



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Transcript of the Governor's media session

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Following is the transcript of the Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten's media session after opening the Kowloon Walled City Park this (Friday) afternoon:

Governor: Hope you enjoy the garden while you are here. I just like to say once again what a marvellous job I think everybody has done in transforming what was a very environmentally unpleasant slum into a beautiful garden.

Question: We've heard that the Chinese side insists that the 1997 sovereignty transfer ceremony should be a simple one, and as the Governor what do you think? Should it be big or just keep it simple?

Governor: I think it should be dignified. I think it should be solemn. I think it should be in keeping with the historic event that we are marking in Hong Kong. I think everybody has to remember that the eyes of the whole world will be on Hong Kong at the end of June in 1997, and perhaps to some time beyond that as well. We are negotiating, we are discussing these things with the Chinese side. And I hope the negotiations produce results as soon as possible.

Question: How would you comment on recently there were three police officers committing suicide by their own gun? Will there be any follow-up measures taken by the Hong Kong Government?

Governor: I am sure the whole community has been disturbed by the reports of these suicides, and I would like to offer my condolences to those who have been bereaved in such distressing circumstances. Obviously the police and their welfare department are looking at the moment at each of the cases. There is no reason at present to suppose that there is a connection between the individual tragedies. So I don't think one can possibly learn any collective lesson from these tragedies at the moment. But obviously if there is any overall lesson in personnel management or in any other matter to learn, the police will want to take it to heart. But for the moment I'm sure particularly at this time of year, we all want to offer our thoughts and prayers to those who have lost loved ones.

Question: ... China is going to impose legislation on martial law and do you think this sort of legislation will undermine the confidence of Hong Kong people?

Governor: One country two systems. The SAR Government will I am sure be able to look after the stability as well as the prosperity of Hong Kong. And I am sure that Chinese officials will want the garrison in the future to behave with the same sense of the law as the garrison does at present.

Question: Many people are worried that this sort of legislation will be applicable to Hong Kong. So do you think there is a need for the Hong Kong Government to clarify the matter with the Chinese authorities?

Governor: I don't think there is any reason from what we've heard so far to suppose that this legislation is going to be applied to Hong Kong. I think that is just a supposition on your part. But this is a question you should perhaps put to Chinese officials.

Question: (on opening up of Government House)

Governor: Yes, indeed. That's what we've been doing. As you know, Government House has been more open in the last few years than ever before. We have over 20,000 people visiting Government House every year, and virtually every week Government House is used for an outside function. It is used regularly for concerts which are open to the public given by the Academy of Performing Arts and their brilliant young musicians. It is regularly open to charities to hold charitable functions, to raise money for good causes in Hong Kong. So there are, we've reckoned, about 20,000 people going through Government House every year. And what they are able to do of course is to see paintings which used to be in the reserve of the Urban Council, that is paintings that were kept in the basement of the museum. These were paintings that were not on public display before. A lot of them are by modern Hong Kong artists whose work is being shown. And the impression I've had from some of those artists who've come and seen their paintings hanging on the walls of Government House -- which isn't my house, it's Hong Kong's house -- the impression that I've got is that they are delighted that their works are on view rather than kept in the reserve of the Urban Council. But it's a matter for the Urban Council.

Question: Do you feel it is necessary to pay for the rent?

Governor: I've said what the position is. If the Urban Council comes to a different view, so be it. But I hope that in any views they come to, they'll consult some of the artists whose work is being shown which wasn't previously the case. I can think of several of those artists who stood in front of their paintings, sometimes at public occasions, sometimes coming to see them privately and being delighted that so many people can now actually see their paintings. Indeed I think there are one or two cases where, thanks to their paintings being on display, they actually manage to sell more paintings. So it always seems to me that the more accessible art is the better. Just to say a little more about the numbers. There are at least 4,000 people coming to Government House for things like receptions, for dinners, for those sorts of occasions each year. I think it is probably impossible to put a number exactly on those who come to charitable functions in Government House, about once a week, or thereabouts. We do know the number who comes through Government House when we open up the garden and the house each year. The last figure was 17,000 and they are all able to see some of the paintings as well, paintings by local artists like Wang Hai and Rosamond Brown, one of our best painters. There are also able to see the Governor's paintings which aren't perhaps as good or expensive as the Urban Council's, but they are not bad.

Question: (on Governor's plan to spend Christmas)

Governor: How do I plan to pass Christmas? With my family. They'll all be here for Christmas. My two older daughters arrive this evening. And we'll have a family Christmas. We are inviting a number of friends and a number of young people who don't have family with them in Hong Kong to spend Christmas Day with us. We'll go for a walk. We'll eat a lot of turkey. I'll listen to some CDs. I won't listen to myself on the radio playing very good CDs, but the rest of you should do so. And go to church a couple of times. A traditional Christmas just like the Christmas that other families I hope, many other families, will be having in Hong Kong. So I wish all of you a happy Christmas. You're allowed to have Monday off as you've been working so hard and I hope we all have a happy and successful New Year. Thanks very much.

Question: (on the importance of the park)

Governor: I think it is very important. I was talking earlier about the fact that we haven't perhaps preserved as much of our heritage as many of us would have liked. But I think that we do see some examples of protecting our heritage here in Hong Kong. Hong Kong has a remarkable history. It is a history which we can see in the stones and environment around us. I think we should try to preserve some of those older buildings which are still left. There aren't many of them. When even a building like the Hilton Hotel which has just been knocked down seems old, you realise that there isn't alas enough history in the buildings that we've preserved. But I hope we'll be able to preserve more and I think this will be a great inspiration to everyone. So Sing Dan Fai Lok (phonetic). If you are really energetic tomorrow, you can come to the Fanling show and buy some vegetables. Anyway I'm doing that public function tomorrow, and then putting my feet up for Christmas. Have a nice Christmas.

End

177 applications for Industrial Support Fund received

\* \* \* \* \*

One Hundred and seventy-seven applications for allocation from the Industrial Support Fund (ISF) for the 1996-97 financial year had been received at the closing date last Friday (December 15).

Subject to the approval of the Legislative Council, the provision for ISF in 1996-97 would be around \$250 million. Of this amount, some \$130 million has been committed to fund on-going projects approved in the 1994-95 and 1995-96 financial years. This leaves about \$120 million for new projects commencing in 1996-97.

Most of the 177 projects will last for two to three years, and the total amount of funds requested is \$688.4 million. The amount of funds requested in 1996-97 is \$345 million.

As in last financial year, the bulk of applications came from the various tertiary institutions, with 142 applications. The others were from industry support bodies, professional bodies and research institutes, as well as trade and industry organisations. The applications fell into seven categories - general technology, information technology, biotechnology, electronics, metals, plastics as well as textiles and clothing.

The biotechnology category tops the list with 53 applications (requesting a total commitment of \$199 million), followed by the general category (38 applications), information technology (27 applications), electronics(20 applications), plastics (15 applications), metals (13 applications), and textiles and clothing (11 applications).

Announcing this today (Friday), the Assistant Director-General of Industry, Mr Raymond Young, said he was satisfied with the large number of applications received. A series of meetings would be held by the sector specific committees under the Industry and Technology Development Council (ITDC) in January and February 1996 to vet the applications. The applications would then be examined by a special Projects Vetting Committee (PVC) before submission to the full ITDC for approval. The result of the vetting exercise would be announced in April.

"The authority to approve projects costing less than \$15 million will rest with the Director-General of Industry," Mr Young said, adding that projects costing \$15 million or above would need the endorsement of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council.

On the funding criteria, he said: "The main criterion adopted by the ITDC is whether the application is 'market-driven', that is, whether there is a genuine need in the industry for the deliverables of the proposed project."

"Project applications will be considered on their own merits and no priorities would be given to any particular sector of industry or to any specific area of technology."

"Projects eligible for funding support should be able to contribute to the overall industrial or technological development of Hong Kong and to the competitiveness of Hong Kong's manufacturing industries," Mr Young added.

Since ISF was introduced in 1994, over 130 projects have been approved. Of these, 26 have been successfully completed and the rest are progressing satisfactorily. All funded projects are monitored closely by the Industry Department, with advice from ITDC.

End

Residential mortgage survey results for November 1995

\* \* \* \* \*

Residential mortgage loans for the purchase of properties in Hong Kong grew at a faster pace in November, according to the results of the latest monthly survey conducted by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA).

The latest figures show that the total amount of outstanding mortgage lending by the 33 institutions covered in the survey grew by 1.2% in November (0.7% in October) to \$269.6 billion. This corresponds with the average monthly growth rate of 1.2% over the last 12 months.

"Apart from the drawdown of loans associated with primary market sales in October, the increase in November may also reflect some revival in secondary market activity," the Deputy Chief Executive (Banking) of HKMA, Mr David Carse, said.

The annualised rate of growth in lending over the last three months rose to 14.4% from 13% in the three-month period to October. The 12-month average of outstanding loans showed an annualised growth rate of 14.2%, compared with 13.8% in October.

The amount of new loans approved but not yet drawn increased by \$1.5 billion (26.4%) to \$7.1 billion in November. "Judging from these figures, the growth of outstanding residential mortgage loans is expected to continue at a higher rate in December," said Mr Carse.

Lending for the purchase of properties in China increased by 1.2% to \$5.3 billion in November. Gross loans made in November increased both in number (to 186 from 176) and in amount (to \$138 million from \$130 million). New loans approved in November increased in number (to 255 from 241) but fell in amount (to \$145 million from \$152 million).

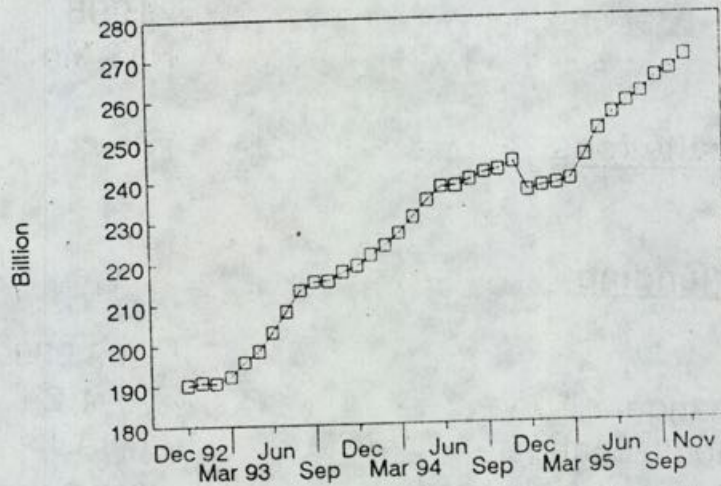
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**Residential Mortgage Loans in Hong Kong  
Results of Survey for November 1995**

	<u>Nov</u> <u>1995</u> HK\$ Mn	<u>Oct</u> <u>1995</u> HK\$ Mn
<b><u>33 authorised institutions</u></b>		
<b>1. <u>Outstanding lending</u></b>		
a. Amount	269,589	266,271
b. Monthly change	1.2%	0.7%
c. Twelve-month change	14.1%	13.6%
d. Average change (annualized)		
Latest three months	14.4%	13.0%
Latest twelve months	14.2%	13.8%
<b>2. <u>Gross loans made during month</u></b>		
a. Amount	7,835	6,430
b. Number	5392	5207
<b>3. <u>New loans approved during month</u></b>		
a. Amount	10,095	7,815
b. Number	7142	5664
<b>4. <u>New loans approved during month but not yet drawn</u></b>		
a. Amount	7,061	5,588
b. Number	4984	3774

**RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS IN HONG KONG**  
(33 institutions)

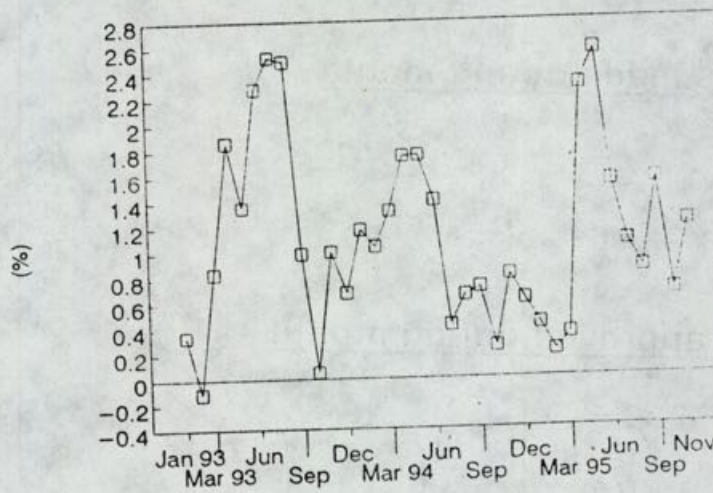
Outstanding balance at end of month



A1

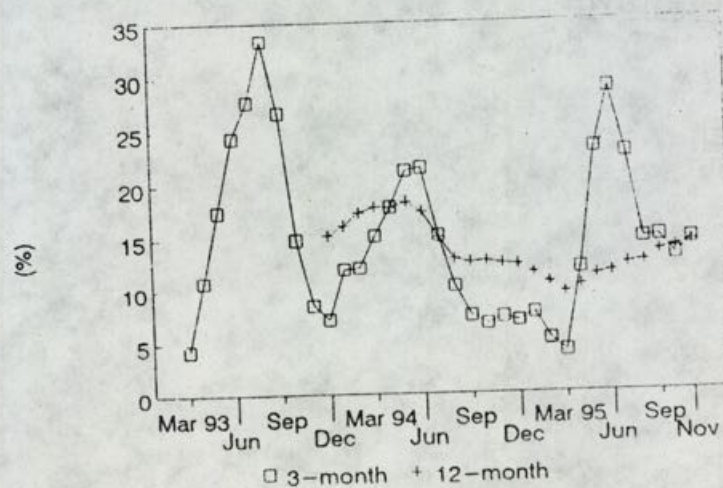
Remarks : The significant fall of outstanding balance in December 1994 was due to the effect of reclassification, securitization and sale of loans by some institutions.

Monthly growth rate



A2

3-month and 12-month moving average growth rate on annualised basis



A3

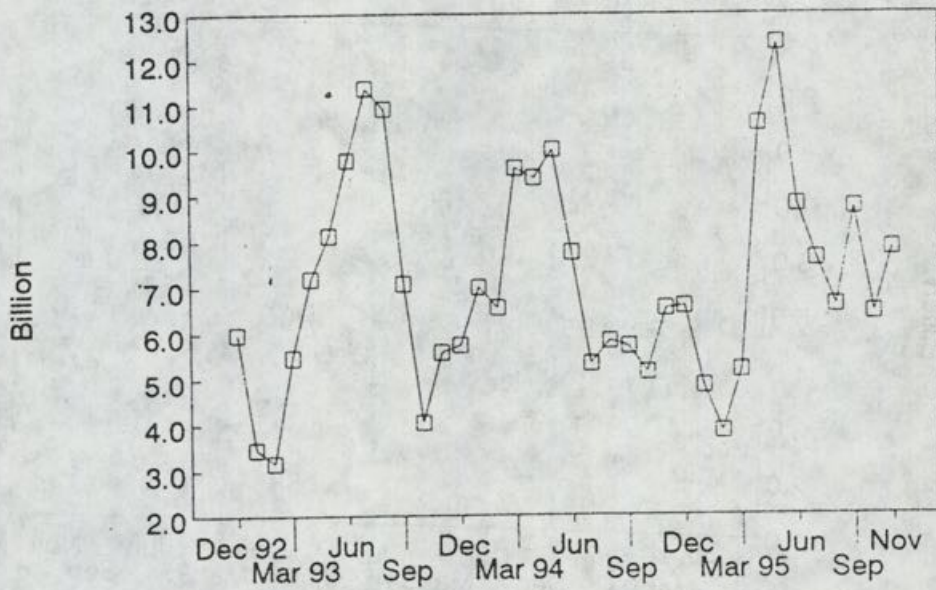
□ 3-month + 12-month

Chart B

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS IN HONG KONG  
(33 institutions)

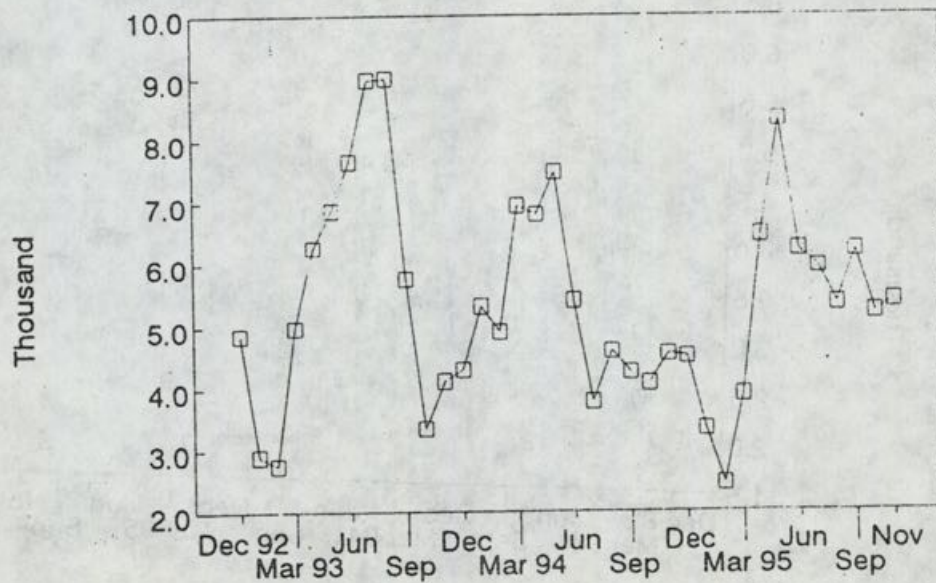
GROSS LOANS MADE DURING THE MONTH

Amount



B1

Number of accounts

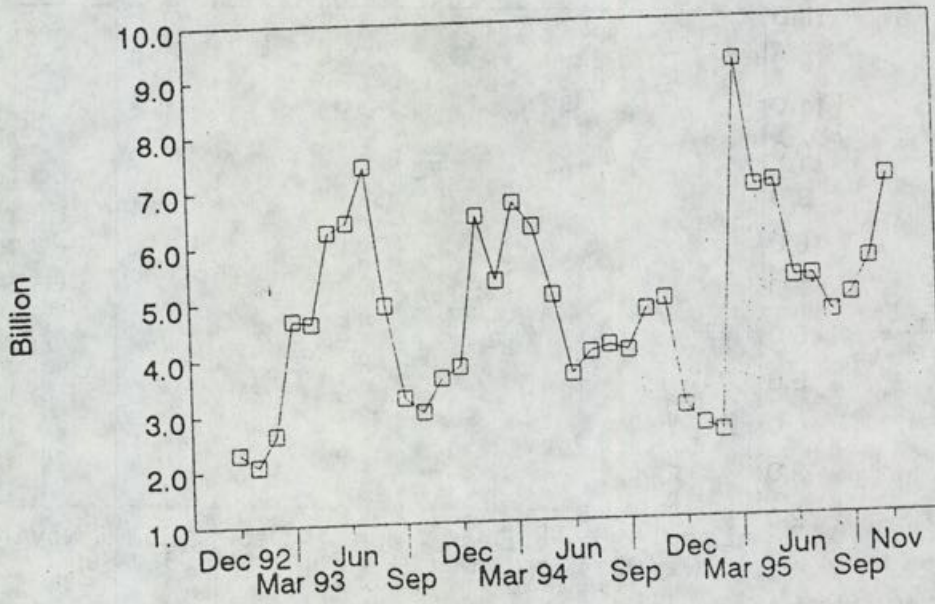


B2

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS IN HONG KONG  
(33 institutions)

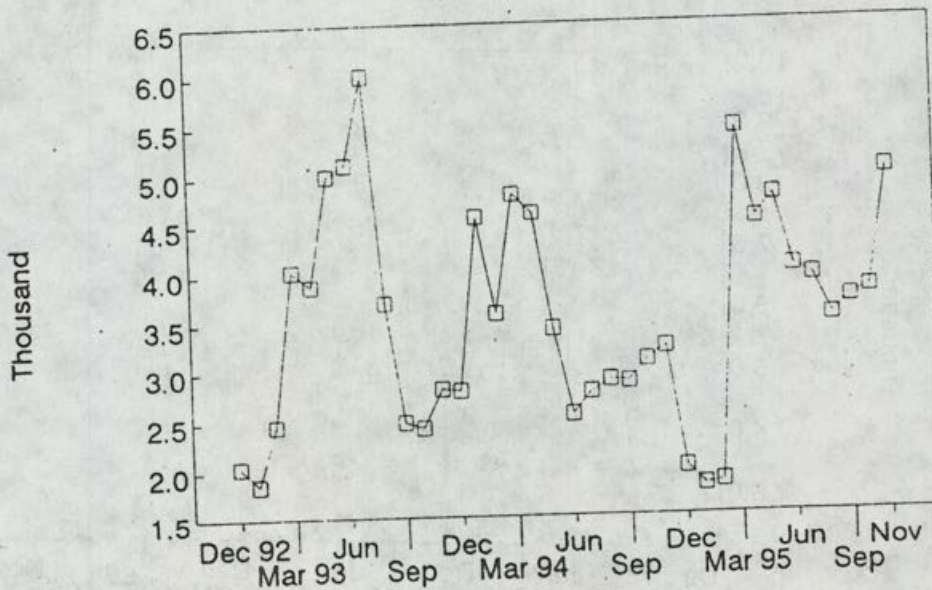
NEW LOANS APPROVED BUT NOT YET DRAWN

Amount



C1

Number of accounts



C2

A step further to combat pollution from ships

\* \* \* \* \*

The Marine Department is taking another step to further safeguard the marine environment against pollution by garbage from ships.

A set of new measures is stipulated in the Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Garbage) Regulation which was gazetted today (Friday). The regulation specifies the control and disposal of garbage from ships and requires the setting up of garbage reception facilities.

Based on the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, these measures apply to both Hong Kong registered ships wherever they may be and other ships while they are within the waters of Hong Kong.

"With more than 185,000 ships using the our port every year, the regulation will provide additional safeguards against dumping of garbage within the waters of Hong Kong," the Assistant Director of Marine (Port Services), Mr Tsang Man-ching, said.

"It gives us a proper legal framework to ensure adequate protection of Hong Kong waters against pollution by garbage from ships," he added.

"Through provision of reception facilities by the private sector, or through augmentation of existing garbage collection services from ships - the problem of floating refuse and hence pollution in Hong Kong waters, should be further alleviated."

"Adopting these international practices will also facilitate Hong Kong registered ship to trade freely with other ports whose administrations have implemented the same convention and demonstrate internationally Hong Kong's determination to preserve a cleaner marine environment," Mr Tsang continued.

The Marine Department will require an annual provision of \$10 million for hiring of vessels to collect refuse from ships and for meeting other operational expenses following the implementation of the regulation.

End

Tunnels remain fully open during holiday periods

\* \* \* \* \*

The Transport Department announced today (Friday) that the five government tunnels will remain fully open during the coming Christmas and New Year holiday periods.

The five government tunnels are Aberdeen Tunnel, Lion Rock Tunnel, Airport Tunnel, Shing Mun Tunnels and Tseung Kwan O Tunnel.

A spokesman for the department said from December 24 to 27, and on January 1 and 2, 1996, all tubes of these tunnels would not be closed for maintenance and the radio broadcast of safety messages would be stepped up.

He added that there would be additional control and safety measures on tunnel operations during the holidays.

The spokesman said operators of the three private tunnels - Cross Harbour Tunnel, Tate's Cairn Tunnel and Eastern Harbour Crossing - would implement similar measures as far as possible.

He said motorists also had a part to play in avoiding accidents inside tunnels by observing the following safety guidelines -

- \* Do not follow too close to the vehicle in front. Leave a two-second gap for safety;
- \* Observe the speed limit;
- \* Keep in lane;
- \* Observe traffic ahead;
- \* Use dipped headlights;
- \* Avoid wearing earphones or using mobile telephones when driving; and
- \* Do not drink any alcohol before and/or when driving.

Motorists are also urged to drive with care and patience no matter they are driving inside tunnels or on open roads.

End

### Leap second adjustment on New Year's Day

\* \* \* \* \*

At 8 am on January 1, 1996 (Monday), the usual six-pip time signals from the Royal Observatory will not be broadcast by Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). It will resume at 8.30 am or 9 am depending on the radio channel.

This is to enable an adjustment to be made which will result in a delay of one second to the time scale now in use - Co-ordinated Universal Time (UTC). The Hong Kong standard time which is eight hours ahead of UTC will hence be retarded by one second as well.

The adjustment is needed to better match UTC with astronomical time. It has been internationally agreed that an adjustment of one second (a leap second) should be applied from time to time so that UTC will not differ from astronomical time by more than nine-tenths of a second. The last adjustment was made on July 1, 1994.

The Royal Observatory maintains the Hong Kong time standard and since 1980, operates a high precision atomic clock for this purpose.

Members of the public who wish to carry out time checks can either listen to the time signals broadcast by RTHK or call the Royal Observatory on 2926 8472.

End

### A feast for the eyes of nature lovers

\* \* \* \* \*

Nature lovers need not go into the wilderness to appreciate their favourite things when the Ninth North District Flower, Bird, Insect and Fish (FBIF) Show opens tomorrow (Saturday) at Fanling Recreation Playground.

Arguably the most ambitious display of natural exhibits in Hong Kong, the show is the successor to the annual flower show in New Territories (North) which dated back to 1977 and substantially expanded in 1987 to include exhibits of birds, insects and fishes.

The Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten; Mrs Patten; the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries Dr Lawrence Lee; the Director of Regional Services, Mr Adolf Hsu; the Chairman of the FBIF Show, Mr Liu Chun-kui; the Deputy Director of Home Affairs, Mr Lee Lap-sun; the Chairman of North District Board, Mr Tang Kwok-yung; the North District Officer, Mr Tommy Yuen; and other community leaders will jointly officiate at the ribbon-cutting ceremony to take place at 11 am.

The show, which will run until December 28, has drawn the active involvement of experts and enthusiasts in the fields of horticulture, ornithology, entomology and agriculture.

Apart from the overall champion trophy which will be presented by Mr Patten, prizes will also be awarded to winners of competitions in the categories of potted flowers, miniature potted plants, bonsai, Chinese cymbidium and exotic orchids.

Over 100 uniquely designed exhibition booths were built to display hundreds of exotic species of plants, flowers, birds, insects and fish.

The show was organised by the Ninth North District FBIF Show Committee with the assistance of the North District Office, the Agriculture and Fisheries Department and local organisations.

It was jointly sponsored by the North District Board, the Regional Council, the Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation and Mass Transit Railway Corporation.

End

#### Law Amendment and Reform (Consolidation)(Amendment) Bill

\* \* \* \* \*

A bill seeking to amend the Law Amendment and Reform (Consolidation) Ordinance was published in the Government Gazette today (Friday).

The Law Amendment and Reform (Consolidation) (Amendment) Bill 1995 relates to the "forfeiture rule", which prohibits a person who has unlawfully killed another from being a beneficiary of the deceased's estate or acquiring certain other beneficial interests in property as a result of the deceased's death.

Currently, the rule applies even if the person concerned is not morally blame-worthy.

A spokesman for the Home Affairs Branch said the Bill empowered the court to relax or even waive the forfeiture rule where justice required this.

"It also provides that the forfeiture rule does not preclude applications for an order for financial provision under the Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Ordinance," he said.

The Bill however did preclude the modification of the forfeiture rule with respect to convicted murderers, the spokesman said.

He also pointed out that this Bill was the last remaining substantive change to Hong Kong's law of inheritance in the package of reforms proposed by the Law Reform Commission.

It will be tabled before the Legislative Council on January 10 next year.

End

#### Ban on use of unlined galvanised steel water pipes

\* \* \* \* \*

The Water Supplies Department today (Friday) reminded architects and plumbers that the use of unlined galvanised steel pipes would be banned from tomorrow (Saturday).

A spokesman for the department said the new requirement would be enforced in accordance with the Waterworks (Amendment) Regulation 1994 which was enacted late last year.

"Under the new requirement, all plumbing proposals for new buildings submitted to the Water Authority for approval will not be allowed to use unlined galvanised steel pipes as fresh water inside service.

"The consumers should also observe the new requirement if their plumbing systems in the existing buildings undergo refurbishment from tomorrow.

"However, the new requirement will not be applicable to fire service installations in new and existing buildings or minor repairs to existing fresh water plumbing systems," he said.

"With the implementation of the new requirement, we would expect to resolve, in the course of time, entirely the problem of discoloured tap water which has been experienced over the years by some consumers due to corrosion of pipes in their plumbing systems," the spokesman added.

End

Mandatory safety inspection of trailers advanced

\* \* \* \* \*

The mandatory safety inspection of trailers will be advanced by three years as from April next year, the Transport Department announced today (Friday).

"To improve the safety of trailers in use on the road, all trailers manufactured in 1986 or earlier will need to pass a roadworthiness examination before relicensing on or after April 1, 1996," the department's Senior Engineer/Motor Vehicle, Mr John Blay said.

"This would mean trailers which have been used on the road for 10 years would have to go through the safety inspection instead of 13 years."

The law at present requires trailers manufactured in or before 1982 for examination before relicensing.

Notice of the new requirement was published in today's Government Gazette.

"All mechanical parts of a trailer including its braking system, tyres, lights and so on will be inspected thoroughly during the examination.

"The advancement of the inspection period will enhance the safety and maintenance conditions of trailers in Hong Kong," Mr Blay added.

The certificate of roadworthiness obtained will only be valid for relicensing within four months immediately after the date of issue.

The examination will be carried out at the Department's Kowloon Bay Vehicle Examination Centre, 2 Cheung Yip Street, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon. The examination fee is \$530.

Appointments for inspection should be made to the Kowloon Bay Vehicle Examination Centre by telephoning 2759 7573 from now on.

End

Tenders for secondary school in Tsui Wan Estate invited

\* \* \* \* \*

The Architectural Services Department is inviting tenders for the construction of a secondary school in Tsui Wan Estate in Chai Wan.

The works will involve the building of a classroom block and an assembly hall, together with the design and construction of piled foundations, drainage and external works.

On completion, the school will have 26 classrooms, 14 special rooms, three remedial teaching rooms, two basketball courts, a covered playground and carpark, an assembly hall and ancillary facilities.

In addition, there will be rooms for guidance activities or interviews, staff common rooms, a student activity centre, additional playground area as well as facilities for the disabled.

The school is one of the six secondary schools to be built before 1997. When these schools are completed, 156 classes will be provided to reduce the shortfall of secondary school classes and to help phase out floating classes.

Forms of tender and further particulars may be obtained from the Architectural Services Department, 34th floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong.

Tenders must be clearly marked and addressed to the Chairman of the Central Tender Board and be placed in the Government Secretariat Tender Box at the lift lobby, lower ground floor, Central Government Offices (East Wing), Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong before noon on Friday, January 19, 1996.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

End

### New road proposed for North Point

\* \* \* \* \*

The Government has proposed to construct a new road between Shell Street and Jupiter Street in North Point to improve traffic flow and to provide an access for a proposed commercial development in the area.

The new road will be about 7.3 metres wide with a 2.5-metre wide footpath on its western side.

A section of Shell Street will have to be temporarily closed, while the footpath linking Shell Street and Jupiter Street will have to be closed permanently to facilitate the works.

A Lands Department spokesman said today (Friday) that the Town Planning Board had recently approved amendments to the draft North Point Outline Zoning Plan.

Under the amended plan which was gazetted on December 1, a site at 152-154 Electric Road, which is occupied by the former Causeway Bay Police Station, was rezoned from "Government/Institution/Community" to "Commercial".

"The Government intends to dispose of the site by public auction in the middle of 1996.

"In view of the foreseeable traffic demand generated from the future commercial development on the site as well as in the vicinity, the Government will require the purchaser of the site under the Conditions of Sale to construct a new road linking Shell Street and Jupiter Street," he said.

A notice of the proposed road works was gazetted today.

The plan of the proposed works can be seen at the Public Enquiry Service Centre of the Central and Western District Office, the Hong Kong East District Lands Office, and the Eastern District Office.

Any person objecting to the works should send his objection in writing to the Secretary for Transport, Central Government Offices, East Wing, second floor, Lower Albert Road, Central not later than February 20, 1996, describing his interest and the manner in which he will be affected.

End

Footbridge across Yen Chow Street

\* \* \* \* \*

The Government proposes to construct a footbridge across Yen Chow Street at Ki Lung Street to connect to Dragon Centre in Sham Shui Po.

A notice for the proposed project is gazetted today (Friday).

The project comprises the construction of an approximately five-metre wide footbridge across Yen Chow Street at Ki Lung Street with a staircase and an escalator at the south-eastern end together with a connection to the existing landing at the first floor of Dragon Centre, as well as the ancillary ground level works and drainage works.

The work is programmed to start this month and will take about 12 months to complete.

Upon completion of the recent developments in the vicinity, it is expected that the pedestrian crossing demand across Yen Chow Street will increase significantly.

The existing pedestrian facilities will not be able to cope with the expected increase. Hence, it is proposed that grade-separated pedestrian crossings should be provided to suit future demand, to improve road junction capacities and to enhance road safety.

The plan and scheme of the works can be seen at:

- \* Public Enquiry Services Centre, Central and Western District Office, ground floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong;
- \* District Lands Office, Kowloon West, Yau Ma Tei Car Park Building, 10th Floor, 250 Shanghai Street, Kowloon; and
- \* Public Enquiry Services Centre, Sham Shui Po District Office, sixth floor, 290 Un Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon.

Any person who wishes to object to the proposal must send his objection in writing to the Secretary for Transport at the Central Government Offices, East Wing, second floor, Lower Albert Road, Central not later than February 20, 1996, describing his interest and the manner in which he alleges he will be affected by the works or the use.

End

Footbridge system in Argyle Street

\* \* \* \* \*

The Highways Department is inviting tenders for the construction of a footbridge system at the junction of Argyle Street, Tong Mi Road and Ferry Street.

The works include the construction of a covered footbridge system spanning over Argyle Street, Tong Mi Road and Ferry Street, as well as approach ramps and staircases; demolition of Tong Mi Road temporary market structures at the junction of Argyle Street and Tong Mi Road; and associated landscaping, road and drainage works.

The works are expected to commence in next March for completion in July 1997.

Kowloon Region of the Highways Department, which is responsible for the design of works, will supervise the construction.

A notice on the tender invitation is gazetted today (Friday).

Tender forms and particulars can be obtained from Regional Highway Engineer/Kowloon, Highways Department, Room 1321, 13th floor, Nan Fung Commercial Centre, 19 Lam Lok Street, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon. The contact telephone number is 2707 7421.

Tenders must be clearly marked and addressed to the Chairman, Central Tender Board, and placed in the Government Secretariat Tender Box at the lift lobby, lower ground floor, Central Government Offices (East Wing), Lower Albert Road (at its junction with Garden Road), Hong Kong before noon on Friday, January 12, 1996.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

End

Road works for Tuen Mun proposed

\* \* \* \* \*

The Territory Development Department has proposed to carry out road works in Area 18, Tuen Mun to serve the proposed housing development there.

The road works project is part of the continuing development programme for the Tuen Mun New Town.

The works include the construction of a footbridge across Lung Mun Road near and Shan Shek Wan Light Rail Transit Stop, a combined pedestrian and cycle bridge over Tuen Mun Nullah between Areas 16 and 18; a cycle track, a combined footway and emergency access, and associated drainage works.

A notice of the proposed works was gazetted today (Friday).

The plan and schedule showing the proposed works can be seen at the Public Enquiry Service Centre of the Central and Western District Office, the Tuen Mun District Lands Office and the Tuen Mun District Office.

Any one wishing to object to the proposal should write to the Secretary for Transport, Central Government Offices, East Wing, second floor, Lower Albert Road, Central no later than February 20, 1996, describing his interest and manner in which he will be affected.

End

#### Road works for Tung Chung New Town

\* \* \* \* \*

The Hong Kong Island and Islands Development Office of the Territory Development Department has proposed engineering works in Tung Chung to serve the proposed housing developments there.

The works will include the construction of roads of about two kilometres long, footpath and cycle tracks, pedestrian/cycle bridges, widening of a section of the existing Tung Chung Road, and construction of amenity areas, drainage system and other ancillary works.

The works are scheduled to begin in November 1996 for completion in 30 months.

A notice of the proposed works was gazetted today (Friday).

The plan and scheme of the proposed works can be seen at the Public Enquiry Service Centre of the Central and Western District Office, the Islands District Lands Office and the Islands District Office and its Mui Wo Sub-office.

Any person objecting to the works should send his objection in writing to the Secretary for Transport, Central Government Offices, East Wing, second floor, Lower Albert Road, Central not later than February 20, 1996, describing his interest and the manner in which he will be affected.

End

Prequalification tenders invited for slaughterhouse

\* \* \* \* \*

The Architectural Services Department is inviting prequalification tenders for the detail design and construction of a slaughterhouse in Sheung Shui.

The slaughterhouse, to be built on a site of about 58,000 square metres in Area 2B of Sheung Shui, will have a capacity of slaughtering 5,000 pigs and 400 heads of cattle per day.

It will be a low-rise facility comprising lairages with a holding capacity of 12,000 pigs and 2,200 heads of cattle; a slaughter hall where pigs and cattle are slaughtered, dressed and inspected; a liquid waste treatment plant to treat effluent discharged from the slaughterhouse; an administration and amenities block; a meat dispatch area with parking facilities; a railway platform; and holding pens.

Construction work is scheduled to start in August 1996 for completion in late 1998.

Prequalification applications should be submitted to the Project Director (1), Architectural Services Department, Room 3508, 35th floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong before noon on Friday, January 12, 1996.

End

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	2,491	0930	-187
Closing balance in the account	2,169	1000	-187
Change attributable to :		1100	-187
Money market activity	-182	1200	-182
LAF today	-140	1500	-182
		1600	-182

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 122.6 \*+0.1\* 22.12.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.69	2 years	2711	5.60	100.06	5.64
1 month	5.65	3 years	3810	6.15	100.91	5.88
3 months	5.57	5 years	5012	6.38	100.20	6.43
6 months	5.55	7 years	7211	6.82	100.77	6.79
12 months	5.55	5 years	M502	7.30	102.58	6.78

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$22,635 million

Closed December 22, 1995

End