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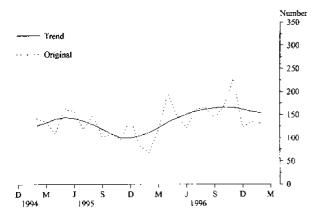
BUILDING APPROVALS, NORTHERN TERRITORY, FEBRUARY 1997

MAIN FEATURES

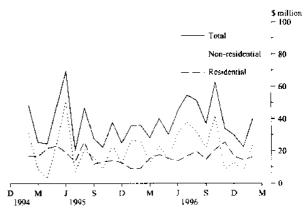
NUMBER OF DWELLING UNITS APPROVED

	February 1996	January 1997	February 1997	February 1996 to February 1997 change	January 1997 to February 1997 change
Original series	68	135	131	92.6%	-3.0%
Trend estimate	112	157	154	37.5%	-1,9%





VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED



Residential building

- The number of dwelling units approved decreased by 3% in February to 131.
- The trend for the total number of dwelling units continues to fall, recording a 1.9% decline on January's figure and it is 7.8% below the recent peak in October 1996.
- Of the 72 houses approved in February, 25 were in Palmerston-East Arm.
- The value of new residential building approved was \$14.8 million and the value of residential alterations and additions was \$1.4 million.

Non-residential building

 The value of non-residential building approved in February was \$23.7 million with public sector education contributing \$12.7 million.

INQUIRIES

- for more information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact John Radimissis on Adelaide (08) 8237 7590 or any ABS State Office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back of this publication.

TABLE 1. DWELLING UNITS APPROVED (a)

	۸	lew houses		New other	residential bui	dings			Total (l	<i>b)</i>	
Period	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Conv- " ersions, etc.	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Trena estimate
1993-94	922	171	1,093	464	14	478	6	1.392	185	1,577	
1994-95	868	161	1,029	554	58	612	20	1,442	219	1,661	
1995-96	835	96	931	386	119	505	16	1,234	218	1,452	
1995-96											
July-February	507	81	588	254	11	265	14	773	94	867	
1996-97											
July-February	553	130	683	527	11	538	36	1,104	153	1,257	
/995 ···											
December	73		73	68	-	68		141		141	101
1996-											
Јапнату	24	16	40	33	7	40	2	58	24	82	105
February	49	10	59	6	2	8	1	56	12	68	112
March	82	10	92	25	2	27	_	107	12	119	122
April	67	4	71	21	106	127	_	88	110	198	135
May	87	-	87	58	_	58	1	145	1	146	144
June	92	1	93	28	_	28	1	121	1	122	152
July	56	14	70	91		91	1	148	14	162	158
August	66	15	81	82	2	84	1	149	17	166	162
September	70	3	73	68	_	68	2	140	3	143	165
October	94	16	110	59		59	_	153	16	169	167
November	76	25	101	119	7	126	1	196	32	228	166
December	69	30	99	11	_	11	13	81	42	123	162
1997											
January	63	14	77	39	2	41	17	119	16	135	157
February	59	13	72	58		58	1	118	13	131	154

⁽a) Buildings for Aboriginal Communities are included in the Private Sector. However, if the building is owned by a Community Government Council it will be included in the Public Sector. (b) Includes Conversions, etc. See paragraphs 10-12 of the Explanatory Notes.

TABLE 2. VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED (\$'000)

				New res	idential b	usildino	(2,000)				·			
Period	Houses				Other residential buildings		Fotal			Alterations and additions	Non-residential building		Total b	uilding
	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total	Private sector	Public sector	Total	to residential buildings	Private sector	Total	Private sector	Tota
1993-94	84,997	29,312	114,309	40,105	1,038	41,144	125,102	30,350	155,452	17,307	68,342	158,946	210,026	331,706
1994-95	84,947	29,137	114,085	63,327	10,319	73,645	148,274	39,456	187,730	29.958	98,145	184,496	268,058	402,184
1995-96	83,369	15,473	98,841	38,318	7,640	45,958	121,687	23,113	144,800	27,426	112,754	222,043	255,839	394,269
1995-96														
luly-February 1996-97	49.796	12,780	62,576	28,431	1,444	29.875	78,228	14,224	92,451	17,671	80,471	140,723	171,728	250,845
uly-February	63,675	20,265	83, 9 41	44,975	1,304	46,279	108,650	21,569	130,220	14,901	125,812	186,500	247,660	331,620
995														
December	6,412	_	6,412	4,981	_	4,981	11,393	_	11,393	1,397	12,065	12,189	24,855	24,979
996—														
anuary	2,211	2,825	5,036	2,564	540	3,104	4,775	3,365	8,140	1,064	25,801	26,191	31,220	35,394
ebruary	4,901	1,783	6,685	435	510	945	5,336	2,293	7,630	1,658	16,666	26,556	23,609	35,843
Aarch	8,048	2,110	10,158	1,290	116	1,406	9,338	2,226	11,564	3,934	3,735	12,620	15,994	28,118
pril	6,977	498	7,475	1,920	6,080	8,000	8,897	6,578	15,475	1,961	11,999	22,699	22,842	40,135
iay	8,931	_	8,931	4,656	_	4,656	13,587	_	13,587	1,746	8,277	14,705	23,265	30,038
une	9,616	85	9,701	2,021	_	2,021	11,637	85	11,722	2,115	8,272	31,296	22,009	45,133
uly	6,475	2,479	8,954	6,231		6,231	12,706	2,479	15,185	1,611	37,303	37,807	51,620	54,603
Lugust	7,681	1,867	9,548	7,864	400	8,264	15,545	2,267	17,813	1,738	12,661	31,802	29,933	51,353
eptember	7,511	690	8,201	5.421		5,421	12,931	690	13,621	1,355	16,106	22,138	30,392	37,114
October	10,401	2,571	12,972	5,294		5,294	15,695	2,571	18,265	2,500	40,352	41,732	57,985	62,497
lovember	8,246	3,329	11,575	11,257	654	11,911	19,503	3,983	23,486	2,024	6,342	8,367	27,366	33,878
December	8,585	4,806	13,391	820	_	820	9,405	4,806	14,211	2,365	4,111	13,161	15,467	29,737
997														
lanuary	7,532	2,205	9,736	2,845	250	3,095	10,377	2.455	12,831	1,815	5,088	7,790	17,279	22,435
ebniary	7,245	2,318	9,563	5,244		5,244	12,489	2,318	14,807	1,493	3,849	23,702	17,619	40,002

TABLE 3. VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED, (a) BY CLASS OF BUILDING AND OWNERSHIP (\$*000)

		(\$'0	00)				
Class of building	1994-95	1995-96 —	July-Febr. 1995-96	<u>uary </u>	1996	1997	r>
	1994-93	PRIVATE		1990-97	December	January	Februar
N	04.045	92.260	10.704	17.175	n ene	7.522	7.340
New houses	84,947	83,369	49,796	63,675	8,585	7,532	7,245
New other residential buildings Total new residential building	63,327 148,274	38,318 121,687	28,431 78,228	44,975 108,650	820 9,405	2,845 10,377	5,244 /2,489
Total new residential Outland	140,274	121,007	/0,220	100,050	9,400	10,377	14,403
Alterations and additions to	21.440	21,398	12.020	12 109	1,951	1 916	1,281
residential buildings	21,640	21,376	13,030	13,198	1,951	1,815	1,201
Hotels, etc.	25,584	38,821	37,160	22,380	_	_	_
Shops	37,862	14,599	10.459	62,470	942	1,472	2,062
Factories	3,940	3,212	2,589	3,936		1,786	28€
Offices	6,261	13,302	3,308	16,737	341	189	402
Other business premises	10,489	19,837	11,167	12,160	1,543	1,009	1,099
Educational	3,922	5,255	2,632 491	3,291	1,285	LDO	-
Religious Health	1,027	609	3,150	180 373	_	180 373	
Entertainment and recreational	3,536	3,210 10,216	7,21 4	1,171	_	- 373 	
Miscellaneous	5,524	3,693	2,302	3,114		80	
Total non-residential building	98,145	112,754	80,471	125,812	4,111	5,088	3,849
T	2/11 0.50	255 820	474 744	247.640			
Total	268,058	255,839	171,728	247,660	15,467	17,279	17,619
		PUBLIC S	ECTOR		.		
New houses	29,137	15,473	12.780	20,265	4,806	2,205	2,318
New other residential buildings	10,319	7,640	1,444	1,304		250	_
Total new residential building	39,456	23,113	14,224	21.569	4,806	2,455	2,318
Alterations and additions to							
residential buildings	8,318	6,028	4,641	1,703	414	-	212
Hotels, etc.	_			1,395	1,395	_	
Shops	1,762	4,246	_	2,816	70	100	_
Factories	11,706	1,824	324	12,601	_		
Offices	3,466	13,412	8,791	7,272	576		316
Other business premises	2,354	14,147	5,878	5,205	330	350	417
Educational	28,985	26,037	8,639	17,343	4,106	50	12,699
Religious		2,361	2,361			_	_
Health	1,631	1,433	728	2,195	692	_	_
Entertainment and recreational	2,016	11,551	8,370	1,532	120		55
Miscellaneous	34,431	34,279	25,162	10,329	1,761	2,201	6,366 19,853
Total non-residential building	86,351	109,290	60,253	60,687	9,050	2,7 01	(5,0,7)
Total	134,125	138,430	79,117	83,960	14,271	5,156	22,383
		TOT	AL				
New houses	114,085	98.841	62,576	83,941	13,391	9,736	9,563
New other residential buildings	73,645	45,958	29,875	46,279	820	3,095	5,244
Total new residential building	187,730	144,800	92,451	130,220	14,211	12,831	14,807
Alterations and additions to							
residential buildings	29,958	27.426	17,671	14,901	2,365	1,815	1,493
Hotels, etc.	25,584	38,821	37.160	23,775	1,395	_	_
Shops	39,624	18,845	10,459	65,286	1,012	1,572	2,062
Factories	15,646	5,036	2,913	16,536		1,786	286
Offices	9,727	26,715	12,099	24,010	917	189	718
Other business premises	12,844	33,984	17,045	17,365	1.873	1,359	1,516
Educational	32,907	31,293	11,271	20,634	5.391	50	12,699
Religious	· <u> </u>	2,969	2,851	180		180	_
Health	2,658	4,643	3,878	2,568	692	373	_
Entertainment and recreational	5,552	21,767	15,583	2,703	120	_	55
Miscellaneous	39,955	37,972	27,464	13,442	1,761	2,281	6,366
Total non-residential building	184,496	222,043	140,723	186,500	13,161	7, 790	23,702
Total	402,184	394,269	250,845	331,620	29,737	22,435	40,002
	·						

⁽a) Buildings for Aboriginal Communities are included in the Private Sector. However, if the building is owned by a Community Government Council it will be included in the Public Sector.

TABLE 4. BUILDING APPROVED (a) IN SELECTED AREAS, FEBRUARY 1997

			Nev	v residentia	al building	(b)			. 414		
	Houses				Other residential buildings				Alterations and		
	Private sector		Public sector		Private sector		Public sector		additions to	Nan-	7/
Selected statistical areas	Number	Value (\$'000)	Number	Value (\$`000)	Number	Value (\$ '000)	Number	Value (\$'000)	residential buildings (\$ 000)	residential building (\$1000)	Total building (\$'000)
Darwin City (SSD)	11	1,613			4	522	_	_	572	11,564	14,271
Palmerston-East Arm (SSD)	22	2,544	3	457	33	2,549			114	588	6,252
Darwin (SD)	33	4,157	3	457	37	3,071	_	_	685	12,152	20,523
Alice Springs (T)	4	245		_	18	1,638			262	416	2,561
Katherine (T)	4	523	10	1.862		_	_	_		435	2,819
Tennant Creek (T)	_					_	_	_		316	316
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	6	842	_	_			_	_	134	10,266	11,242
Remainder of Balance (SD)	12	1,478		_	3	535		_	412	118	2,542
Northern Territory Balance (SD)	26	3,087	10	1,862	21	2,173		_	808	11,550	19,480
Northern Territory	59	7,245	13	2,318	58	5,244	_	_	1,493	23,702	40,002

⁽a) Buildings for Abonginal Communities are included in the Private Sector. However, if the building is owned by a Community Government Council it will be included in the Public Sector. (b) Excludes Conversions, etc.

TABLE 5. NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES (a) APPROVED BY MATERIAL OF OUTER WALLS IN SELECTED AREAS FEBRUARY 1997

	Material of outer walls										
Selected statistical areas	Double brick(b)	Brick veneer	Fibre cement	Timber	Metal clad and other	Not stated	Total				
Darwin (SD)	28	_	_	-	7	1	36				
Alice Springs (T)	1	1	2	_	_	_	4				
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	3	_		_	3		6				
Northern Territory	33	2	12	_	24	1	72				

⁽a) Excludes Conversions, etc. (b) Includes houses constructed with outer walls of stone or concrete.

TABLE 6. VALUE OF BUILDING APPROVED AT AVERAGE 1989-90 PRICES (a) (\$ million)

 				(э пипо	<u>1) </u>				
		New residentia	al building		Alterations and — additions to residential buildings	Non-residen halding		Total building	
	Houses		Other	Total					Total
Period	Private sector	Total	residential buildings			Private sector	Total	Private sector	
1993-94	70.1	94.1	36.7	130.7	14.3	64.1	149.0	184.6	294.0
1994-95	65.9	88.3	64.9	153.2	23.1	90.3	169.9	230.4	346.1
1995-96	61.9	73.4	39.5	112.9	20.3	101.7	200.6	214.5	333.8
1995—									
Sept. qtr.	15.9	20.9	14.0	34.9	5.5	11.7	39.5	47.1	80.0
Dec. qtr.	16.0	17.1	8.2	25.3	5.6	22.7	40.3	50.1	71.2
1996									
Mar. qtr.	11.2	16.2	4.7	20.9	4.9	41.7	59.0	61.0	84.8
June qtr.	18.8	19.2	12.5	31.8	4.3	25.6	61.8	56.3	97.8
Sept. qtr.	15.9	19.6	16.9	36.6	3.4	59.3	82.3	95.8	122.3
Dec. qtr.	19,4	27.0	15.3	42.3	4.9	45.5	56.7	84.1	103.9

⁽a) See paragraphs 16-18 of the Explanatory Notes. Constant price estimates are subject to revision each quarter as more up to date information on prices and commodity compositions becomes available.

TABLE 7. NEW DWELLING UNITS (a) APPROVED IN SELECTED AREAS, BY TYPE FEBRUARY 1997

		New other residential building								
Selected	-		iched, row or ter lownhouses, etc.		Flats, u	mits or apartm	ents in a buildin	g of	Total	Total new residential building
statistical area	New houses	1 storey	2 or more storeys	Total	1-2 storeys	3 storeys	4 or more storeys	Total		
			NU	MBER OF I	WELLING UI	NITS	·			
Darwin City (SSD)	11	4		4					4	15
Palmerston-East	3.0			۰		۸,		94		
Am (SSD)	25	8			4	21	•	25	33	58
Darwin (SD)	36	12	_	12	4	21	_	25	37	73
Alice Springs (T)	4	14	_	14	4			4	18	22
Katherine (T)	14									14
Tennant Creek (T)					_	_		_	_	
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	6	_	_	_		_				6
Remainder of	Ť									*
Balance (SD)	12	_	3	3		_			3	15
Northern Territory										
Baiance (SD)	36	14	3	17	4	_	_	4	21	5 7
Northern Territory	72	26	3	29	8	21		29	58	130
				VALU	E (\$,000)			ė		
Darwin City (SSD) Palmerston-East	1,613	522	_	522	_				522	2,135
Arm (SSD)	3,001	480		480	289	1,780	_	2,069	2,549	5,550
Darwin (SD)	4,614	1,002	_	1,002	289	1,780	_	2,069	3,071	7,685
54. 174. (55)	.,	1,002		1,002	203	2,700		2,000	2,47.2	-,,,,,,
Alice Springs (T)	245	1,338		1,338	300		_	300	1,638	1,883
Katherine (T)	2.384			_			_	_	_	2,384
Tennant Creek (T)	_		_	_	_		_	•		_
Darwin Rural Areas (SSD)	842	_					_	_	_	842
Remainder of Balance (SD)	1,478	_	535	535		_	_	_	535	2,013
Northern Territory	4.0.40							100		
Balance (SD)	4,949	1,338	535	1,873	300	_		300	2,173	7,122
Northern Territory	9,563	2,340	535	2,875	589	1,780		2,369	5,244	14,807

⁽a) Excludes Conversions, etc.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains monthly details of building work approved.

2. For purposes of comparison, it should be noted that statistics of building approvals are affected from month to month by large projects (e.g. blocks of flats, multi-storey office buildings) approved in particular months and also by the administrative arrangements of government authorities.

Scope and Coverage

- 3. Statistics of building work approved are compiled from:
 - (a) permits issued by licensed Private Building Certifiers or the Building Branch, Northern Territory Department of Lands, Planning and Environment, in areas subject to building control by those authorities;
 - (b) contracts let or day labour work authorised by Commonwealth, State, semi-government and local government authorities;
 - (c) major building activity which takes place in areas not subject to the normal administrative approval processes (e.g. buildings on remote mine sites).
- 4. The statistics relate to building activity which includes construction of new buildings, and alterations and additions to existing buildings. Construction activity not defined as building (e.g. construction of roads, bridges, railways, earthworks etc.) is excluded from this publication, but can be found in the ABS publication Engineering Construction Survey (8762.0).
- 5. In relation to work carried out on existing buildings, the statistics include details of non-structural renovation and refurbishment work and the installation of integral building fixtures for which building approval was obtained.
- 6. From July 1990, the statistics cover:
 - (a) all approved new residential building jobs valued at \$10,000 or more (previously \$5,000 or more)
 - approved alterations and additions to residential buildings valued at \$10,000 or more
 - (c) all approved non-residential building jobs valued at \$50,000 or more (previously \$30,000 or more).

These changes in coverage do not have a statistically significant effect on broad building approvals aggregate data. However, care should be taken in interpreting data for specific classes of non-residential building.

Definitions

- 7. A building is defined as a rigid, fixed and permanent structure which has a roof. Its intended purpose is primarily to house people, plant, machinery, vehicles, goods or livestock. An integral feature of a building's design, to satisfy its intended use, is the provision for regular access by persons.
- 8. A dwelling unit is defined as a self-contained suite of rooms, including cooking and bathing facilities and intended for long term residential use. Units (whether self-contained or not) within buildings offering institutional care such as hospitals or temporary accommodation, such as motels, hostels and holiday apartments are not defined as dwelling units. The value of units of this type is included in the appropriate category of non-residential buildings' approved.

- 9. A residential building is defined as a building predominantly consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either houses or other residential buildings.
 - (a) A house is defined as a detached building predominantly used for long term residential purposes and consisting of only one dwelling unit. Thus detached granny flats and detached dwelling units such as caretaker's residences associated with non-residential buildings are defined as houses for the purpose of these statistics.
 - (b) An other residential building is defined as a building which is predominantly used for long term residential purposes and which contains (or has attached to it) more than one dwelling unit (e.g. includes townhouses, duplexes, apartment buildings etc.).
- 10. From the January 1995 issue of this publication, the number of dwelling units approved as part of alterations and additions to or conversions of existing residential or non-residential buildings and as part of the construction of non-residential building is shown separately in Tables 1 under the heading of 'Conversions, etc.', and is included in the total number of dwelling units shown in these tables. Previously, such dwellings were only included as a footnote.
- 11. In addition, from the January 1995 issue, the trend estimates for the number of dwelling units approved, shown in Table 1, includes these conversions, etc. Previously, only dwelling units approved as part of the construction of new residential buildings were included in these estimates.
- 12. The value of new residential building approved continues to exclude the value of dwelling units approved as part of alterations and additions to or conversions of existing residential or non-residential buildings and as part of the construction of non-residential building. Approved building work represented by these conversions, etc. jobs continues to be included in the value of alterations and additions to residential buildings or in the value of non-residential building as appropriate.
- 13. Value data are derived by aggregation of the estimated value (when completed) of building work (excluding value of land and landscaping but including site preparation) as reported on approval documents. For 'houses', these estimates are usually a reliable indicator of the completed value of the building. However, for 'other residential buildings' and 'non-residential buildings' these estimates can differ significantly from the completed value of the building.

Building Classification

- 14. Ownership of a building is classified as either Public Sector or Private Sector according to the sector of the intended owner of the completed building as evident at the time of approval. Residential buildings being constructed by private sector builders under government housing authority schemes whereby the authority has contracted, or intends to contract, to purchase the buildings on or before completion, are classified as public sector.
- 15. Functional classification of buildings: a building is classified according to its intended major function. Hence a building which is ancillary to other buildings or forms a part of a group of related buildings is classified to the function of the building and not to the function of the group as a whole. An example of this can be seen in the treatment of building work approved for a factory complex. In this case a detached administration building would be classified to Offices, a detached cafeteria building to Shops, while factory buildings

would be classified to Factories. An exception to this rule is the treatment of group accommodation buildings e.g. a student accommodation building on a university campus would be classified to Educational.

Estimates at Constant Prices

- 16. Estimates of the quarterly value of building approvals at average 1989–90 prices are presented in Table 6. (Note: monthly value data at constant prices are not available.)
- 17. Constant price estimates measure changes in value after the direct effects of price changes have been eliminated. The deflators used to revalue the current price estimates are derived from the same price data underlying the deflators compiled for the dwelling and non-dwelling construction components of the national accounts aggregate 'Gross fixed capital expenditure'.
- 18. Estimates at constant prices are subject to a number of approximations and assumptions. Further information on the nature and concepts of constant price estimates is contained in Chapter 4 of Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods (5216.0).

Trend Estimates

- 19. Table 1 shows trend estimates for total dwellings. These are obtained by applying a 13-term Henderson-weighted moving average to all months of the respective seasonally adjusted series except the last six months. Trend series are created for the last six months by applying surrogates of the Henderson moving average to the seasonally adjusted time series. For further information, see A Guide to Interpreting Time Series Monitoring 'Trends': an Overview (1348.0).
- 20. While the smoothing technique described in paragraph 19 enables trend estimates to be produced for the latest few months, it does result in revisions to the trend estimates as new data become available. Generally, revisions become smaller over time and, after three months, usually have a negligible impact on the series. Revisions to the original data and re-analysis of seasonal factors may also lead to revisions to the trend.

Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)

21. Area statistics are now being classified to the Australian Standard Geographical Classification, 1996 Edition (1216.0), effective from 1 July 1996, and ASGC terminology has been adopted in the presentation of building statistics.

Further details are:

- (a) The boundaries of the Statistical Local Areas (SLAs) of Alice Springs (T) and Sandover – Balance were amended by the transfer of part of Sandover – Balance to Alice Springs (T).
- (b) The boundaries of the SLAs of Katherine (T) and Elsey – Balance were amended by the transfer of part of Katherine (T) to Elsey – Balance.
- (c) The LGA/SLA of Alice Springs (T) has been split into five SLAs. These new SLAs are: Alice Springs (T) Charles, Alice Springs (T) Heavitree, Alice Springs (T) Larapinta, Alice Springs (T) Ross, Alice Springs (T) Stuart.

Unpublished Data and Related Publications

- 22. The ABS can also make available certain building approvals data which are not published. Where it is not practicable to provide the required information by telephone, data can be provided in the following forms: microfiche, photocopy, computer printout and clerically extracted tabulation. A charge may be made for providing unpublished information in these forms.
- 23. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

Building Approvals, Australia (8731.0) – issued monthly Building Activity, Australia: Dwelling Unit Commencements, Preliminary (8750.0) – issued quarterly Building Activity, Northern Territory (8752.7) - issued quarterly

24. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications and Products. Australia (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a Release Advice (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and Other Usages

SD Statistical Division SSD Statistical Subdivision

(T) town

nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)
 figure or series revised since previous issue

25. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

ZIA ABBASI Regional Director

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