



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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**Government announces senior level appointments**

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The Government announced today (Tuesday) a series of appointments at senior levels of the Administration.

Mr Joseph Wong will be appointed Secretary for Education and Manpower in September 1995. He will succeed Mr Michael Leung who will proceed on pre-retirement leave on September 1, 1995.

Mr Kwong Hon-sang will be appointed Secretary for Works in October 1995 following the departure of Mr James Blake on end of agreement leave.

Mr Chau Tak-hay will be appointed Secretary for Recreation and Culture in November 1995 upon the retirement of Mr James So.

Miss Denise Yue will be appointed Secretary for Trade and Industry and will take over from Mr Chau Tak-hay in November 1995.

Mrs Regina Ip will take over from Miss Denise Yue as Director-General of Industry.

Mrs Shelley Lau will take over from Mr Joseph Wong as Director of Home Affairs.

Brief biographical notes on these officers are as follows:-

**Mr Michael LEUNG Man-kin, CBE, JP**

Aged 56. Mr Leung joined the Administrative Service in 1965 and rose to his present rank of Secretary, Government Secretariat in 1988. During the early years of his career, he held appointments in Home Affairs Department and Finance Branch. He was Deputy Director of Home Affairs from 1978 to 1980 and Deputy Director of Education from 1980 to 1984. He served as Director of Education from 1984 to 1987 and Secretary for Transport from 1987 to 1993. He took up the present post of Secretary for Education and Manpower in June 1993.

Mr Joseph WONG Wing-ping, JP

Aged 46. Mr Wong joined the Administrative Service in 1973 and rose to his present rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade A in 1994. He served in a number of departments and branches, including Finance Branch, the former New Territories Administration, the former UMELCO and Trade Department. He was Deputy Secretary for the Civil Service from 1988 to 1989, Deputy Secretary for Trade and Industry from 1989 to 1991 and Permanent Representative of Hong Kong to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva from 1991 to 1994. He took up the present post of Director of Home Affairs in November 1994.

Mr James BLAKE, JP

Aged 61. Mr Blake was appointed to the Administrative Service as Secretary for Works in September 1991. Before joining the Hong Kong Government, Mr Blake has worked in Hong Kong for 27 years, involved in engineering consultancy, supervision, and as a contractor for a number of major infrastructure projects. A Chartered Engineer with a strong commercial background, Mr Blake is a Past President of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers.

Mr KWONG Hon-sang, JP

Aged 56. Mr Kwong joined the Civil Service as an Apprentice Engineer in 1963. He was promoted to Chief Engineer in 1981, Government Engineer in 1988 and Principal Government Engineer in 1992. He served as Project Manager, Tsuen Wan from 1991-1992 and was appointed Project Director, Lantau Fixed Crossing from 1992-1993. He was promoted to the present rank of Director of Highways in December 1993.

Mr James SO Yiu-cho, OBE, JP

Aged 55. Mr So joined the Civil Service in 1962 and was appointed to the Administrative Service in 1966. He rose to his present rank of Secretary, Government Secretariat in 1993. Mr So served in a number of branches and departments, including the former Resettlement Department, Home Affairs Department, Urban Services Department, Home Affairs Branch, Civil Service Branch and Transport Department. He served temporarily as Secretary of the former Administrative Services and Information Branch from 1986 to 1987. He was Commissioner for Transport from 1987 to 1989 and Director of Urban Services from 1989 to 1991. He took up the present post of Secretary for Recreation and Culture in June 1991.

Mr CHAU Tak-hay, CBE, JP

Aged 52. Mr Chau joined the Civil Service in 1967 and was transferred to the Administrative Service in 1982 as Administrative Officer Staff Grade B. Through a series of promotions, he rose to his present rank of Secretary, Government Secretariat in 1993. The early years of his career were spent in the former Trade, Industry and Customs Department, rising to the rank of Deputy Commissioner in 1979. He served in Geneva as Counsellor (Hong Kong Affairs) from 1979 to 1984. On return from Geneva, he served as Deputy Secretary for Health and Welfare from 1984 to 1985 and Deputy Regional Secretary (Hong Kong and Kowloon) in the former City and New Territories Administration from 1985 to 1986, when he was appointed Regional Secretary (Hong Kong and Kowloon). He served as Secretary for Health and Welfare from 1988 to 1990 and was appointed Director-General of Trade from 1990 to 1991. He took up the present post of Secretary for Trade and Industry in May 1991.

Miss Denise YUE Chung-ye, JP

Aged 42. Miss Yue joined the Administrative Service in 1974 and rose to her present rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade A in 1994. She served in a number of branches and departments, including Home Affairs Department, Finance Branch, the former New Territories Administration, the Chief Secretary's Office, Urban Services Department and Education and Manpower Branch. She was Deputy Director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York from 1985 to 1987, when she was sent to Harvard University on a one-year training programme. On return, she served as Principal Assistant Financial Secretary in Finance Branch from 1988 to 1991, Deputy Director of Regional Services from 1991 to 1992 and Deputy Secretary for Trade and Industry from 1992 to 1993. She took up the present post of Director-General of Industry in May 1993.

Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, JP

Aged 44. Mrs Ip joined the Administrative Service in 1975 and rose to her present rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 in 1994. During the early years of her career, she held appointments in Civil Service Branch, Home Affairs Department, the former New Territories Administration and Security Branch. She attended the Sloan Programme at the Stanford University in 1986-87. On return, she served as Assistant Director-General of Trade from 1987 to 1990 and Deputy Director of Administration from 1990 to 1993. She took up the present post of Deputy Secretary for Trade and Industry in May 1993.

Mrs Shelley LAU LEE Lai-kuen, JP

Aged 45. Mrs Lau joined the Civil Service in 1971 and was appointed to the Administrative Service in 1972. Through a series of promotions, she rose to her present rank of Administrative Officer Staff Grade B1 in 1995. She served in a number of branches and departments, including Home Affairs Department, the former UMELCO, Government House, the former New Territories Administration, Finance Branch and Civil Service Branch. She attended an overseas training programme in Harvard from 1984 to 1985. She served as Deputy Secretary-General of the former OMELCO from 1986 to 1989, Commissioner for Recreation and Culture from 1989 to 1991 and Secretary-General of the former OMELCO from 1991 to 1993. She took up the present post of Deputy Secretary for Health and Welfare in February 1993.

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Attention News Editors:-

Arrangements have been made for the media to meet the government officials today (Tuesday) following the announcement of the appointments.

| <u>Government Official</u>   | <u>Time</u> | <u>Venue</u>   |
|--|-------------|--|
| Miss Denise Yue,<br>Director-General of<br>Industry                                      | 2 pm        | Industry Department Conference<br>Room, 14/F, Ocean Centre,<br>5 Canton Road,<br>Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon.     |
| Mr James Blake,<br>Secretary for Works<br>and Mr Kwong Hon-sang,<br>Director of Highways | 3.15 pm     | 19/F, Murray Building,<br>Garden Road, Central,<br>Hong Kong   |
| Mr Michael Leung,<br>Secretary for Education<br>and Manpower                             | 4 pm        | Room 933, Central Government<br>Office (West Wing), Ice House<br>Street, Central, Hong Kong.                 |
| Mrs Regina Ip, Deputy<br>Secretary for Trade and<br>Industry                             | 4.30 pm     | Room 149, Central Government<br>Offices (East Wing).   |
| Mr Joseph Wong,<br>Director of Home Affairs  | 5.15 pm     | Home Affairs Branch Conference<br>Room, 31/F, Southorn Centre,<br>130 Hennessy Road,<br>Wan Chai, Hong Kong. |

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

SEM Mr Michael Leung retires in September

\* \* \* \* \*

The Government announced today (Tuesday) that it had accepted an application from Mr Michael Leung, Secretary for Education and Manpower to begin his pre-retirement leave in September this year.

"We will be very sorry to see Michael go," said the Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, today commenting on the news.

"Michael has served this community very ably and with dedication for 30 years, since joining the Administrative Service in 1965," she added. "He has decided to exercise his option to retire and we must respect that decision."

Mr Leung is 56. He is on the New Pension Scheme and therefore has an option to retire at any time between the age of 55 and 60. He has been Secretary for Transport since February 1987, and Secretary for Education and Manpower since June 1993.

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Governor on retirement of Mr Michael Leung

\* \* \* \* \*

The following is issued by the Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten:

"Mr Michael Leung is an outstandingly able public servant and he will be missed by both his colleagues and the community he has served so well for the last 30 years.

"During his career, Michael has handled many difficult problems with great skill and sensitivity and I have particularly valued his advice on the very complex issues relating to retirement protection.

"I wish him well in his retirement."

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Mr T H Chau welcomes appointment

\* \* \* \* \*

Commenting on his appointment as Secretary for Recreation and Culture in November this year, Mr T H Chau said today (Tuesday) that he very much welcomed the change as well as the challenges which his new assignment would bring.

Mr Chau is at present in Geneva on official business related to the World Trade Organisation.

"November is an appropriate time for the change. By then, I will have participated in this year's three Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Ministerial Meetings, scheduled to be held in September in Adelaide, Australia, in October in Beijing and in November in Osaka," Mr Chau said.

"These meetings, culminating in the 1995 APEC Economic Leaders Meeting to be held in November in Osaka and at which Hong Kong will be represented by our new Financial Secretary, Mr Donald Tsang, will bring to a close this year's APEC activities, which are of great importance to Hong Kong," Mr Chau added.

"I have spent a most interesting, exciting and rewarding four years as Secretary for Trade and Industry. I greatly look forward to taking up my new responsibilities in November and to an equally rewarding involvement in the cultural life of the people of Hong Kong," Mr Chau commented.

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Disability Discrimination Bill approved

\* \* \* \* \*

The Governor-in-Council has approved the Disability Discrimination Bill which is scheduled to be introduced into the Legislative Council on May 3.

Speaking at a press conference this (Tuesday) afternoon, the acting Secretary for Health and Welfare, Mr Bob Wilson, said this marked another important milestone in working towards the Government's objective of integrating people with a disability into the community.

"The Bill which was approved today is the culmination of extensive consultation locally, of research of the relevant experience overseas, and of careful drafting work," he said.

"It will give people with a disability, their families and those who care for them a comprehensive system of redress in areas of life in which they may face discrimination, harassment or vilification.

"These include: employment; education; transport; access to buildings and services; and participation in partnerships, professional organisations, clubs, and sports."

Mr Wilson stressed that the Bill would not nevertheless require employers to hire a certain quota of people with a disability; nor would it require all existing buildings, ferries, and buses to provide improved access and certain levels of service.

He said: "It will not place unreasonable demands on employers, service providers or property owners. But it will make it unlawful for anybody to treat a person with a disability less favourably than others on account of their disability.

"We have sought to strike a balance," he added.

Buildings and services will need progressively to be adapted to facilitate their use by people with a disability over time, but with immediate effect it will become unlawful, for example, to harass or otherwise unfairly treat people with a disability on account of their disability.

The Bill provides for two main defences against complaints of discrimination.

The first is "unjustifiable hardship" which means a developer, landlord or transport service operator could defeat a claim of discrimination by proving that it would cause them "unjustifiable hardship" to make special arrangements to meet the needs of a person with a disability.

"For example, a bus company could argue that it would cause unjustifiable hardship to change its bus fleet overnight to accommodate wheelchair bound passengers," said Mr Wilson.

The second defence is "genuine occupational qualification" which means where a person with a disability could not meet the requirements of a particular position, because of their disability, the employer would not be breaking the law in not hiring him or her.

The enforcement of the provisions of the Bill, Mr Wilson said, would be carried out by the courts and the Equal Opportunities Commission which was going to be set up under the Sex Discrimination Bill.

The Commission will receive and investigate complaints of discrimination, most of which are likely to be settled through conciliation. Where this fails, complainants can take their cases to the courts.

The Commission will also issue Codes of Practice so that all parties involved will have practical guidelines to follow regarding how they are expected to behave in any given sector.

In drafting these codes, the Commission will consult groups representing people with a disability and the sector concerned.

A special District Court will be set up to deal with cases under the Disability Discrimination Bill and the Sex Discrimination Bill.

Mr Wilson said although the Government was spending \$34 million between 1993-94 and 1996-97 on activities to promote a more positive attitude towards people with a disability, it was clear that not all the Government wished to achieve could be achieved by persuasion and education alone.

"That is why in July last year we recognised we would need to do more and we announced our intention to draft disability discrimination legislation.

"Hong Kong can be proud to join the growing ranks of places in the world where people with a disability have a powerful weapon - the law - to protect them against discrimination and to fight for equal opportunities.

"It is going to make a very real difference to their lives. And I look to the community to respond positively to this new and exciting challenge," he added.

Concluding, Mr Wilson called on the press to help change public attitudes towards people with a disability in the community.

He noted that in an ideal world the Disability Discrimination Bill should not be needed.

"But in the real world in which we live, it is a necessary and useful tool which people with a disability can use to obtain the fair deal they deserve," he said.

### Unauthorised building works problem recognised

\* \* \* \* \*

The acting Director of Buildings, Mr Cheng Wei-dart, today (Tuesday) welcomed the recognition by the Commissioner for Administrative Complaints (COMAC) that the problem of unauthorised building works (UBW) is "complex and difficult".

Responding to a report on unauthorised building works released by COMAC, Mr Cheng said the Buildings Department would study carefully all recommendations in the report, and follow them up as necessary.

Noting COMAC's view that the Government's policy of prioritised enforcement was "inherently unfair and inconsistent", he felt this was over simplifying a long-standing problem.

"Given that the nature of the problem is so complex, the scale so big and the resources are not unlimited, some form of prioritisation is necessary.

"Our enforcement policy is aimed first at protecting public safety and second at containing and reducing the size of the problem," said Mr Cheng.

He pointed out that, since the current policy was introduced in 1988 - after extensive public consultation, the policy had been working satisfactorily in containing the problem.

This was reflected by the following performance indicators:

- \* About 140,000 UBW of all types had been cleared and the Buildings Department is maintaining the momentum at a vigorous rate of clearing 20,000 items a year.
- \* The figure of compliance with demolition orders had tripled from about 2,200 to 6,400 during the same period.
- \* Notwithstanding the increase in population and buildings over these years, the policy had maintained its deterrent effect. This was reflected in the number of complaints made to the Buildings Department being remained at a steady level of 7,000 a year.
- \* The number of inspections made by Buildings Department staff had almost doubled, from 11,000 in 1988 to 21,000 in 1994.

The Director of Buildings cautioned that it would be impossible to remove all unauthorised building works in a specified time frame as there were currently 60,000 private buildings, many of which had been altered and added to without approval. Moreover, the problem was not static as on average, about 500 new buildings came on stream each year.

However, Mr Cheng said the present situation represented a significant improvement over that before the new policy was introduced and he was confident that the problem was being contained and gradually reduced.

Commenting on the time frame and procedure in tackling the High Priority UBW, Mr Cheng noted that on average, most unauthorised building works were removed within six months.

He also noted that the UBW procedures were under constant review and in the light of last year's review, the following improvements had been made:

- \* The procedures had been revised, resulting in better co-ordination among Government departments in respect of rooftop residents requiring rehousing or other assistance.
- \* The necessary deterrent effect had been further strengthened by more rigorous prosecution and disciplinary action against offenders.
- \* Greater efforts were being made in educating the public about the importance of building safety. These include a major publicity campaign in the year on the subject and better liaison with the Law Society, the Consumer Council, District Boards and local communities in the dissemination of such information.

In addition, Mr Cheng said: "a proposal to raise fines for unauthorised building works three times present levels is also being considered.

"All these measures show that we are sparing no efforts in refining the present policy in order to make it work better in the light of the changing circumstances. Where practicable, we will consider adopting those recommendations in the report that would further improve our policy," Mr Cheng said.

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#### 1.4 million employees' information for voter registration in new FCs received

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Information on some 1.4 million employees for registration as voters in the nine new functional constituencies of the Legislative Council was received by the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) as at end of last week, the Secretary for Constitutional Affairs, Mr Nicholas Ng, said today (Tuesday).

Speaking at a Lions Club of South Kowloon luncheon meeting, Mr Ng said these returns, which covered the employees' names and identity card numbers, were provided by close to 170,000 employers in response to the REO's request for information.

Mr Ng urged those who had not responded to the REO's request to reply as soon as possible so that all eligible people could cast their vote in the Legislative Council elections on September 17.

"Since late last month, staff of the Home Affairs Department have been conducting follow-up visits to collect employees' information from those employers who have not yet responded," he said.

For the 1.4 million employee records received, a preliminary estimate was that about half of the employees included in the employers' returns were general electors on the General Electoral Roll (GER), Mr Ng said.

"The REO is issuing letters to these people informing them the functional constituency they belong to according to their employer's main line of business.

"Until last weekend some 420,000 such letters have been sent and these employees will be registered as voters in the relevant new functional constituency if they raise no objection," he said.

"For the remaining employees who are not yet on the GER, government staff will approach them at their workplaces to facilitate their registration in both the GER and a relevant new functional constituency."

Mr Ng added that residents could also get a voter registration form from any of the 1,500 outlets throughout the territory to get themselves registered before June 1 for the Legislative Council elections.

"These outlets include banks, post offices and a number of Government department offices," he said.

As for the registration of general electors, Mr Ng said a large-scale voter registration drive would be held at the same time.

"Home Affairs Department staff will pay household visits to new housing estates and set up mobile counters at vantage points in various districts to register eligible electors and to update change of addresses," he said.

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#### Regulations on voter registration appeal procedures to be gazetted

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Two sets of regulations to make technical changes to the appeal procedures in respect of the registration of electors will be gazetted on Thursday (April 13), a Government spokesman announced today (Tuesday).

They are the Legislative Council (Electoral Provisions) (Registration of Electors) (Functional Constituencies and Election Committee Constituency)(Appeals) Regulation and the Electoral Provisions (Registration of Electors)(Geographical Constituencies)(Appeals)(Amendment) Regulation 1995.

"The regulations make technical changes to the procedures for lodging an appeal to the Revising Officer against a decision of the Registration Officer in respect of voter registration in both the geographical and functional constituencies," the spokesman said.

"Similar appeal procedures are also provided for the registration of electors in the new Election Committee."

The spokesman explained that the changes were to tie in with the new voter registration cycle this year, adding that the deadline for registration would be June 1.

The regulations are expected to be introduced into the Legislative Council on April 19 this year.

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### APEC Finance Ministers Meeting

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The Secretary for the Treasury, Mr K C Kwong, will lead a Hong Kong delegation to take part in the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Finance Ministers Meeting in Indonesia on April 15 and 16.

Ministers of the 18 APEC member economies will attend the conference which will be held at the Grand Bali Beach Hotel.

The major issues to be discussed will include the recent economic developments in APEC member economies, issues associated with capital movements among member economies, effects of exchange rate movements on trade and investment in the region, and resource mobilisation for financing infrastructure development.

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

### Volume and price movements of external trade in January 1995

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The volume of re-exports in January 1995 increased by 22% over January 1994, while the volume of domestic exports increased by 16%, according to the statistics released today (Tuesday) by the Census and Statistics Department.

Taking re-exports and domestic exports together, the volume of total exports increased by 21%. Meanwhile, imports increased by 24% 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 re-exports and domestic exports increased by 2.9% and 2.0% respectively. Import prices increased by 5.4%.

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, decreased by 2.7% in January 1995 over January 1994.

Caution should be exercised in interpreting the changes in the volume of trade for a single month at the beginning of each year which may be affected by the timing of the Lunar New Year holidays. It is more meaningful to make comparisons over a longer period.

Comparing the three months ending January 1995 with the three months ending January 1994, the volume of domestic exports and re-exports increased by 4.5% and 15% respectively. The volume of imports grew by 18%.

The changes in the value, unit value and volume of re-exports by end-use category are shown in Table 1.

Comparing January 1995 with January 1994, the volume of re-exports of all end-use categories recorded increases of various magnitudes: fuels (+61%), foodstuffs (+57%), capital goods (+29%), raw materials and semi-manufactures (+22%), and consumer goods (+19%).

Over the same period of comparison, increases in the prices of re-exports were noted of all end-use categories: raw materials and semi-manufactures (+7.1%), fuels (+3.7%), foodstuffs (+2.7%), consumer goods (+1.4%) and capital goods (+0.6%).

The changes in the value, unit value and volume of domestic exports by principal commodity group are shown in Table 2.

Comparing January 1995 with January 1994, commodity groups which recorded increases in volume of domestic exports included metal ores and scrap (+50%); electronic components (+48%); and watches and clocks (+33%).

The volume of domestic exports of radios of all kinds and footwear decreased by 82% and 64% respectively.

Commodity groups which recorded increases in domestic export prices included textile made-ups and related articles (+16%); and metal ores and scrap (+4.9%).

The domestic export prices of travel goods, handbags and similar articles decreased by 3.1%.

The changes in the value, unit value and volume of imports by end-use category are shown in Table 3.

The import volume of foodstuffs increased by 46% in January 1995 compared with January 1994.

Significant increases were recorded in the import volume of soya bean oil, peanut oil, vegetable oil and lard; and sugar. However, decreases in the import volume were noted of animals of the bovine species, live; and swine, live.

Over the same period of comparison, the import volume of consumer goods increased by 18%.

Increases in import volume were recorded in all classes of consumer goods, especially in cameras, flashlight apparatus and supplies for photography; watches; miscellaneous made-up articles of textile materials; and radios, television-sets, gramophones, records, tape recorders and amplifiers.

The import volume of raw materials and semi-manufactures increased by 18% in January 1995 compared with January 1994.

Significant increases in import volume were noted of raw cotton; and wool and other animal hair. However, the import volume of silk fabrics; and paper and paperboard declined.

Imports of fuels increased by 141% in volume in January 1995 compared with January 1994.

As regards capital goods, the import volume increased by 37% in January 1995 over January 1994.

Notable increases were recorded in the import volume of transport equipment; and scientific, medical, optical, measuring and controlling instruments and apparatus. The import volume of textile machinery however declined.

Comparing January 1995 with January 1994, the import prices of most end-use categories increased: raw materials and semi-manufactures (+7.8%), foodstuffs (+5.0%), consumer goods (+4.6%), and capital goods (+3.6%). The import prices of fuels however decreased by 1.3%.

Details of the above statistics are published in the January 1995 issue of the "Hong Kong Trade Index Numbers".

The report will be available on sale at about Thursday at \$14 per copy at either the Government Publications Centre on the ground floor, Low Block, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway; or the Publications Section of the Census and Statistics Department on the 19th floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

Enquiries regarding regular subscription to this report may be directed to the Publications Sales Section of the Information Services Department at 28th floor, Siu On Centre, 188 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong on tel 2598 8194 and enquiries on trade indices to the Census and Statistics Department on tel 2582 4918.

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Table 1 : Changes in re-exports by end-use category

| End-use category                    | Comparing JAN 1995<br>with JAN 1994 |               |        |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------|
|                                     | % changes                           |               |        |
|                                     | Value                               | Unit<br>Value | Volume |
| Foodstuffs                          | 60.9                                | 2.7           | 56.9   |
| Consumer goods                      | 19.8                                | 1.4           | 18.9   |
| Raw materials and semi-manufactures | 30.3                                | 7.1           | 21.7   |
| Fuels                               | 66.3                                | 3.7           | 61.1   |
| Capital goods                       | 26.2                                | 0.6           | 28.7   |
| ALL COMMODITIES                     | 24.5                                | 2.9           | 22.2   |

Table 2 : Changes in domestic exports by principal commodity group

| Commodity group                             | Comparing JAN 1995<br>with JAN 1994 |            |        |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|--------|
|   | % changes                           |            |        |
|   | Value                               | Unit Value | Volume |
| Clothing                                    | 16.8                                | 1.2        | 15.9   |
| Textile fabrics                             | -1.7                                | 3.8        | -5.4   |
| Textile yarn and thread                     | 0.8                                 | -1.0       | 0.9    |
| Textile made-ups and related articles       | -14.5                               | 15.7       | -30.0  |
| Radios of all kinds                         | -82.9                               | -0.4       | -81.8  |
| Electronic components                       | 50.6                                | 4.2        | 48.4   |
| Footwear                                    | -63.2                               | -1.0       | -63.6  |
| Metal manufactures                          | 1.7                                 | -0.3       | 4.6    |
| Metal ores and scrap                        | 63.2                                | 4.9        | 49.8   |
| Watches and clocks                          | 37.4                                | 3.4        | 32.9   |
| Travel goods, handbags and similar articles | -0.8                                | -3.1       | 2.0    |
| Domestic electrical appliances              | -17.2                               | -1.9       | -16.5  |
| ALL COMMODITIES                             | 18.5                                | 2.0        | 16.3   |

Table 3 : Changes in imports by end-use category

| End-use category                    | Comparing JAN 1995<br>with JAN 1994 |               |        |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|--------|
|                                     | % changes                           |               |        |
|                                     | Value                               | Unit<br>Value | Volume |
| Foodstuffs                          | 53.2                                | 5.0           | 46.0   |
| Consumer goods                      | 23.1                                | 4.6           | 18.2   |
| Raw materials and semi-manufactures | 28.1                                | 7.8           | 18.5   |
| Fuels                               | 138.5                               | -1.3          | 141.0  |
| Capital goods                       | 42.0                                | 3.6           | 37.0   |
| ALL COMMODITIES                     | 30.6                                | 5.4           | 24.4   |

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

Quarterly business receipts indices for service industries for the fourth quarter and the whole year of 1994

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According to statistics released today (Tuesday) by the Census and Statistics Department, business receipts in the insurance industry in 1994 registered a strong growth of 24% in value terms when compared with a year ago. The increase was mainly attributable to the growth in general insurance business.

For 1994 as a whole, business receipts in the hotels industry increased by 16% in value terms over 1993. This was in line with the continued growth in tourist arrivals during the year.

Business receipts in the financing (except banking) and the communication industries also rose by 15% and 14%, respectively.

Meanwhile, increases in business receipts were also recorded in the following service industries : wholesale (+14%); import/export (+13%); retail (+12%); and transport (+10%).

Business receipts in the banking industry however grew moderately by 5%.

Comparing the fourth quarter of 1994 with the same quarter of 1993, business receipts in the insurance and the import/export industries registered a strong growth in value terms of 24% and 23%, respectively.

Marked increases in business receipts were also registered in the following service industries : wholesale (+18%); transport (+17%); and hotels (+16%).

Concurrently, business receipts in the banking industry also showed a sharp pick-up (+11%), after having registered a small decline in the preceding quarter.

On the other hand, business receipts in the financing (except banking) industry dropped markedly by 28%, reflecting the sluggish performance in the stock market. Business receipts in the business services and the restaurants industries also decreased by 7% and 4% respectively.

Compared with the third quarter of 1994, and bearing in mind that this comparison may be affected by the seasonal factor, a marked increase of 32% was recorded in the hotels industry in the fourth quarter.

Table 1 presents the provisional business receipts indices for the fourth quarter of 1994. Revised indices for the third quarter of 1994 are also included. The quarterly average of business receipts in 1992 was taken as 100.

Table 2 shows the time series of quarterly business receipts indices. Annual indices are also included.

Statistics on banking are obtained from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority; and those on retail and restaurants business are obtained from two existing surveys regularly conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

The report "Quarterly Business Receipts Indices for Service Industries, Fourth Quarter 1994" is now on sale at \$6 per copy at the Government Publications Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, Ground Floor, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong. It can also be purchased from the Publications Section of the Census and Statistics Department, 19th floor, Wanchai Tower, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Enquiries about the survey results may be directed to the Business Services Statistics Section of the Census and Statistics Department on 2802 1244.

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**Table 1 : Business receipts indices for 3rd and 4th quarter 1994**

表一：一九九四年第三季及第四季業務收益指數  
(Quarterly average of 1992 = 100)  
(一九九二年按季平均指數 = 100)

| Type of Service Industry<br>服務行業                   | 3rd Quarter<br>1994<br>一九九四年<br>第三季 | 4th Quarter<br>1994<br>一九九四年<br>第四季 | 4th Quarter 1994<br>compared with<br>3rd Quarter 1994<br>一九九四年第四季與<br>一九九四年第三季比較 |            | 4th Quarter 1994<br>compared with<br>4th Quarter 1993<br>一九九四年第四季與<br>上年同期比較 |            |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|------------|--|------------|
|  | (Revised<br>figures)<br>(修訂數字)      | (Provisional<br>figures)<br>(臨時數字)  | Points<br>(點)  | %<br>(百分率) | Points<br>(點)  | %<br>(百分率) |
| Wholesale 批發                                       | 129.2                               | 134.8                               | + 5.6  | + 4.3      | + 20.2   | + 17.7     |
| Import / Export 進出口貿易                              | 130.4                               | 141.7                               | + 11.4   | + 8.7      | + 26.6   | + 23.1     |
| Retail 零售 <sup>(1)</sup>                           | 128.8                               | 133.2                               | + 4.5  | + 3.5      | + 12.7   | + 10.6     |
| Hotels 酒店  | 120.2                               | 158.7                               | + 38.6   | + 32.1     | + 21.8   | + 15.9     |
| Restaurants 飲食店 <sup>(2)</sup>                     | 109.6                               | 111.1                               | + 1.5  | + 1.4      | - 4.4  | - 3.8      |
| Transport 運輸                                       | 134.2                               | 134.5                               | + 0.3  | + 0.3      | + 19.8   | + 17.3     |
| Storage 倉庫   | 114.8                               | 108.4                               | - 6.3  | - 5.5      | + 12.8   | + 13.4     |
| Communication 通訊                                   | 135.7                               | 148.3                               | + 12.6   | + 9.3      | + 17.4   | + 13.3     |
| Banking 銀行 <sup>(3)</sup>                          | 120.6                               | 137.0                               | + 16.4   | + 13.6     | + 13.5   | + 10.9     |
| Financing (except Banking) 金融(銀行除外) <sup>(4)</sup> | 157.9                               | 158.9                               | + 1.0  | + 0.6      | - 62.6   | - 28.3     |
| Insurance 保險                                       | 146.4                               | 152.5                               | + 6.1  | + 4.2      | + 30.0   | + 24.5     |
| Business services 商用服務                             | 130.8                               | 132.1                               | + 1.4  | + 1.0      | - 10.0   | - 7.0      |

## Notes 註釋:

- (1) Based on the survey results of the Monthly Survey of Retail Sales  
根據零售業銷售額按月統計調查的結果
- (2) Based on the survey results of the Quarterly Survey of Restaurant Receipts and Purchases  
根據飲食店收益及購貨按季統計調查的結果
- (3) Business receipts data are obtained from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority  
業務收益數據由香港金融管理局提供
- (4) Excluding investment and holding companies  
不包括投資及控股公司

**Table 2 : Time Series of Quarterly Business Receipts Indices for Service Industries**

表二：服務業按季業務收益指數的時間數列  
(Quarterly Average of 1992=100)  
(一九九二年按季平均指數 = 100)

| Year Quarter<br>年 季 | Wholesale<br>批發 |   | Import/Export<br>進出口貿易 |   | Retail<br>零售  |   | Hotels<br>酒店  |   | Restaurants<br>飲食店 |   | Transport<br>運輸 |   |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|------------------------|---|---------------|---|---------------|---|--------------------|---|-----------------|---|
|                     | Indices<br>指數   | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數          | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數 | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數 | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數      | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數   | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% |
| 1993                | 106.3           | + 6.3   | 108.8                  | + 8.8   | 112.7         | + 12.7  | 112.5         | + 12.5  | 106.1              | + 6.1   | 111.8           | + 11.8  |
| 1994 *              | 121.0           | + 13.8  | 123.4                  | + 13.4  | 126.1         | + 11.9  | 131.1         | + 16.5  | 110.0              | + 3.7   | 123.0           | + 10.0  |
| 1993 1              | 98.4            | N.A.  | 96.5                   | N.A.  | 104.7         | N.A.  | 101.2         | N.A.  | 99.2               | N.A.  | 101.6           | N.A.  |
| 2                   | 102.8           | N.A.  | 105.4                  | N.A.  | 107.5         | N.A.  | 105.1         | N.A.  | 98.3               | N.A.  | 109.6           | N.A.  |
| 3                   | 109.5           | N.A.  | 118.3                  | N.A.  | 118.1         | N.A.  | 106.8         | N.A.  | 111.5              | N.A.  | 121.2           | N.A.  |
| 4                   | 114.5           | N.A.  | 115.1                  | N.A.  | 120.5         | N.A.  | 137.0         | N.A.  | 115.5              | N.A.  | 114.7           | N.A.  |
| 1994 1              | 108.4           | + 10.2  | 108.0                  | + 12.0  | 123.4         | + 17.9  | 121.3         | + 19.9  | 114.3              | + 15.2  | 112.2           | + 10.4  |
| 2                   | 111.6           | + 8.5   | 113.5                  | + 7.8   | 119.1         | + 10.7  | 124.1         | + 18.0  | 105.1              | + 7.0   | 111.0           | + 1.3   |
| 3                   | 129.2           | + 17.9  | 130.4                  | + 10.2  | 128.8         | + 9.0   | 120.2         | + 12.5  | 109.6              | - 1.7   | 134.2           | + 10.7  |
| 4 *                 | 134.8           | + 17.7  | 141.7                  | + 23.1  | 133.2         | + 10.6  | 158.7         | + 15.9  | 111.1              | - 3.8   | 134.5           | + 17.3  |

| Year Quarter<br>年 季 | Storage<br>倉庫 |   | Communication<br>通訊 |   | Banking<br>銀行 |   | Financing (except Banking)<br>金融(銀行除外) |   | Insurance<br>保險 |   | Business Services<br>商用服務 |   |
|---------------------|---------------|---|---------------------|---|---------------|---|--|---|-----------------|---|---------------------------|---|
|                     | Indices<br>指數 | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數       | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數 | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數                          | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數   | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% | Indices<br>指數             | Compared with<br>preceding year/same<br>quarter a year ago<br>與上年/上年同季比較<br>% |
| 1993                | 98.5          | - 1.5   | 118.8               | + 18.8  | 116.6         | + 16.6  | 148.7                                  | + 48.7  | 119.3           | + 19.3  | 117.3                     | + 17.3  |
| 1994 *              | 106.1         | + 7.7   | 135.7               | + 14.2  | 122.5         | + 5.1   | 170.5                                  | + 14.7  | 147.8           | + 23.8  | 127.9                     | + 9.0   |
| 1993 1              | 105.1         | N.A.  | 107.4               | N.A.  | 109.3         | N.A.  | 109.3                                  | N.A.  | 115.0           | N.A.  | 93.9                      | N.A.  |
| 2                   | 92.4          | N.A.  | 115.6               | N.A.  | 111.5         | N.A.  | 117.0                                  | N.A.  | 118.0           | N.A.  | 111.9                     | N.A.  |
| 3                   | 101.0         | N.A.  | 121.4               | N.A.  | 121.9         | N.A.  | 146.8                                  | N.A.  | 121.7           | N.A.  | 121.2                     | N.A.  |
| 4                   | 95.6          | N.A.  | 130.9               | N.A.  | 123.5         | N.A.  | 221.5                                  | N.A.  | 122.5           | N.A.  | 142.1                     | N.A.  |
| 1994 1              | 95.1          | - 9.5   | 129.5               | + 20.6  | 116.9         | + 6.9   | 219.6                                  | + 101.0   | 150.2           | + 30.7  | 125.6                     | + 33.8  |
| 2                   | 106.1         | + 14.8  | 129.4               | + 11.9  | 115.4         | + 3.5   | 145.7                                  | + 24.5  | 141.9           | + 20.3  | 123.0                     | + 9.9   |
| 3                   | 114.8         | + 13.6  | 135.7               | + 11.8  | 120.6         | - 1.1   | 157.9                                  | + 7.6   | 146.4           | + 20.3  | 130.8                     | + 7.9   |
| 4 *                 | 108.4         | + 13.4  | 148.3               | + 13.3  | 137.0         | + 10.9  | 158.9                                  | - 28.3  | 152.5           | + 24.5  | 132.1                     | - 7.0   |

N.A. : Not available 沒有數字

\* : Provisional figure 臨時數字

Prosperity depends on port development

\* \* \* \* \*

The Chairman of the Hongkong Bank, Mr John Gray, said the development of Lantau Port was fundamental to the continued prosperity of Hong Kong.

Speaking as Chairman of the Port Development Board, Mr Gray said: "Building the port will bring enormous economic benefits, not only to Hong Kong, but to southern China as a whole. Failure to do so will lead to significant economic losses.

"It is plain that such a huge project will have some environmental effects. But, all these will be kept within the strict parameters laid down by the Government."

He added: "Any responsible person living in Hong Kong wants to protect the environment. But, we must carefully weigh possible effects on the environment against the enormous benefits the new port will bring."

Mr Gray was replying to a petition recently handed to him by Friends of the Earth and the World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong. The petition expressed concern about the environmental impact of the port development.

He pointed out that the Advisory Council on the Environment had endorsed plans for Container Terminals 10 and 11 (the first phase of Lantau Port) after studying the environmental impact assessment (EIA) on the project.

"Now, we must get on with bringing these two terminals into operation as soon as possible. They are urgently needed to cope with the continuing demand for increased container throughput.

"Hong Kong handled more than 11 million twenty-foot- equivalent units in 1994," he said. "That was a 20 per cent rise over 1993. And, so far as our container terminals are concerned, the first two months of this year show a 19 per cent rise over the same period last year.

"So, the pressure for new container facilities continues. The port remains the life-blood of Hong Kong, both for our workforce and for our economy as a whole."

He pointed out that in 1994, container handling alone added some \$214 billion to the local economy. Based on 1994 prices, forecasts produced by the Port Development Board, which take into account the development of China's own container ports, show that this will rise to \$384 billion in 2001 and \$633 billion in 2011.

Mr Gray said these benefits to the economy would come about only if the port continued to expand to meet the demand.

"China is developing its own container ports," he said, "but they alone will not be able to handle the huge growth in throughput forecast for the next few years.

"If we can continue to cope with demand then the chances are that we shall be able to continue to anchor our service industries here. If we fail, then they will surely follow the cargo."

The PDB Chairman pointed out that Lantau Port was not being built in isolation, it was part of the overall Port and Airport Development Strategy (PADS) which was first announced amid great publicity in 1989.

The PADS study recognised the need to develop all future cargo handling facilities required for port expansion away from urban and residential areas. Indeed, one of the prime objectives was to ensure that the plan for port development would both safeguard, and contribute to an improvement in, the quality of the physical and living environment in Hong Kong.

"Since then," he said, "the project has been continually refined and modified. Many of those modifications were made to further reduce possible effects on the environment."

He added: "A recent report in the press said that the Port Development Board was planning to 'increase the volume of freight cargo trucked through the territory from 20 million tonnes in 1996 to 70 million tonnes in 2011.' We are not planning anything of the kind.

"The Port Development Board's task is to advise the Government on what cargo demands will be in the future and on what port facilities will be needed to meet those demands. The demands will be there whether the facilities are built or not."

"There will be additional traffic as a result of port expansion, but this is being provided for in the planning of new road systems such as the Lantau Fixed Crossing and Route Three. We believe these will provide adequate transport facilities to cope with the opening of Lantau Port.

He continued: "We realise there will be some loss of fishing grounds at and in the vicinity of the development. I am aware that ways to replace these are being examined.

"I must emphasise," Mr Gray said, "that our port currently generates 20 per cent of Hong Kong's Gross Domestic Product. This will rise to 26 per cent by the year 2011, if the provision of port facilities keeps pace with demand."

"Between now and the second decade of the next century there is no alternative to building new port facilities in Hong Kong. The territory's continued prosperity and people's livelihood depend on the development."

"There is no doubt that a balance between development and sustaining the environment can be struck which enhances our economy to everyone's benefit here in Hong Kong."

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

#### HK to observe partial eclipse

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Weather permitting, a partial eclipse of the moon will be observable in Hong Kong after moonrise on Saturday (April 15).

Details of the eclipse are as follows:

|                      | Hong Kong<br>Time | Azimuth<br>Direction | Elevation<br>(Degrees) |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| Moon enters penumbra | 1808 (April 15)   | East                 | -6                     |
| Moonrise             | 1837              | East-southeast       | 0                      |
| Moon enters umbra    | 1941              | East-southeast       | 14                     |
| Middle of eclipse    | 2018              | East-southeast       | 22                     |
| Moon leaves umbra    | 2056              | East-southeast       | 29                     |
| Moon leaves penumbra | 2228              | Southeast            | 46                     |
| Moonset              | 0624 (April 16)   | West-southwest       | 0                      |

The eclipse would best be observed in places with no obstruction of sight to the East-southeast.

The magnitude of the eclipse will be 0.117. This means that 11.7 per cent of the moon's diameter will be obscured by the shadow of the earth at the middle of the eclipse.

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

### Work arrangements during rainstorms urged

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Prior agreement between employers and employees with regard to work arrangements and contingency measures in times of rainstorms is important to avoid unnecessary misunderstanding and disputes.

With the advent of the rainy season, Senior Labour Officer (Labour Relations Promotion) of the Labour Department, Mrs Bernadette Lai, today (Tuesday) reminded employers and employees to reach an agreement on work arrangements during inclement weather without delay.

"Statutory regulations of work arrangements in times of rainstorms would not be practicable because of the diversity in nature and requirements of job in various trades and industries.

"Therefore, employers are strongly advised to adopt a flexible approach in drawing up work arrangements during inclement weather. Due consideration should be given to employees' safety in workplace as well as their journey to and from work," she said.

The Labour Department has published a bilingual booklet entitled "Code of Practice in Times of Typhoons and Rainstorms" which serves as a reference guide to facilitate employers and employees to make early work arrangements for inclement weather.

Copies of the Code have been sent to 240 employer associations and 559 trade unions. This publication is also available at various Labour Relations Service offices throughout the territory.

"In addition, the message has also been delivered to the managing personnel through the regular personnel managers club meetings since this February," Mrs Lai said.

An agreement on work arrangements should normally cover rules regarding report of duty, release from work, resumption of work and wages calculation.

"The agreement should also state clearly the colour code of rainstorm under which employees are not required to work and the time of issue of such signals when they are not required to report for duty," Mrs Lai said.

Noting that some industries may require employees to work under the Black Rainstorm Warning, Mrs Lai said such a requirement should be clearly stated before the employment commences or sufficient notice should be given to the employees.

"The work arrangements should also include instructions regarding the release of employees when the Red or Black Rainstorm Warning is in force during working hours," she said.

"Employers and employees should also make prior agreements on conditions under which employees should return to work when rainstorm warnings are lowered during working hours."

However, employers are urged to adopt a flexible approach towards resumption of duty as some employees may have difficulties in returning to work.

"As rainstorms are natural calamities, due consideration should also be given to employees who are absent from or late for work so that their earnings, including attendance bonus, are not adversely affected," Mrs Lai said.

To better protect workers, Mrs Lai said the Employees' Compensation Ordinance had been amended to provide compensation to workers who were injured while travelling between their place of residence and their place of work when the Red or Black Rainstorm Warning was issued.

Employers or employees who require assistance are welcome to approach the nearest Labour Relations Service branch office.

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Attention News Editors :

Media representatives wishing to conduct interviews on work arrangements during rainstorms can contact the Information and Public Relations Division at 2852 4124, 2852 4126 or 2852 4127.

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results

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|                        |              |              |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Tender date            | 11 Apr 95    | 11 Apr 95    |
| Paper on offer         | EF bills     | EF bills     |
| Issue number           | Q515         | H562         |
| Amount applied         | HK\$7,370 MN | HK\$4,300 MN |
| Amount allotted        | HK\$1,500 MN | HK\$800 MN   |
| Average yield accepted | 5.43 PCT     | 5.67 PCT     |
| Highest yield accepted | 5.44 PCT     | 5.68 PCT     |
| Pro rata ratio         | About 60 PCT | About 53 PCT |
| Average tender yield   | 5.46 PCT     | 5.73 PCT     |

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

Tenders to be held in the week beginning April 17, 1995

|                 |                  |                |
|-----------------|------------------|----------------|
| Tender date     | 18 Apr 95        | 18 Apr 95      |
| Paper on offer  | EF bills         | EF bills       |
| Issue number    | Q516             | Y588           |
| Issue date      | 19 Apr 95        | 19 Apr 95      |
| Maturity date   | 19 Jul 95        | 17 Apr 96      |
| Tenor           | 91 days          | 364 days       |
| Amount on offer | HK\$1,500+300 MN | HK\$500+150 MN |

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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|                                | <u>\$ million</u> | <u>Time (hours)</u> | <u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Opening balance in the account | 2,504             | 0930                | +211                                 |
| Closing balance in the account | 2,134             | 1000                | +211                                 |
| Change attributable to :       |                   | 1100                | +201                                 |
| Money market activity          | +190              | 1200                | +191                                 |
| LAF today                      | -560              | 1500                | +191                                 |
|                                |                   | 1600                | +190                                 |

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 119.0 \*+0.5\* 11.4.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

| EF bills  |       | EF notes/Hong Kong Government bonds |       |        |        |       |
|-----------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| Terms     | Yield | Term                                | Issue | Coupon | Price  | Yield |
| 1 week    | 5.22  | 14 months                           | 2605  | 6.35   | 100.31 | 6.14  |
| 1 month   | 5.24  | 23 months                           | 2702  | 7.50   | 101.70 | 6.62  |
| 3 months  | 5.42  | 28 months                           | 3707  | 6.95   | 100.47 | 6.83  |
| 6 months  | 5.66  | 34 months                           | 3801  | 8.00   | 102.60 | 7.07  |
| 12 months | 6.06  | 60 months                           | 5003  | 7.75   | 101.07 | 7.63  |

Total turnover of bills and bonds - \$15,571 million

Closed April 11, 1995

End/Tuesday, April 11, 1995