



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1994

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MANY TARGETS ACHIEVED IN LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL WORK

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THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND LANDS, MR TONY EASON, SAID 1993 WAS A VERY PRODUCTIVE YEAR FOR HIS BRANCH; WITH MAJOR TARGETS ACHIEVED IN THE LAND AND HOUSING FIELDS AND IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

SPEAKING AT A MEET-THE-MEDIA SESSION TODAY (TUESDAY), MR EASON SAID HE WAS GLAD TO SEE THAT GOOD QUANTITIES OF LAND WERE MADE AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT DURING THE YEAR.

HE SAID IN 1993 SALE OF NEW LAND AMOUNTED TO 25 HECTARES. ANOTHER 174 HECTARES WERE MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH LAND EXCHANGES AND LEASE MODIFICATIONS.

OF THE COMBINED TOTAL, ABOUT 55 PER CENT WERE FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES.

TOGETHER WITH OTHER REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THIS WILL BE ABLE TO MEET THE PRODUCTION TARGET OF 35,000 UNITS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN 1994. THE FIGURE SHOULD RISE FURTHER TO 37,600 IN 1995.

MR EASON SAID A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE LAND EXCHANGE AND LEASE MODIFICATION CASES INVOLVED REDEVELOPMENT BY PRIVATE DEVELOPERS.

BETWEEN 1989 AND 1992, MORE THAN 50,000 NEW FLATS WERE PRODUCED FROM THIS SOURCE, WHICH IS SIX TIMES MORE THAN THE 8,000 OLD UNITS DEMOLISHED.

MR EASON SAID URBAN REDEVELOPMENT HAD ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT BY TRANSFORMING OLD AND DILAPIDATED BUILDINGS INTO NEW ONES AND BY MAKING MORE SPACE AVAILABLE FOR COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. THESE GAINS SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.

"THERE HAVE BEEN SOME SUGGESTIONS THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD ASSIST PRIVATE DEVELOPERS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF MULTIPLE OWNERSHIP OF BUILDINGS AND FRAGMENTED LAND TITLE TO ALLOW LAND TO BE ASSEMBLED FOR COMPREHENSIVE REDEVELOPMENT.

"THIS IS A VERY COMPLEX ISSUE WITH SIGNIFICANT LEGAL, POLITICAL AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS. THE MAIN QUESTIONS WE HAVE TO RESOLVE ARE AT WHAT LEVEL SHOULD THE ORIGINAL OWNERS BE COMPENSATED AND HOW BEST CAN THE INTERESTS OF THE DISPLACED TENANTS BE SAFEGUARDED. SHOULD THEY BE OFFERED ALTERNATE ACCOMMODATION BY THE DEVELOPERS OR OTHER OPTIONS SUCH AS CASH OR HOUSING ELSEWHERE?

"WE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF REVIEWING THE EXISTING PROCESS AND MECHANISM OF URBAN RENEWAL. WE INTEND TO CONSULT THE PUBLIC ONCE WE HAVE FORMULATED PROPOSALS TO TAKE THE MATTER FORWARD," MR EASON SAID.

ON SUBSIDISED HOUSING, MR EASON SAID APPLICATIONS FOR PHASE II OF THE INTERIM SANDWICH CLASS SCHEME WOULD BE INVITED IN APRIL UPON COMPLETION OF A REVIEW OF THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR PHASE I.

/HE SAID

HE SAID IN PHASE I, APPROVAL HAD BEEN GIVEN TO MORE THAN 300 APPLICANTS TO BUY THEIR FLATS.

THE REMAINING PRE-QUALIFIED CANDIDATES, SELECTED FROM AMONG THE 3,500 APPLICANTS, ARE BEING PROCESSED BY THE HOUSING SOCIETY.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT APPROVAL WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL FULLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS TO BUY THEIR FLATS BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR.

MR EASON SAID WORK WAS ALSO PROGRESSING WELL ON THE LONG-TERM SCHEME TO BUILD FLATS FOR SALE BELOW THE MARKET RATE TO THE SANDWICH CLASS.

IT IS EXPECTED FIVE SITES (ON TSING YI, AT MA ON SHAN AND TSEUNG KWAN O) WILL BE ALLOCATED TO HOUSING SOCIETY NEXT MONTH FOR PRODUCTION OF ABOUT 5,000 FLATS.

PRESALE OF THESE FLATS IS PLANNED TO BEGIN IN EARLY 1995.

THE FIRST UNITS ON TSING YI WILL BE READY FOR OCCUPATION TOWARDS THE END OF 1995.

MORE SITES ARE BEING IDENTIFIED FOR PRODUCTION OF 5,000 MORE FLATS WHICH ARE EXPECTED TO COME ON STREAM BY 1997.

ON PUBLIC HOUSING, MR EASON SAID AN ADDITIONAL 49 HECTARES OF LAND WERE ALLOCATED TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IN MID-1993 TO MEET SHORTFALLS IN THE PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO IDENTIFIED TWO MORE HECTARES OF LAND IN THE URBAN AREA FOR ALLOCATION TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE WAITING TIME OF ELDERLY SINGLE PERSONS.

MR EASON SAID WORK WAS ALSO PROGRESSING WELL IN SETTING UP A TASK FORCE TO DEAL WITH DEGRADATION OF THE COUNTRYSIDE CAUSED BY CONVERSION OF AGRICULTURAL LAND INTO OPEN STORAGE YARDS FOR CONTAINER BOXES, CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY AND CAR STRIPPING.

PREPARATORY WORK IS ALREADY BEING UNDERTAKEN BY A CORE GROUP. POSTS WILL BE CREATED FOR THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TASK FORCE IN APRIL.

PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN BY THE TASK FORCE TO SURVEYING PROBLEMATIC AREAS IN THE NORTHWEST NEW TERRITORIES AND TO DRAWING UP ACTION PLANS TO CLEAR OR RELOCATE ACTIVITIES FROM THEM.

WORK IS ALSO IN HAND TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL COMMITTEE CONSISTING MAINLY OF UNOFFICIAL MEMBERS TO MONITOR THE WORK OF THE TASK FORCE.

ON GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAMMES ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, MR EASON SAID 1993 HAD BEEN A VERY FRUITFUL AND REWARDING YEAR.

"OUR NEW INITIATIVES ARE OUTLINED IN THE SECOND REVIEW OF THE 1989 WHITE PAPER ON THE ENVIRONMENT WHICH ALSO GIVES A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

"IN GENERAL, THE REPORT HAS BEEN WELL RECEIVED BY THE PUBLIC INCLUDING GREEN GROUPS, DISTRICT BOARDS AND INDUSTRIALISTS. THOUGH, NEEDLESS TO SAY, THERE ARE THOSE WHO WISH TO DO MORE AND GO FASTER.

"WE HAVE ALSO MADE GOOD PROGRESS IN TIGHTENING CONTROL ON WATER POLLUTION. THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S \$6.8 BILLION FUNDING APPROVAL LAST WEEK HERALDED THE START OF A PROGRAMME TO CONSTRUCT A SYSTEM TO COLLECT AND TREAT SEWAGE UNDER THE HIGH PRIORITY PROGRAMME THAT WILL CLEAN UP THE POLLUTION IN THE HARBOUR BY 70 PER CENT.

"WE WILL PROCEED TO DECLARE IN STAGES VICTORIA HARBOUR AS THE LAST OF THE 10 WATER CONTROL ZONES AFTER TWO MORE WATER CONTROL ZONES (EASTERN AND WESTERN BUFFER WATER CONTROL ZONES) WERE DESIGNATED LAST YEAR," HE SAID.

ON AIR AND NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL, MR EASON SAID DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A STRATEGY TO CONTROL VEHICLE EMISSIONS WOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON THE ENVIRONMENT LATER THIS YEAR FOLLOWING ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S BROAD ENDORSEMENT OF THE STRATEGY LAST YEAR.

LEGISLATION WILL ALSO BE INTRODUCED IN 1994 TO BAN OPEN BURNING, TO CONTROL CONSTRUCTION DUST AND PERCUSSIVE PILING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION NOISE AS WELL AS MANAGEMENT OF ASBESTOS.

"IN THE YEAR AHEAD, WE ALSO AIM TO ACHIEVE MORE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENTS BY ESTABLISHING AN AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE AND MANAGE MARINE PARKS AND RESERVES FOR PUBLIC ENJOYMENT, BY SETTING UP THE ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION FUND TO SUPPORT ACTIVITIES ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, AND BY EXTENDING THE BOUNDARIES OF SOME OF OUR COUNTRY PARKS," MR EASON SAID.

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APPLICATIONS TO IMPORT WORKERS INVITED

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ABOUT 11,000 QUOTAS FOR IMPORTED WORKERS UNDER THE GENERAL IMPORTATION OF LABOUR SCHEME WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR REUSE THIS YEAR, AND PRELIMINARY APPLICATIONS FOR ALLOCATION WILL BE INVITED FROM MONDAY (FEBRUARY 14).

THESE WORKERS ARE TO REPLACE THOSE WHO WERE IMPORTED IN 1992 AND WHO ARE DUE TO LEAVE HONG KONG IN BATCHES UPON THE EXPIRY OF THEIR CONTRACTS OF EMPLOYMENT LATER THIS YEAR.

THE OVERALL LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF IMPORTED WORKERS WHO MAY BE BROUGHT IN UNDER THE GENERAL SCHEME AT ANY ONE TIME REMAINS UNCHANGED AT 25,000, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

EMPLOYERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN THE SCHEME MAY APPROACH THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT, LABOUR DEPARTMENT OR DISTRICT OFFICES WHERE APPLICATION FORMS, INFORMATION PAMPHLETS, EMPLOYMENT CONTRACTS AND A LIST OF PRINCIPAL JOB TITLES IN EACH INDUSTRY (WITH ALLOWABLE MONTHLY WAGE LEVELS) ARE AVAILABLE.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 25 THIS YEAR.

"INTERESTED EMPLOYERS MUST REGISTER THEIR VACANCIES WITH THE LOCAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICE (LES) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT BY COMPLETING A VACANCY REGISTRATION FORM (LD 295) IN DUPLICATE.

"THE COMPLETED FORM SHOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED, TOGETHER WITH THE PRELIMINARY APPLICATION FORM FOR ALLOCATION OF QUOTA, TO THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT FOR FURTHER PROCESSING," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

EMPLOYERS ARE ADVISED THAT IN THE REGISTRATION OF JOB VACANCIES, THEY MUST NOT IMPOSE UNREASONABLE REQUIREMENTS ON THE APPLICANTS, AND PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO LOCAL WORKERS.

JOB SEEKERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN SEEKING EMPLOYMENT ARE ADVISED TO APPROACH THE LES OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE. THE LES WILL REFER THEM TO SUITABLE JOBS FOR INTERVIEW BY THE RELEVANT EMPLOYERS.

ENQUIRIES ON IMMIGRATION-RELATED MATTERS MAY BE MADE OF THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT ON TEL 829 3220 AND 829 3225 AND THAT ON EMPLOYMENT SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT MAY BE MADE ON TEL 852 4158.

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TV AND RADIO CODES OF PRACTICE REVISED

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THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY (BA) HAS REVISED ITS TELEVISION AND RADIO CODES OF PRACTICE ON PROGRAMME STANDARDS TO REGULATE THE PORTRAYAL OF CRIMINALS AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES.

A SPOKESMAN FOR BA SAID IT HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT THE EXISTING STANDARDS WHICH WERE DRAWN UP SOME YEARS AGO FELL SHORT OF ADDRESSING CURRENT CONCERN OVER THE GLAMORISATION OF THE LIFESTYLES OF TRIADS AND OTHER CRIMINALS.

"WE HAVE HAD MANY COMPLAINTS IN RECENT YEARS ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH CRIMINALS WERE BEING DEPICTED, PARTICULARLY ON TELEVISION, AND THE ADVERSE INFLUENCE THIS MIGHT HAVE ON YOUNG PEOPLE.

"UNFORTUNATELY OUR EXISTING CODES WERE INADEQUATE TO ADDRESS THIS PROBLEM, AND SO THE AUTHORITY HAS DRAWN UP NEW CODES WHICH, IT IS HOPED, WILL LEAD TO A MORE RESPONSIBLE AND REALISTIC DEPICTION OF CRIME AND CRIMINALS," HE SAID.

THE NEW STANDARDS SEEK TO PREVENT THE GRATUITOUS AND UNNECESSARY DEPICTION OF CRIME AND THE GLORIFICATION OF THE LIFESTYLES OF CRIMINALS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID BA DID NOT INTEND TO RESTRICT THE CREATIVITY AND EDITORIAL INDEPENDENCE OF THE BROADCASTERS, BUT DID BELIEVE THAT SOME RESTRICTIONS WERE APPROPRIATE.

BA HAS ALSO IMPOSED FINANCIAL PENALTIES ON THE TWO COMMERCIAL TELEVISION LICENCEES, IN RESPONSE TO COMPLAINTS.

A PENALTY OF \$100,000 AND TWO SERIOUS WARNINGS WERE IMPOSED ON TVB AFTER THE AUTHORITY CONSIDERED VARIOUS PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT LANGUAGE USED IN THE PROGRAMME "THE EDGE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS" WHICH WAS BROADCAST ON TVB JADE DURING FAMILY VIEWING HOURS.

BA CONSIDERED THAT THE LANGUAGE USED IN THE DRAMA SERIAL AS A WHOLE, WHICH INCLUDED MANY CRUDE EXPRESSIONS AND INNUENDOES, WAS UNSUITABLE FOR BROADCAST DURING FAMILY VIEWING HOURS.

IT CONSIDERED THAT THE GRATUITOUS USE OF SUCH LANGUAGE HAD GONE BEYOND THAT NECESSARY FOR DRAMATIC CONTENT AND CHARACTERISATION.

THE AUTHORITY ALSO IMPOSED A FINANCIAL PENALTY OF \$10,000 ON ATV FOR THE INCLUSION OF A CIGARETTE LOGO IN AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR A SPORTS EVENT.

MEMBERS CONSIDERED THAT A LOGO "SALEM WORLD OF TENNIS", SUPER-IMPOSED ON THE ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE PROGRAMME "SALEM ASIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS", RESEMBLED THE LOGO OF SALEM CIGARETTES.

THEREFORE, IT WAS A SERIOUS BREACH OF THE TELEVISION CODE OF PRACTICE ON ADVERTISING STANDARDS GOVERNING THE ADVERTISING OF EVENTS ASSOCIATED WITH TOBACCO SPONSORS.

THE AUTHORITY ALSO CONSIDERED SOME COMPLAINTS ABOUT A PROGRAMME BROADCAST ON THE CABLE ENTERTAINMENT CHANNEL OF WHARF CABLE.

MEMBERS AGREED WITH THE COMPLAINANTS THAT SOME VIOLENT SCENES WITHIN THE PROGRAMME "ANGEL OF VENGEANCE" WERE UNSUITABLE FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWING AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN ADVERTISED AS SUCH.

BEARING IN MIND THIS WAS WHARF'S FIRST BREACH OF ITS PROGRAMMING CODE, MEMBERS STRONGLY ADVISED THE LICENSEE TO OBSERVE MORE CLOSELY THE CODES OF PRACTICE.

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PRELIMINARY DERAILMENT REPORT RECEIVED

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THE GOVERNMENT CONFIRMED TODAY (TUESDAY) THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION (MTRC) HAD SUBMITTED ITS PRELIMINARY ENQUIRY REPORT ON THE DERAILMENT INCIDENT TO THE HK RAILWAY INSPECTORATE AND THAT A COPY HAD BEEN HANDED TO THE TRANSPORT BRANCH.

THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR HAIDER BARMA, SAID HE HAD HAD A DISCUSSION WITH THE CHIEF INSPECTING OFFICER OF RAILWAYS (CIO(R)) WHO HAD CONFIRMED THAT BASED ON FACTS AVAILABLE AND HIS OWN INDEPENDENT STUDY, HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE PRELIMINARY FINDINGS IN THE REPORT AND THE PROMPT ACTION TAKEN BY THE MTRC TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF ITS ROLLING STOCK.

MR BARMA REMARKED THAT "THE MTRC HAS ACTED VERY RESPONSIBLY BY INCLUDING THE CHECKS ON THE SUSPENSION SYSTEM IN THEIR DAILY INSPECTION OF ALL TRAIN CARS BEFORE THEY ARE PUT INTO SERVICE AND BY SWIFTLY COMMENCING A PROCESS TO MODIFY THE EMERGENCY SPRING SYSTEM, WHICH IS BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN THE PROBABLE CAUSE OF THE INCIDENT, IN ALL TRAILER CARS."

"I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT THE CORPORATION HAS INVOLVED THE GERMAN SUPPLIER OF THE TRAIN BOGIE, THE BRITISH RAIL RESEARCH AND OTHER INDEPENDENT SPECIALIST AGENCIES IN THEIR INVESTIGATION.

"THEY HAVE ALSO DEMONSTRATED THAT THEY ARE ACCOUNTABLE BY GIVING PROMPT BRIEFINGS TO THE LEGCO TRANSPORT PANEL, THE TRANSPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE PRESS.

"THIS CLEARLY INDICATES THAT AS A PUBLIC CORPORATION, THEY HAVE RESPONDED RESPONSIBLY.

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"I HAD EARLIER INDICATED THAT THE FINDINGS OF THE INVESTIGATION WILL BE MADE PUBLIC. I HAVE THEREFORE AUTHORISED THE RELEASE OF THE SYNOPSIS OF THE PRELIMINARY REPORT. THIS SUMMARISES THE MAIN FACTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS. THE PRELIMINARY REPORT ITSELF IS A HIGHLY TECHNICAL DOCUMENT. BOTH THE INDEPENDENT HK RAILWAY INSPECTORATE AND THE MTRC ARE CONTINUING WITH THEIR DETAILED INVESTIGATIONS," MR BARMA SAID.

AS REGARDS THE OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE PRELIMINARY REPORT, THESE ARE OF A SECONDARY NATURE AND DEAL WITH ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE REVIEW OF TECHNICAL AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS, DETECTION DEVICES AND ALSO COMMENDATIONS FOR STAFF OF THIS PARTICULAR INCIDENT. THESE ARE BEING FURTHER EXAMINED BY THE MTRC AND THE CIO(R).

THE CIO(R) HAS CONFIRMED THAT THE EXISTING SAFETY PROCEDURES AND PRACTICES ADOPTED BY THE MTRC ARE FULLY SATISFACTORY AND THEY MEET THE INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

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SPECIAL TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS FOR FIREWORKS DISPLAY

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) ANNOUNCED SPECIAL TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND KOWLOON IN CONNECTION WITH THE LUNAR NEW YEAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT 8 PM ON FRIDAY (FEBRUARY 11).

THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION (MTRC) WILL RUN NORMAL HOLIDAY TRAIN SERVICES DURING THE DAY WITH EXTENDED THREE-MINUTE HEADWAY BETWEEN 3.30 PM AND 11.30 PM AS NECESSARY DEPENDING ON PASSENGER DEMAND.

PASSENGERS ARE REQUESTED TO OBSERVE THE ADVICE AND INSTRUCTIONS THAT MAY BE GIVEN BY THE POLICE AND THE MTRC STAFF ON SITE ABOUT RE-ARRANGEMENTS AT THE TSIM SHA TSUI, JORDAN AND WAN CHAI STATIONS.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED WITH LAST TRAINS FROM KOWLOON AND SHEUNG SHUI STATIONS AT 1.30 AM AND 1 AM THE FOLLOWING MORNING RESPECTIVELY. FOUR SPECIAL TRAINS FOR SHEUNG SHUI FROM KOWLOON WILL ALSO BE OPERATED BETWEEN 8.30 PM AND 10 PM.

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED BY LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT, WITH ADDITIONAL VEHICLES FOR ALL ROUTES. FEEDER BUS ROUTES 521 AND 670 WILL BE STRENGTHENED.

HONG KONG TRAMWAYS WILL PROVIDE NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES WITH AN ADDITIONAL SERVICE TO WHITTY STREET AND A SUPPLEMENTARY SERVICE FROM CAUSEWAY BAY TO SHAU KEI WAN.

PEAK TRAM SERVICES WILL BE EXTENDED AS NECESSARY DEPENDING ON PASSENGER DEMAND.

ON FERRY SERVICES, STAR FERRY WILL OPERATE ADDITIONAL SAILINGS BETWEEN CENTRAL AND TSIM SHA TSUI TO CATER FOR EXTRA DEMAND.

ITS SERVICES FROM TSIM SHA TSUI TO CENTRAL AND TO WAN CHAI WILL BE TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED FROM 7 PM TO 9 PM.

THE CENTRAL TO HUNG HOM SERVICE WILL BE CURTAILED EARLY WITH THE LAST SAILING FROM BOTH POINTS DEPARTING AT 7 PM.

FOUR SERVICES BY THE HONG KONG FERRY WILL BE CURTAILED AS FOLLOWS:

CENTRAL - TSIM SHA TSUI EAST

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| LAST SAILING FROM CENTRAL | 6 PM |
| LAST SAILING FROM TSIM SHA TSUI EAST | 6.10 PM |

CENTRAL - TUEN MUN

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|----------------------------|---------|
| LAST SAILING FROM TUEN MUN | 6.50 PM |
| LAST SAILING FROM CENTRAL | 7.30 PM |

TSIM SHA TSUI - MUI WO

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|---------------------------------|------|
| LAST SAILING FROM MUI WO | 5 PM |
| LAST SAILING FROM TSIM SHA TSUI | 6 PM |

GOLDCOAST - TSIM SHA TSUI EAST

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| LAST SAILING FROM GOLDCOAST | 4.40 PM |
| LAST SAILING FROM TSIM SHA TSUI EAST | 6 PM |

THE FOUR INNER HARBOUR HONG KONG FERRY SERVICES WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 7 PM AND 9.15 PM. THEY ARE SERVICES BETWEEN CENTRAL AND JORDAN ROAD; NORTH POINT AND HUNG HOM; NORTH POINT AND KOWLOON CITY; AND BETWEEN NORTH POINT AND KWUN TONG.

ON OUTLYING ISLAND SERVICES, THE SAILING DEPARTING TAI O AT 5.30 PM WILL TERMINATE AT TUEN MUN FERRY PIER AND WILL NOT PROCEED TO CENTRAL. SERVICES BETWEEN CENTRAL AND SOK KWU WAN; CENTRAL AND YUNG SHUE WAN; CENTRAL AND MUI WO; CENTRAL AND PENG CHAU AND CENTRAL AND CHEUNG CHAU WILL BE RE-SCHEDULED.

FERRY SERVICES FROM DISCOVERY BAY WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 7.20 PM AND 8.30 PM AND NO SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED FROM CENTRAL TO DISCOVERY BAY BETWEEN 8 PM AND 9 PM.

REGARDING BUS SERVICES, CITYBUS WILL STRENGTHEN ITS ROUTES 70, 72, 75, 90, 92, 96 AND 97 AS NECESSARY BEFORE AND AFTER THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY, DEPENDING ON PASSENGER DEMAND.

CHINA MOTOR BUS ROUTES 8, 15, 38, 40, 40M, 590, 592 AND ALL CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL BUS ROUTES WILL BE STRENGTHENED SUBJECT TO PASSENGER DEMAND.

SPECIAL EMPTY BUSES WILL BE OPERATED AT THE FOLLOWING BUS TERMINI AFTER THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY:

- * NORTH POINT FERRY BUS TERMINUS
- * TIN HAU MTR STATION BUS TERMINUS
- * ADMIRALTY MTR EAST STATION BUS TERMINUS

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- * CENTRAL (EXCHANGE SQUARE) BUS TERMINUS
- * THE PEAK PUBLIC TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE

THE FOLLOWING CHINA MOTOR BUS ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED AND BUS STOPS ON THE ROADS AFFECTED WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 6.30 PM AND WILL RESUME WHEN CLOSED ROADS ARE REOPENED:

ROUTES 8, 11A, 13, 15, 20, 21, 40, 80, 81M, 260, 590 AND 780.
ROUTE 780 WILL BE SUSPENDED WITH EFFECT FROM 6 PM.

ON KOWLOON MOTOR BUS (KMB) SERVICES, ROUTES 5A AND 208 WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 6 PM AND 5.30 PM RESPECTIVELY.

THE FOLLOWING KMB ROUTES WILL BE DIVERTED FROM ABOUT 7 PM:

A1, A2, 1, 1A, 2, 2C, 5, 5C, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 9, 26, 28 69X, 81C, 87D, 98D, 203, 234X, 241S, 271, 281S.

THE FOLLOWING KMB ROUTES WILL TEMPORARILY TERMINATE AT THE LOCATIONS SPECIFIED:

| ROUTE ----- | TERMINATED AT ----- |
|----------------|--|
| 5, 5C AND 8 | GRANVILLE ROAD |
| 26 | STAR FERRY BUS TERMINUS |
| 28 | CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH (NORTH OF GRANVILLE ROAD) |
| 69X AND 271 | JORDAN ROAD BUS TERMINUS |
| 234X | STAR FERRY BUS TERMINUS |

AS FOR CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL BUS SERVICES, ROUTES 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 110, 114 AND 601 WILL BE DIVERTED AND ROUTE 110 WILL BE TEMPORARILY TERMINATED AT GRANVILLE ROAD.

ON GREEN MINIBUS SERVICES ON HONG KONG ISLAND, ROUTES 1, 1A, 3, 8, 9, 11, 22, 24A, 24M, 25 AND 25A WILL BE DIVERTED.

KOWLOON GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 1 WILL BE SUSPENDED DURING THE PERIOD OF ROAD CLOSURE AND ROUTES 3, 6, 7, 8 AND 31M WILL BE DIVERTED.

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VOLUME AND PRICE MOVEMENTS OF EXTERNAL TRADE IN NOVEMBER 1993

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THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF LAST YEAR DECREASED BY 5.0% AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992, WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS RECORDED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OF 20%, ACCORDING TO THE STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

TAKING DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS TOGETHER, THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 14%. IMPORTS INCREASED BY 13% IN VOLUME.

THE GROWTH IN THE VOLUME OF TRADE IS DERIVED FROM THE GROWTH IN TRADE VALUES WITH THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES BEING DISCOUNTED.

AS REGARDS PRICE CHANGES OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF DOMESTIC EXPORT INCREASED SLIGHTLY BY 0.3% WHILE THOSE OF RE-EXPORT DECREASED BY 0.5%. IMPORTS PRICES DECREASED BY 0.6%.

PRICE CHANGES ARE REFLECTED BY CHANGES IN UNIT VALUE INDICES, WHICH ARE COMPILED BASED ON AVERAGE UNIT VALUES OR, FOR CERTAIN COMMODITIES, BASED ON SPECIFIC PRICE DATA.

THE TERMS OF TRADE INDEX, DEFINED AS THE RATIO OF TOTAL EXPORT PRICE INDEX TO IMPORT PRICE INDEX, INCREASED SLIGHTLY BY 0.3% IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS OF 1993 AS COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1992.

TAKING NOVEMBER 1993 ALONE AND COMPARING WITH NOVEMBER 1992, THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS DECREASED BY 5.8% WHILE THAT OF RE-EXPORTS INCREASED BY 15%. THE VOLUME OF TOTAL EXPORTS INCREASED BY 10%. THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS GREW BY 8.6%.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE PRICES OF RE-EXPORTS DECREASED BY 0.8%. THE PRICE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BOTH REMAINED VIRTUALLY UNCHANGED.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS BY PRINCIPAL COMMODITY GROUP ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 1.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1993 WITH NOVEMBER 1992, SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED FOR METAL MANUFACTURES (+10%); AND TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (+7.6%).

ON THE OTHER HAND, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES IN THE VOLUME OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS WERE RECORDED FOR RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-57%); AND FOOTWEAR (-47%).

AS REGARDS DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES, THE PRICES OF FOOTWEAR INCREASED BY 8.3%.

ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES IN DOMESTIC EXPORT PRICES WERE RECORDED FOR TEXTILE YARN AND THREAD (-11%); TEXTILE FABRICS (-7.5%); AND RADIOS OF ALL KINDS (-4.4%).

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF IMPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 2.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF FOODSTUFFS INCREASED SLIGHTLY BY 0.4% IN NOVEMBER 1993 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1992.

CONSIDERABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SOYA BEAN OIL, PEANUT OIL, VEGETABLE OIL AND LARD; MEAT AND MEAT PREPARATIONS; LIVE POULTRY; AND VEGETABLES. ON THE OTHER HAND, DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RICE; TEA AND COFFEE; SUGAR; AND WHEAT AND FLOUR.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 9.4%.

COMMODITY ITEMS WITH SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME INCLUDED TOBACCO MANUFACTURES; HOUSEHOLD TYPE ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES; AND FOOTWEAR. HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR PASSENGER MOTOR CARS; AND ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES INCREASED BY 10% IN NOVEMBER 1993 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1992.

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN IMPORT VOLUME WERE NOTED FOR LEATHER AND DRESSED FUR SKINS; CHEMICAL ELEMENTS AND COMPOUNDS; IRON AND STEEL; AND PLASTIC MATERIALS.

HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE DECREASES WERE RECORDED IN THE IMPORT VOLUME OF RAW COTTON; WOOL AND OTHER ANIMALS HAIR; SILK FABRICS; AND YARN OF WOOL AND MIXTURES.

IMPORTS OF FUELS INCREASED BY 32% IN VOLUME IN NOVEMBER 1993 AS COMPARED WITH NOVEMBER 1992.

AS REGARDS CAPITAL GOODS, THE IMPORT VOLUME INCREASED BY 4.3%. NOTABLE INCREASES WERE RECORDED FOR THE IMPORT VOLUME OF SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, OPTICAL, MEASURING AND CONTROLLING INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS; AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY.

THE IMPORT VOLUME OF CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY; TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT; AND TEXTILE MACHINERY DECLINED.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1993 WITH NOVEMBER 1992, THE IMPORT PRICES OF CAPITAL GOODS; AND CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 3.0% AND 0.4% RESPECTIVELY. THE IMPORT PRICES OF FUELS; FOODSTUFFS; AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 6.5%, 1.8%, AND 1.3% RESPECTIVELY.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE, UNIT VALUE AND VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS BY END-USE CATEGORY ARE SHOWN IN TABLE 3.

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1993 WITH NOVEMBER 1992, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES; CONSUMER GOODS; AND CAPITAL GOODS REGISTERED INCREASES OF 21%, 16% AND 7.9% RESPECTIVELY. HOWEVER, THE VOLUME OF RE-EXPORTS OF FUELS; AND FOODSTUFFS DECREASED BY 1.9% AND 1.6% RESPECTIVELY.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD OF COMPARISON, THE RE-EXPORT PRICES OF CAPITAL GOODS; FOODSTUFFS; AND CONSUMER GOODS INCREASED BY 0.9%, 0.6% AND 0.6% RESPECTIVELY. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE RE-EXPORT PRICES OF FUELS; AND RAW MATERIALS AND SEMI-MANUFACTURES DECREASED BY 16% AND 4.6% RESPECTIVELY.

DETAILS OF THE ABOVE STATISTICS ARE PUBLISHED IN THE NOVEMBER 1993 ISSUE OF THE "HONG KONG TRADE INDEX NUMBERS".

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1994

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THE REPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SALE AROUND FEBRUARY 14 AT \$8.5 A COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE ON THE GROUND FLOOR, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; OR AT THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE REPORT MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT AT FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, HONG KONG (TEL 842 8802) AND ENQUIRIES ON TRADE INDICES TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (TEL 582 4918).

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/TABLE 1

Table 1 : Changes in domestic exports by principal commodity group

| Commodity group | Comparing NOV 1993 with NOV 1992 | | | Comparing JAN-NOV 1993 with JAN-NOV 1992 | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|---|--------------------|-------------|
| | Value % | Unit Value % | Volume % | Value % | Unit Value % | Volume % |
| Clothing | -6.1 | -1.3 | -4.9 | -7.3 | 1.3 | -8.5 |
| Textile fabrics | -8.7 | -7.5 | -1.3 | -3.9 | -4.6 | 0.8 |
| Textile yarn and thread | -4.3 | -11.0 | 7.6 | -13.4 | -6.7 | -7.2 |
| Textile made-ups and related articles | -13.7 | -1.3 | -12.7 | -26.6 | -1.1 | -25.8 |
| Radios of all kinds | -58.8 | -4.4 | -56.9 | -47.6 | -6.5 | -43.9 |
| Electronic components | -14.2 | 3.7 | -17.3 | 3.4 | -0.1 | 3.5 |
| Footwear | -42.6 | 8.3 | -47.1 | -46.0 | 6.6 | -49.4 |
| Metal manufactures | 10.2 | 0.1 | 10.0 | 1.5 | -1.9 | 3.5 |
| Metal ores and scrap | 2.1 | 1.6 | 0.7 | -2.7 | -1.5 | -1.2 |
| Watches and clocks | -4.7 | 0.3 | -5.0 | -14.0 | 0.4 | -14.6 |
| Travel goods, handbags and similar articles | -19.2 | -1.5 | -17.9 | -21.6 | -2.3 | -19.8 |
| Domestic electrical appliances | -12.3 | 0.6 | -12.9 | -23.0 | -2.3 | -21.2 |
| ALL COMMODITIES | -5.8 | 0.1 | -5.8 | -4.7 | 0.3 | -5.0 |

Table 2 : Changes in imports by end-use category

| End-use category | Comparing NOV 1993 with NOV 1992 | | | Comparing JAN-NOV 1993 with JAN-NOV 1992 | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|---|------------|------------|
| | Value % | Unit | | Value % | Unit | |
| | | Value % | Volume % | | Value % | Value % |
| Foodstuffs | -1.5 | -1.8 | 0.4 | -0.8 | -0.9 | * |
| Consumer goods | 9.8 | 0.4 | 9.4 | 16.2 | -0.3 | 16.5 |
| Raw materials and semi-manufactures | 8.6 | -1.3 | 10.1 | 7.8 | -2.6 | 10.7 |
| Fuels | 23.6 | -6.5 | 32.4 | 7.3 | -1.9 | 9.3 |
| Capital goods | 7.4 | 3.0 | 4.3 | 19.5 | 3.2 | 15.8 |
| ALL COMMODITIES | 8.7 | 0.1 | 8.6 | 12.9 | -0.6 | 13.5 |

* less than 0.05%

Table 3 : Changes in re-exports by end-use category

| End-use category | Comparing NOV 1993 with NOV 1992 | | | Comparing JAN-NOV 1993 with JAN-NOV 1992 | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|-------------|---|------------|------------|
| | Value % | Unit | | Value % | Unit | |
| | | Value % | Volume % | | Value % | Value % |
| Foodstuffs | -1.1 | 0.6 | -1.6 | -2.7 | -0.5 | -2.2 |
| Consumer goods | 16.6 | 0.6 | 16.0 | 18.9 | 0.3 | 18.6 |
| Raw materials and semi-manufactures | 15.6 | -4.6 | 21.0 | 15.3 | -3.4 | 19.3 |
| Fuels | -17.3 | -15.8 | -1.9 | 49.5 | -7.4 | 61.6 |
| Capital goods | 8.8 | 0.9 | 7.9 | 31.6 | 1.9 | 29.0 |
| ALL COMMODITIES | 14.3 | -0.8 | 15.3 | 19.6 | -0.5 | 20.3 |

GOVERNOR TO BROADCAST NEW YEAR MESSAGE

* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, WILL DELIVER HIS NEW YEAR MESSAGE ON LUNAR NEW YEAR'S EVE TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE TIMETABLE FOR THE BROADCASTS IS:

| | DATE AND TIME | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| | ----- | |
| | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY (REPEAT) |
| | (FEB 9) | (FEB 10) |
| | ----- | ----- |
| TELEVISION | | |
| ----- | | |
| TVB (JADE) | ABOUT 6.10 PM | ABOUT 12.50 PM |
| ATV (HOME) | ABOUT 6.55 PM | ABOUT 4 PM |
| TVB (PEARL) | ABOUT 8.30 PM | ABOUT 11.25 AM |
| ATV (WORLD) | ABOUT 6.50 PM | ABOUT 11 AM |
| WHARF CABLE | 6.10 PM | |
| | | |
| RADIO | | |
| ----- | | |
| RTHK 1, 2, 5 (CHINESE) | ABOUT 7.03 PM | ABOUT 1.05 PM |
| RTHK 3 (ENGLISH) | - | ABOUT 7.52 AM |
| COMMERCIAL RADIO 1 (CHINESE) | ABOUT 6.30 PM | ABOUT 12.15 PM |
| COMMERCIAL RADIO 2 (CHINESE) | ABOUT 6.05 PM | - |
| COMMERCIAL RADIO (ENGLISH) | ABOUT 7 PM | - |
| METRO NEWS | ABOUT 6 PM | - |
| FM SELECT | ABOUT 6 PM | - |
| HIT RADIO | ABOUT 6 PM | - |

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EFFORTS MADE TO PROTECT FISHERIES RESOURCES

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EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT (AFD) TO PROTECT FISHERIES RESOURCES IN THE TERRITORY, ACTING DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, MR MICHAEL LEE, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

HE SAID IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG, THE FIRST EXPERIMENTAL ARTIFICIAL REEF WAS SUCCESSFULLY DEPLOYED LAST YEAR AT HOI HA WAN, ONE OF HONG KONG'S FIRST PROPOSED SITES FOR MARINE PARKS.

"THE DEPARTMENT IS CURRENTLY LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF LARGER SCALE DEPLOYMENT OF ARTIFICIAL REEF TECHNOLOGY IN OTHER LOCAL TERRITORIAL WATERS SO AS TO REHABILITATE THE DAMAGED MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND TO REVIVE THE FISHERIES RESOURCES," HE SAID.

SPEAKING AT THE FISH MARKETING ORGANISATION'S (FMO) ANNUAL PRIZE-PRESENTATION CEREMONY, MR LEE SAID THE NEW CHEUNG SHA WAN FISH WHOLESALE MARKET, WHICH BEGAN OPERATION LAST OCTOBER, HAD GREATLY IMPROVED THE WHOLESALING SERVICES FOR FISH TRADERS AND FISHERMEN.

SITUATED ON THE WEST KOWLOON RECLAMATION, THE NEW MARKET IS ONE OF THE BEST OF ITS KIND IN THE REGION IN TERMS OF FACILITIES AND MANAGEMENT.

ITS PROXIMITY TO THE NEW CHEUNG SHA WAN WHOLESALE FOOD MARKET IS ALSO AN ASSET.

LAST YEAR, FMO AND AFD, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE POLICE, CONTINUED TO MOUNT OPERATIONS TO TACKLE ILLEGAL MARINE FISH WHOLESALING ACTIVITIES, RESULTING IN 110 PROSECUTIONS, HE SAID.

MR LEE SAID A WIDE VARIETY OF SERVICES WERE PROVIDED TO THE LOCAL FISHERIES SECTOR BY FMO AND AFD.

APART FROM ARRANGING A STUDY TOUR TO MEXICO FOR THE FISHERY EXPO '93, LOANS OF MORE THAN \$17 MILLION WERE MADE OUT TO FISHERMEN. VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND SCHOLARSHIPS WERE ALSO PROVIDED TO THEM AND THEIR CHILDREN.

AT THE CEREMONY, MR LEE PRESENTED SILVER SHIELDS TO THREE FISHERMEN WHO HAD SAVED LIVES AT SEA LAST YEAR.

HE AWARDED LONG-SERVICE MEDALS TO 20 FMO STAFF MEMBERS AND CERTIFICATES TO FOUR GRADUATES OF SEA FISHING COXSWAIN ENDORSEMENT COURSE.

THE ACTING DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MR YIP SHUI-MING, ALSO PRESENTED PRIZES TO 54 FISHERMEN WHO HAD EMERGED AS CHAMPIONS OF FISH CATCH IN THE TERRITORY'S FISHING PORTS LAST YEAR.

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SAI KUNG TO HOLD DISTRICT FESTIVAL
* * * * *

LIVELY ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMMES WILL BE THE MAIN FARE OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL FROM FEBRUARY 13 TO 27.

A CARNIVAL WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 14) ON THE MAN YI PLAYGROUND AT YI CHUN STREET IN SAI KUNG TOWN CENTRE TO MARK THE OPENING OF THE TWO-WEEK FESTIVAL.

CHINESE OPERA AND CULTURAL ENTERTAINMENT PERFORMANCES WILL BE STAGED IN 13 DIFFERENT VENUES IN VARIOUS HOUSING ESTATES IN TSEUNG KWAN O AND THE SAI KUNG TOWN CENTRE.

THE HIGHLIGHT WILL BE TVB'S LIVE "ENJOY YOURSELF TONIGHT" PROGRAMME ON FEBRUARY 25. THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE EVENT.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE, MR LING MAN-HOI, SAID THE FESTIVAL WAS HELD EVERY TWO YEARS TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY INTEGRITY AND HARMONY IN THE DISTRICT.

THE FESTIVAL IS ORGANISED BY THE 1994 SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE AND IS CO-ORGANISED BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, THE SAI KUNG CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ADVANCEMENT ASSOCIATION AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT SPORTS ASSOCIATION.

SPONSORS INCLUDE THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD, THE REGIONAL COUNCIL AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS.

MR LING PAID TRIBUTE TO THE LOCAL BODIES AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN MAKING THE FESTIVAL A SUCCESS.

TICKETS FOR THE VARIETY SHOWS AND CARNIVALS ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE'S TSEUNG KWAN O SUB-OFFICE AT PO LAM ESTATE.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON TEL 792 9512.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE, MR PARRISH NG AND THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR WILLIAM WAN, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE OPENING OF THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT FESTIVAL AT 2.30 PM ON MONDAY ON MAN YI BASKETBALL PLAYGROUND, YI CHUN STREET, SAI KUNG.

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER.

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PART OF TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD TO BE CLOSED
* * * * *

THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL HAS AUTHORISED THE CLOSURE OF PART OF TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD BETWEEN KAM HONG STREET AND TIN CHIU STREET.

THE CLOSURE WILL FACILITATE THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE CHINA MOTOR BUS DEPOT INTO A COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL COMPLEX AS APPROVED BY THE TOWN PLANNING BOARD.

AS PART OF THE REDEVELOPMENT, THE ADJACENT TANNER ROAD WILL BE WIDENED TO A TWO-WAY CARRIAGEWAY WITH FOOTPATHS. THE CLOSURE OF TSAT TSZ MUI ROAD WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ONCE THESE WORKS ARE COMPLETED.

TRAFFIC STUDIES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THESE ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE ABLE TO CATER FOR THE PROJECTED VOLUME OF TRAFFIC IN THE AREA.

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SAI KUNG IMMIGRATION OFFICE TO SUSPEND SERVICE
* * * * *

THE IMMIGRATION MOBILE OFFICE AT SAI KUNG WILL SUSPEND THE SERVICES OF BIRTH AND MARRIAGE REGISTRATIONS AND IMMIGRATION APPLICATIONS FOR ONE DAY ON FEBRUARY 14.

"THE TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SERVICE IS DUE TO THE HOLDING OF A CHINESE LUNAR NEW YEAR GENERAL GATHERING BY THE SAI KUNG RURAL COMMITTEE," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

THE SERVICE WILL RESUME ON FEBRUARY 15.

FOR ENQUIRIES, THE PUBLIC MAY TELEPHONE 824 6111.

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PUBLIC REMINDED NOT TO BRING IN ENDANGERED SPECIES

* * * * *

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC VISITING CHINA AND OVERSEAS COUNTRIES DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS ARE REMINDED NOT TO BRING BACK ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES OR MEDICINE CONTAINING OR CLAIMING TO CONTAIN TIGER OR RHINO INGREDIENTS ON THEIR RETURN TO HONG KONG.

"THE PROHIBITION ON THE IMPORT AND EXPORT OF MEDICINE CONTAINING OR CLAIMING TO CONTAIN TIGER INGREDIENTS HAS ALREADY COME INTO EFFECT AT THE END OF LAST MONTH," THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT'S SENIOR CONSERVATION OFFICER, MR CHAN JEE-KEUNG, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE NEW CONTROL ALSO COVERS ALL SPECIES OF BEARS, THEIR GALL BLADDERS, BILE, AND BILE POWDER.

TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RESTRICTIONS UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE, THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN DISPLAYING LARGE NUMBER OF POSTERS AT KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY POSTER SITES AND TUBE CARDS INSIDE THE TRAINS SINCE EARLY THIS MONTH.

THESE ARE SUPPLEMENTED BY GOVERNMENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST ON TELEVISION AND RADIO.

ON THE ENFORCEMENT SIDE, MR CHAN SAID BOTH THE CUSTOMS AND HIS DEPARTMENT WOULD STEP UP CONTROL MEASURES AT ALL ENTRY POINTS TO CHECK TRAVELLERS AND GOODS VEHICLES DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

"ANYONE WHO TRIES TO BRING IN WITHOUT A LICENCE ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES, INCLUDING LIVE AND STUFFED SPECIMENS AS WELL AS PARTS AND DERIVATIVES, WILL BE PROSECUTED."

MR CHAN SAID THERE HAD BEEN 426 SEIZURES IN CONNECTION WITH ILLEGAL IMPORT AND POSSESSION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES LAST YEAR.

THE SEIZED ITEMS WERE MAINLY MEDICINE CLAIMING TO CONTAIN RHINO INGREDIENTS, CLAIMED TIGER PARTS, CROCODILE MEAT, PANGOLIN SCALE, STUFFED SEA TURTLES, LIVE SLOW LORIS, FUR SKINS, SNAKES AND THEIR SKINS AS WELL AS WILD ORCHIDS.

BECAUSE THE LEGISLATION COVERS A GREAT VARIETY OF ANIMALS AND PLANTS, MR CHAN ADVISED THE PUBLIC TO CHECK CAREFULLY WITH THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 733 2282 WHEN IN DOUBT.

HE REITERATED THAT IT WAS AN OFFENCE TO IMPORT, EXPORT OR POSSESS ANY ENDANGERED SPECIES WITHOUT PRIOR PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE LEGAL REQUIREMENTS MAY RESULT IN A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$25,000 ON FIRST CONVICTION AND \$50,000 PLUS SIX MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT FOR A REPEATED OFFENCE, MR CHAN SAID.

TWO NT SITES TO LET
* * * * *

THE LANDS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE SHORT-TERM TENANCIES OF TWO LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE LOT IN ON YIU STREET, AREA 11, SHA TIN NEW TOWN HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 3,900 SQUARE METRES. IT IS INTENDED FOR USE AS A CONTAINER VEHICLE PARK, BUT EXCLUDING STORAGE OF CONTAINERS.

ITS TENANCY IS THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY.

THE OTHER LOT, AT AH KUNG WAN, CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD, SAI KUNG, COVERS AN AREA OF ABOUT 2,440 SQUARE METRES. IT IS EARMARKED FOR USE AS A FEE-PAYING PUBLIC CAR PARK, EXCLUDING CONTAINER VEHICLES.

IT CARRIES A TENANCY OF THREE YEARS, RENEWABLE QUARTERLY.

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF TENDERS IS NOON ON FEBRUARY 25.

FORMS OF TENDER, TENDER NOTICE AND CONDITIONS OF SALE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICE, SAI KUNG, SHA TIN, AND THE LANDS DEPARTMENT, 14TH FLOOR, MURRAY BUILDING, GARDEN ROAD, AND THE DISTRICT LANDS OFFICES KOWLOON, 10TH FLOOR, YAU MA TEI CAR PARK BUILDING, 250 SHANGHAI STREET, KOWLOON.

TENDER PLANS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICES.

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FIREMEN THANKED FOR FIGHTING BUILDING FIRE
* * * * *

THE EFFICIENCY OF FIRE SERVICES MEMBERS IN FIGHTING A FIRE IN A CENTRAL BUILDING LAST MONTH HAS WON PRAISES FROM BOTH THE BUILDING MANAGER AND A OWNER OF SOME AFFECTED UNITS.

A OWNER REPRESENTATIVE, MR HO KAI-CHAI AND THE DIRECTOR OF JONES LANG WOOTTEN MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD, MR GERRY KIPLING, TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE SHEUNG WAN FIRE STATION TO THANK THEM.

THEY PRESENTED A PENNANT AND A PLAQUE TO THE SENIOR DIVISIONAL OFFICER, MR VICTOR HSU, IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR EFFORTS IN SUPPRESSING THE FIRE AND RESCUING LIVES.

THE BLAZE BROKE OUT ON THE 19TH FLOOR OF WING SHAN TOWER AT 84-86 CONNAUGHT ROAD CENTRAL AROUND 7 PM ON JANUARY 10. IT WAS UPGRADED TO NO. 4 ALARM MORE THAN AN HOUR LATER.

FIREMEN RESCUED SEVEN PEOPLE FROM THE ROOF OF THE 25-STORY COMMERCIAL BUILDING. THE FIRE, DAMAGING A NUMBER OF OFFICE UNITS ON THE 19TH FLOOR, WAS PUT OUT AFTER ABOUT FIVE HOURS.

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TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1994

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS
* * * * *

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| TENDER DATE | 8 FEB 94 |
| PAPER ON OFFER | EF BILLS |
| ISSUE NUMBER | Q406 |
| AMOUNT APPLIED | HKD 3,330 MN |
| AMOUNT ALLOTTED | HKD 1,300 MN |
| AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED | 3.26 PCT |
| HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED | 3.28 PCT |
| PRO RATA RATIO | ABOUT 6 PCT |
| AVERAGE TENDER YIELD | 3.28 PCT |

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 14 FEB 1994 -

| | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| TENDER DATE | 14 FEB 94 | 15 FEB 94 | 15 FEB 94 |
| PAPER ON OFFER | EF NOTES | EF BILLS | EF BILLS |
| ISSUE NUMBER | 2602 | Q407 | H458 |
| ISSUE DATE | 15 FEB 94 | 16 FEB 94 | 16 FEB 94 |
| MATURITY DATE | 15 FEB 96 | 18 MAY 94 | 17 AUG 94 |
| TENOR | 2 YEARS | 91 DAYS | 182 DAYS |
| AMOUNT ON OFFER | HKD500 + 100MN | HKD 1,300 + 260 MN | HKD 500 + 100 MN |
| COUPON | 4.40 PCT | | |

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

| | \$ MILLION |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| | ----- |
| OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT | 3,110 |
| REVERSAL OF LAF | -110 |
| BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF | 3,000 |
| NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY | NIL |
| EFFECT OF LAF TODAY | -380 |
| CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT | 2,620 |
| LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER | 8.2.94 |
| TWI 126.5 *-0.3* | |

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

| EF BILLS | | EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS | | | | |
|---|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| TERMS | YIELD | TERM | ISSUE | COUPON | PRICE | YIELD |
| 1 WEEK | 2.91 | 16 MONTHS | 2505 | 3.75 | 99.70 | 4.03 |
| 1 MONTH | 3.04 | 19 MONTHS | 2508 | 4.265 | 100.67 | 4.21 |
| 3 MONTHS | 3.26 | 22 MONTHS | 2511 | 4.15 | 99.66 | 4.39 |
| 6 MONTHS | 3.44 | 33 MONTHS | 3610 | 4.20 | 98.50 | 4.85 |
| 12 MONTHS | 3.78 | 36 MONTHS | 3701 | 4.60 | 99.27 | 4.93 |
| TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 30,222 MN | | | | | | |
| CLOSED 8 FEBRUARY 1994 | | | | | | |

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MR ERIC LI