



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Wong Tai Sin DB by-election to be held on January 5

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A by-election to fill a seat of the San Po Kong constituency of the Wong Tai Sin District Board will be held on Sunday, January 5, 1997, a spokesman for the Registration and Electoral Office (REO) said today (Thursday).

The office of the member of the San Po Kong constituency will be declared vacant in a gazette notice published tomorrow (Friday) following the death of the late Mr Josephs Chan (alias Canon Chan) on November 2.

Nomination period for the by-election will be from November 22 to December 5 (both dates inclusive). Nomination forms are available at the Wong Tai Sin District Office, fourth floor, San Po Kong Government Offices Building, King Fuk Street, San Po Kong or the REO, 10th floor, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

To qualify for nomination, a candidate must satisfy the relevant provisions laid down under the law, such as he must be aged 21 or over, be a registered elector and has ordinarily resided in Hong Kong for the three years immediately preceding nomination.

Each nomination must be subscribed by at least 10 registered electors of the constituency.

The San Po Kong constituency has an electorate of 5,349.

Poll will be held unless the seat is uncontested.

Enquiries may be made to REO on 2827 1122.

End

AFD to implement microchip programme for dogs next month

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The Agriculture and Fisheries Department (AFD) will implement the microchip programme for the identification of dogs in Hong Kong from December 2 (Monday).

All dogs over the age of five months are required to be microchipped when they are first vaccinated against rabies and licensed. Dogs which are currently licensed will be implanted with the microchip when they are next vaccinated.

Announcing the commencement of the programme at a press conference today (Thursday), an AFD senior veterinary officer, Dr Dick Rubira, said the programme was implemented in accordance with the provisions of the Rabies (Amendment) Regulation 1996.

The regulation requires all dogs at rabies vaccination and licensing to be identified by the implantation of a microchip, which contains a unique identification number.

"This identification system is safe, accurate, permanent and tamper proof and will allow better management and control of dogs," Dr Rubira said.

"The next time your dog is vaccinated against rabies it will receive a second injection of a computer chip. The chip is the size of a grain of rice and is placed just under the skin at the base of the neck.

"The injection of the chip causes only mild discomfort at the time but provides permanent identification for the dog.

"The identification code on the microchip can be read by a scanner, which is passed over the dog. The record of the vaccination and identity of the keeper is stored in a separate government computer data base.

"If a dog is lost, it will be easier for the keeper to identify his pet and to be reunited with it. The system also enables the Department to identify and prosecute irresponsible dog keepers."

Vaccination and microchipping will be carried out at government kennels and rabies inoculation centres as well as authorised veterinary clinics and Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) clinics.

The new regulation also imposes a licence fee of \$70 for dogs vaccinated by a government officer and \$40 for a dog vaccinated by an authorised person such as a veterinary surgeon. The authorised person will charge for his professional services in addition to the licence fee. The licence is valid for three years, when the dog must be revaccinated and licensed again.

Dr Rubira reminded all dog keepers to ensure that their dogs had been vaccinated, microchipped and licensed. Failure to do so constitutes an offence and the offender is liable to a maximum fine of \$10,000.

Dog keepers must also advise AFD of any change of ownership or address within five days, to ensure that the information is kept up-to-date. Failure to do so is an offence and renders the keeper liable to a fine of up to \$5,000. In addition, failure to notify renders the original keeper responsible for the dog's actions until the notification is made.

Further details on the programme can be obtained from AFD on 2733 2235 or any government kennels. The telephone numbers of the kennels are: Victoria Road (2551 8586); Sung Wong Toi (2362 4147); Sha Tin (2691 2191) and Shek Wu Hui (2670 2201).

End

#### Drop kerbs to help wheelchair users to take taxis

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A trial scheme to help people with a disability use wheelchairs to board and alight taxis conveniently will be launched tomorrow (Friday).

The Transport Department has selected three taxi stands for the six-month trial. They are Edinburgh Place, Central; Star Ferry Concourse, Tsim Sha Tsui; and Lung Poon Street, Diamond Hill.

Announcing details of the scheme, the department's Chief Transport Officer/Taxi, Ms Regina Yeung, said it had been the Government's policy to improve the accessibility of disabled persons to public transport services and facilities.

"The idea of providing drop kerbs at taxi stands to help disabled persons has the support of disabled persons' associations, the Police, and taxi drivers' and operators' associations," she said.

The construction of drop kerbs requires improvement to the existing pavement at the start of a taxi stand, or at its end, by making it slightly slanting towards the road side for easy movement of wheelchairs.

Disabled persons using wheelchairs are encouraged to make use of these drop kerbs and send their feedback to the Transport Department during the trial period.

"We will review its effectiveness and acceptance. More locations will be identified if response to the scheme is favourable.

"The choice of location depends on the actual demand and permission of site conditions," Ms Yeung added.

End

#### Statistics on trade involving outward processing in China

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In the second quarter of 1996, 48% of Hong Kong's total exports to China were for outward processing; the figure was 72% for domestic exports, and 45% for re-exports.

On the other hand, 80% of Hong Kong's imports from China were related to outward processing, according to statistics released today (Thursday) by the Census and Statistics Department.

Over the same period, 85% of Hong Kong's re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China were produced through outward processing in China.

The corresponding proportions in the second quarter of 1995 were 49% for total exports to China, 70% for domestic exports to China, 46% for re-exports to China, 73% for imports from China and 82% for re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China.

In the first half of 1996, 46% of Hong Kong's total exports to China were for outward processing; the figure was 71% for domestic exports, and 42% for re-exports. On the other hand, 81% of Hong Kong's imports from China were related to outward processing.

Over the same period, 86% of Hong Kong's re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China were produced through outward processing in China.

The corresponding proportions in the first half of 1995 were 49% for total exports to China, 69% for domestic exports to China, 46% for re-exports to China, 74% for imports from China and 83% for re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China.

To provide a better understanding of the nature and importance of outward processing in China initiated by Hong Kong firms, the Census & Statistics Department has been conducting a sample survey as from the third quarter of 1988 to distinguish Hong Kong's exports to China into those which are for outward processing and those which are not.

The scope of the survey has been extended as from the first quarter of 1989 to segregate Hong Kong's imports from China into those which are related to outward processing and those which are not. Starting from the first quarter of 1991, the scope of the survey has further been extended to cover Hong Kong's re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China.

The results for the second quarter and the first half of 1996 are now available.

In value terms, \$58,204 million of Hong Kong's total exports to China in the second quarter of 1996 were for outward processing, representing an increase of 2% over the second quarter of 1995. The value of domestic exports to China for outward processing decreased by 6% to \$10,849 million, whilst the value of re-exports to China for outward processing grew by 4% to \$47,354 million.

Over the same period of comparison, the value of imports from China related to outward processing increased by 15% to \$111,518 million. On the other hand, \$131,192 million of Hong Kong's re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China were produced through outward processing in China, representing an increase of 11%.

In the first half of 1996, \$103,687 million of Hong Kong's total exports to China were for outward processing, representing a decrease of 1% over the first half of 1995. The value of domestic exports to China for outward processing decreased by 4% to \$19,765 million while that of re-exports to China for outward processing was estimated to be \$83,922 million which was, about the same as in the first half of 1995.

Over the same period of comparison, the value of imports from China related to outward processing increased by 14% to \$209,635 million. On the other hand, \$247,779 million of Hong Kong's re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China were produced through outward processing in China, representing an increase of 11%.

For the purpose of the survey, exports to China for outward processing refer to raw materials or semi-manufactures exported from or through Hong Kong to China for processing with a contractual arrangement for subsequent re-importation of the processed goods into Hong Kong.

Imports from China related to outward processing refer to processed goods imported from China of which all or part of the raw materials or semi-manufactures have been under contractual arrangement exported from or through Hong Kong to China for processing.

Re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China involving outward processing in China refer to processed goods re-exported through Hong Kong of which all or part of the raw materials or semi-manufactures have been exported from or through Hong Kong to China for processing with a contractual arrangement for subsequent re-importation of the processed goods into Hong Kong.

In interpreting the statistics, it should be noted that the value and proportion of imports from China and re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China involving outward processing in China refer to those of the entire goods instead of just the value added contributed by outward processing in China.

A sample of trade declarations in respect of Hong Kong's trade with China (domestic exports and re-exports to China, and imports from China) as well as Hong Kong's re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China is selected for enumeration to obtain the required information from the establishments concerned.

A spokesman for the Census and Statistics Department explained that under the internationally accepted system of recording trade flows, all movements of goods (except transshipments and goods-in-transit) across the border, whether for outward processing or not, are recorded as external trade. Thus the movements of goods associated with outward processing are correctly included in the regular trade statistics.

The findings of the survey, however, facilitate a more informed analysis of the nature of Hong Kong-China trade. In this respect, the survey results are a useful supplement to the regular trade statistics.

The above survey results will be included in the September 1996 issue of the Hong Kong External Trade. This report will be on sale by the end of November 1996 at the Government Publications Sales Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, 66 Queensway and the Publications Unit of the Census and Statistics Department, 19th Floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai at \$122 a copy.

Enquiries on the survey results may be directed to the Trade Surveys and Research Section of the Census and Statistics Department on 2582 5037.

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## Long and Meritorious Service Certificates presentation

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Veteran Administrative Officers who have served in the government for more than two decades are presented with Long and Meritorious Service Certificates today (Thursday) at a presentation ceremony officiated by the Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan. Those with over 30 years' service also received a gold pin for their long and distinguished service.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr W K Lam, told the recipients that the awards were a recognition of their commitment and contributions over the years. "It has been a long and exciting road leading to the certificate, but I am sure colleagues would agree that it is one well worth taking for the challenge and satisfaction it gives," he said.

The Administrative Service also made use of the occasion to welcome 37 new appointees and bid farewell to the former Director of Social Welfare, Mr Ian Strachan and Deputy Secretary for Health and Welfare, Mr Robert C Wilson.

Mr Strachan retired from the service last month after serving 25 years in the Government. Mr Wilson, who has served the Government for 17 years, will retire later this month.

Following is the list of Administrative Officers receiving Long and Meritorious Service Certificates:

### 30 years' certificates and gold pins

Mr Haider Barma (now on pre-retirement leave)

Mr Michael Suen

Mrs Katherine Fok

Mr Leung Chin-man\*

Mr Michael Lee\*

Mr Tony Cooper

Mr Peter Cheung

Mr Paul Wong

20 years' certificates

Mr C I C Jackson\*  
Mrs Doris Ho  
Mr Michael Stone  
Mrs Rita Lau  
Mrs Stella Hung  
Mr Francis Ho\*  
Mr Peter Pelham  
Mr Eddy Chan  
Mr Isaac Chow  
Mr Gary Yeung\*  
Mr M J C Waters  
Mrs Jenny Wallis  
Mr Peter Mann\*  
Mr Gavin Ure  
Mr Barton Ireland  
Mr Arthur Ho\*  
Mr Angus Miu\*  
Mr Eric Johnson  
Mrs Nancy Hui\*  
Mr Stephen Chung\*  
Mrs Charlotte Li\*

(\* Officers who have been unable to attend the ceremony.)

End

Secretary for Works to take salute at CSD passing-out parade

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The Secretary for Works, Mr Kwong Hon-sang, will take the salute at a passing-out parade of the Correctional Services Department (CSD) tomorrow (Friday) afternoon at the CSD Staff Training Institute.

Graduating are 151 assistant officers II who have just completed a 23-week basic training course.

The parade will feature the marching team of the Tai Tam Gap Correctional Institution and the marching band of the Cape Collinson Correctional Institution.

End

BFBS to auction rare commemorative covers on Sunday

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The British Forces Broadcasting Service (BFBS), based at Prince of Wales Barracks, will auction two rare signed commemorative covers during this year's annual fund-raising appeal in aid of Wireless for the Blind and Project Orbis.

Among the premier items available for the station's radio phone-in auction on Sunday (November 17) are two commemorative covers signed by Commander British Forces, Major General Bryan Dutton; and the Commander of Hong Kong's future People's Liberation Army (PLA) Garrison, Major General Liu Zhenwu.

The covers, which were donated by Major General Dutton, have not been released for general sale and as only 25 of each were signed they are now highly desirable collectable items.

One of the covers, which were issued on the occasion of the 69th anniversary of the founding of the PLA, commemorates Major General Liu's visit to the British Garrison in Hong Kong while the second features an inscription for the PLA issued by Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

As interest in stamps with a Hong Kong connection has increased over recent months these rare covers are expected to attract considerable interest.

BFBS takes to the air between 10 am and 5 pm on Sunday (November 17) and listeners will be able to phone in their bids not only for the first day covers but for a selection of items including a six-day bicycling holiday in Canada, a day out at sea on board the Royal Navy's Hong Kong patrol craft, HMS Starling, dinner at Peninsula's Spring Moon Restaurant and much more.

All money raised by the auction will benefit Wireless for the Blind and Project Orbis.

For further details about the auction please contact Sarah Ridley on 2802 4520.

End

Garment exporter fined for furnishing false statement

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A garment exporter cum manufacturer, Hermes Textile Industry (HK) Limited today (Thursday) pleaded guilty to five counts of furnishing false statement in export licence applications and one count of importing textile products not under and in accordance with a valid import licence at the Tsuen Wan Magistracy.

It was fined a total of \$365,000 by the magistrate, Mr H M Sinclair.

The court heard that officers of the Customs and Excise Department conducted an investigation and found that the defendant had exported 15,517 pieces China-origin cotton woven shorts/trousers/anoraks to Denmark but falsely declared on five export licence applications that the goods were made by its factory in Hong Kong.

Investigation also revealed that the defendant had imported from China 18,242 pieces of garments without a valid import licence.

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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	<u>\$million</u>	<u>Time</u> <u>(hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative</u> <u>change</u> <u>(\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	2,451	0930	+448
Closing balance in the account	2,309	1000	+448
Change attributable to:		1100	+448
Money market activity	+448	1200	+448
LAF today	- 590	1500	+448
		1600	+448

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 124.4 \*+0.0\* 14.11.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/MTRC notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	4.93	2 years	2811	5.72	100.07	5.76
1 month	4.92	3 years	3910	6.28	100.67	6.11
3 months	4.94	5 years	5109	7.32	103.10	6.66
6 months	5.02	7 years	7308	7.24	102.11	6.96
12 months	5.25	10 years	1610	7.37	101.83	7.24
		5 years	M503	7.35	101.91	6.99

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$11,359 million

Closed November 14, 1996

End