

Chart 29

### The fiscal deficit problem must be completely solved

- Ensure stability of our economy and financial system.
- Need strong support from Members of Legislative Council and the whole community.
- Every sector of the community needs to share the responsibility.
- Revival of our economy being the fundamental solution.
- Need effective control on expenditure.
- Raise revenues.
- Welcome suggestions by the community.

Chart 30

### Some economic indicators since early 2002

Gross Domestic Product	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	+0.5%
Unemployment rate	June to September	7.4% (peak is 7.8%)
Value of exports of goods	First 8 months	+0.9% (August only +5.7%)
Value of exports of services	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	+8.6%
Exports of containers	First 7 months	+3.3% (July only +10.2%)
Exports of air cargoes	First 9 months	+25.5% (September only +26.4%)
Loan-to-deposit ratio	August	89.1%
Consumer price	First 9 months	-3.1% (September only -3.7%)
Consumption expenditure	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	-2.4%
Investment expenditure	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	-1.7%