY.

DEMAND FOR THE SERVICE AT THE KWUN TONG MARRIAGE REGISTRY HAS BEEN LOW. ON AVERAGE. THERE WERE EIGHT MARRIAGE REGISTRATIONS A DAY LAST YEAR, AND THE DAILY MAXIMUM HANDLING CAPACITY WAS 19.

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"CLOSING THIS OFFICE WILL ALLOW US TO REDEPLOY RESOURCES WHERE THEY ARE MOST NEEDED," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC MAY MAKE USE OF ANY OF THE TERRITORY'S MARRIAGE REGISTRIES. THE NEAREST ONE FOR KWUN TONG RESIDENTS IS AT SAN PO KONG," HE ADDED.

FOR ENQUIRIES, THE PUBLIC MAY CALL TEL. 824 6111.

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WATER STORAGE FIGURE

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 34.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 201.018 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 154.268 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 26.3 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE WATER SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO DO EVERYTHING THEY COULD TO CONSERVE WATER AND AVOID WASTAGE.

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LEGCO ELECTIONS SELECT COMMITTEE TO MEET TOMORROW

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THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ELECTIONS WILL HOLD ITS SEVENTH OPEN MEETING TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

THE MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 4.30 PM IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER.

THE SELECT COMMITTEE WILL MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG GRAZIERS UNION, THE CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS BRANCH, THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, AND THE CHRISTIAN/CATHOLIC GROUPS.

IT WILL ALSO MEET MR HO KING-ON, REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE AND THE ACTUARIAL ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO OBSERVE THE PROCEEDINGS MAY MAKE RESERVATIONS BY TELEPHONING 869 9492.

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MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1992

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS
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	DATE ----	\$ MILLION -----
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT ON	28.3.92	1,000
EFFECT OF FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED ON	30.3.92	-430 *
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS MORNING		+130
EFFECT OF OPERATIONS THIS AFTERNOON		+300 **

* O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED -300 MN
* OTHER FORWARDS TO BE SETTLED -130 MN
** O/N ASSISTANCE TO BE REVERSED ON 31.3.92

TRADE WEIGHTED INDEX 112.5 *-0.1* 30.3.92

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS		HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS				
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.24 PCT	20 MONTHS	2311	6.25	100.74	5.85
1 MONTH	4.03 PCT	23 MONTHS	2402	5.50	98.99	6.16
3 MONTHS	4.07 PCT					
6 MONTHS	4.40 PCT					
12 MONTHS	4.75 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 3,740 MN

CLOSED 30 MARCH 1992

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