



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

Friday, May 19, 1995

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Transcript of Governor's media session

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The following is a transcript of the Governor the Rt Hon Christopher Patten's media session after meeting representatives of parents of mentally handicapped children at Government House today (Friday):

Governor: We've had a good meeting this afternoon with some of the parents of mentally handicapped children and with representatives of some of the organisations which help to look after the interests of mentally handicapped children. I just want to underline what I've said before that these men and women are some the heroines and heroes of our community, providing loving care and commitment to bringing up their children in a compassionate atmosphere. They need the maximum support that we can give them in the community and that's why in 1992 we committed ourselves to meeting all the targets set out in the Green Paper on Rehabilitation for providing additional residential services, residential places and day care places for the mentally handicapped. Now, we're looking at two different problems here.

We are first of all looking at the provision of 3,930 places in residential homes for the mentally handicapped. Secondly, we are looking at the provision as we promised of 3,760 places in day care centres. That's the commitment that we've made. It's not an easy programme to deliver, first of all because of the difficulty of locating premises. Secondly because of the prejudice that unfortunately we've encountered in one or two neighbourhoods about the provision of facilities and thirdly, there are particular problems associated with some sites and some developments. So it's with disappointment that when we looked at the figures earlier this year, and it's a point that we discussed with these men and women, it was with disappointment that we discovered that we were falling about a year behind in the delivery of residential places. We've now looked at the position again.

We've discussed it with the Secretary for Works and the Director of Architectural Services and we've now managed to get the programme back on course so that we will be delivering by 1997 all the residential places that we've promised. In relation to day care, the problem is, or the issue is slightly different. With both day activities centres and sheltered employment, we've concluded that the need is slightly different from our previous assessments. So we've adjusted the figures but not at the expense of the mentally handicapped. What it means is that we will be providing more supported employment. We won't be just concentrating so much on sheltered workshops. And, we will be providing additional services for the mentally handicapped rather than spending all the money we've previously been intending on day activity centres.

So we're on course to reach our targets. What those targets mean is that people will, we hope, have to spend less time waiting for the services they require. Of course, hitting these targets isn't the end of the story because need changes the whole time and in our White Paper on Rehabilitation which will come out in the next few weeks we'll be setting out new targets for the community and we'll be taking accounts of those targets in our future public spending programme. There are still problems that we've got, still difficulties that we've got to overcome. But I hope that we can continue to work with these groups, with these organisations, with these parents in delivering the standard of care which the community should provide for them and their families. Any questions about mentally handicapped ?

This is a very important issue. I'd like if there are any questions on the mentally handicapped to take those first.

Question: (inaudible)

Governor: I am glad that you've mentioned that. It is an important Bill. It's an indicator of the community's concern that those with disability should be given a full place in the sun. That they should be given all the opportunities that they deserve as members of our community to develop to their full potential. Of course, none of us actually believe that the law is the only answer. We all know there has to be wider public education. But I'm encouraged by the number of people that I meet as I go around the community who understand that in a civilised society like ours a fair deal for those with disabilities is a hallmark of our standards of civilisation.

Question: Do you think the bill will go through

Governor: I very much hope so. I think the Legislative Council has indicated in the past that it believed the Government and the legislature should act in this area and certainly I think that the legislation is extremely timely.

Question: A very short follow up on the White Paper, why it takes a few weeks more? As you answered in the Legco questions time, it is about time, that is at the end of May or at the latter part of May

Governor: If it isn't by the end of May, it will be in early June. But certainly we're talking about the next 2 or 3 weeks. Any questions on anything else?

Question: Concerning the Land Commission today, there is no agreement on the CT 9, 10 and 11. Is it that there is no co-operation between China and Hong Kong? What is your comment on that?

Governor: As the new Secretary for Planning, Environment and Lands, who I know pretty well, said after the meeting, I think the results of the meeting were respectable. We're disappointed that we didn't get an agreement on CTs 9, 10 and 11. We're pretty clear on the importance of those container terminals for the further development of our port. I hope that Chinese officials will demonstrate at some time their concern about developing the port too.

Question: But it will hinder the economic development in Hong Kong if...

Governor: If we can't develop our port as rapidly as is required, we'll undoubtedly constrain our future development and of course it will have an effect on Southern China as a whole. So far, we've managed to cope with the delay by increasing through-put in other ways. I think as you know the container terminal operators have invested substantially in new and improved equipment, so that they can actually turn vessels round more rapidly, so they can unload and load vessels more quickly than was previously the case. But we can't go on depending on that sort of increase investment to deal with the bottleneck that's starting to arise. We do need new facilities and we need them as soon as possible.

Question: Is the administration satisfied with the land grant for residential use? Is it at the expense of the residential use of land along the railway to the airport as granted?

Governor: No, I don't believe so. As I said, I think this was a sensible agreement by and large, though I'm disappointed about the lack of any agreement on CTs 9, 10 and 11.

Question: What will the government do in order to get the CTs 9 and 11 ... supply

Governor: We'll go on deploying our arguments in the Joint Liaison Group and we hope that Chinese officials will demonstrate their sincerity and their concern for economic development of Hong Kong.

Question: Referring to Director Lu Ping yesterday's luncheon speech, what do you can't talk about ... according to the Court of Final Court issue, but Director Lu Ping named that one example is the appointment of principal officials can be classified as another act of state. But people cannot resolve that sort of dispute by going to court. So he is saying that Hong Kong situation is so unique that the act of state issue cannot be oversimplified and it takes time for discussion.

Governor: We have a Court of Final Appeal at the moment in Hong Kong. It's called the Judiciary Committee of the Privy Council and it applies the Common Law and under the Common Law what constitutes acts of state is absolutely clear. Hong Kong is guaranteed the continuance of the Common Law for 50 years after 1997. I don't quite understand why Director Lu thinks that raises problems. I don't understand exactly what he means when he talks about acts of state constituting a difficulty. But in order to be reassuring to people in Hong Kong, we need to discuss these issues and deal with them as quickly as possible. I hope therefore that Chinese officials will respond very rapidly to our request for another meeting of experts under the umbrella of the JLG. If there're real difficulties which Director Lu has, after having had the bill for a year, then the sooner he talks to us about them the better. Perhaps it would be a help if before he leaves Hong Kong he could suggest to us a date when Anson Chan could meet him in China. He's offered her an invitation to visit China and she wants to take it up whenever it's convenient to both sides. I am sorry a meeting wasn't possible this week. But in his remaining days in Hong Kong, I hope that the Director will continue to have good exchanges with the people of Hong Kong. I hope he will meet as many as possible and I hope he'll learn even more at first hand what a hugely successful, prosperous and stable community this is. Thank you very much indeed.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Regulations on newspapers and news agencies amended

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The Newspapers Registration and Distribution (Amendment) Regulation 1995 and the News Agencies Registration (Amendment) Regulation 1995 were gazetted today (Friday).

A spokesman for the Home Affairs Branch said the amendments contained in the gazetted Regulations will remove inconsistency between provisions in subsidiary legislation under the Registration of Local Newspapers Ordinance and the Bill of Rights (BOR) Ordinance.

The amendments also form part of the overall review to ensure that existing laws do not infringe press freedom and the right to freedom of expression, he added.

Currently, under Regulation 3 of the Newspapers Registration and Distribution Regulations and Regulation 4 of the News Agencies Registration Regulations, the Registrar has absolute discretion in requiring particulars other than those specified in Form 1 in the Schedule.

The spokesman said the Administration believed the particulars specified in the Form, that is the names, addresses and identity card or company registration numbers, are sufficient for the purpose of registering newspapers and news agencies.

With the amendments, the particulars required by the Registrar shall be confined only to those specified in the form, he said.

The spokesman also said Regulation 14 of the Newspapers Registration and Distribution Regulations, which provides that no document (other than a document forming an integral part of a newspaper) shall be distributed in or with any newspaper without the consent of the Registrar, will be repealed.

The Administration considered this provision is inconsistent with the BOR, he added.

The amendments will take effect on June 22.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

New AIDS Awareness Campaign launched

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A new AIDS Awareness Campaign that urges the public to show more care and understanding towards HIV infected persons and to take a positive approach in the prevention of AIDS will be launched in the coming months.

The Chairman of the Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS (CEPAIDS), Ms Carlye Tsui, announced details of this year's AIDS Awareness Campaign at a press conference today (Friday).

Ms Tsui pointed out that the reported number of HIV patients had increased globally in the past ten years from 28,000 in 1985 to over a million in 1994.

In Hong Kong, as at the end of last year, a total of 3,000 people were infected by the fatal disease, and 250 of them developed AIDS.

According to findings of some epidemiological research, by the year 2000, the number of HIV patients in Hong Kong will increase to between 8,000 and 12,000. The annual AIDS cases for the coming few years will be between 150 and 300.

Ms Tsui said the most effective weapon in the fight against AIDS is education and prevention. So one of the objectives of this year's Campaign is to continue publicising the importance of practising safe sex; avoiding sexual promiscuity; and protecting oneself and one's family from contracting the disease.

Through the launching of this Campaign, the Committee aims to enhance general awareness towards the effect of AIDS; to dispel misconceptions about HIV carriers and HIV patients; to encourage the public to accept these people who deserve our sympathy and support, not isolation.

To fulfil these objectives, the Committee has adopted a new strategy and a wide range of activities to reinforce these messages to all sectors of the community.

The package includes the production of a new TV Announcement of Public Interest (API) featuring an HIV patient, who identifies himself as JJ. JJ relates his personal experience about AIDS, his relationship with his family and his friends, and gives advice on ways to prevent contracting AIDS.

Ms Tsui praised JJ for his courage and openness in offering to come forward to deliver the message that AIDS can happen to everybody and that we can avoid it by taking precautions.

The approach of this TV API is the first of its kind in the AIDS education programme in Hong Kong. JJ presents the human face of an AIDS sufferer with great courage and dignity.

The Committee has also designed a new campaign logo combining the shape of a heart and a ribbon to symbolise care and acceptance towards HIV patients.

A host of different media and means of public education would also be used to disseminate the message of "Show Your Concern and Think About AIDS" to the public in a wide spectrum of activities.

For example, an MTR ticket advertisement carrying the message of concern about HIV patients will be launched in early July. The Committee will also take part in a travel exhibition to promote ways of prevention against AIDS to potential travellers.

Give-away items bearing the message of practising safe sex and basic knowledge about AIDS will be produced for distribution at various public education functions.

In December, the Committee will organise a large scale photo exhibition displaying the impact of AIDS on mankind both locally and globally.

The event will be a major item to mark the 10th anniversary of the report of the first AIDS case in the territory.

The Committee will continue to make use of various media, including TV and radio, newspaper and magazine, poster and leaflet, and bus advertisement in support of the campaign.

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Findings of the 1994-95 Pay Trend Survey

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The Pay Trend Survey Committee met on May 19 to consider the findings of the 1994-95 Pay Trend Survey. The meeting was chaired by Mr Nicholas S C Chiu, who was appointed in his capacity as a member of the Standing Commission on Civil Service Salaries and Conditions of Service.

The survey, which was conducted by the Pay Survey and Research Unit, measured pay trends in 69 companies covering some 120,000 employees during the period April 2, 1994, to April 1, 1995. It took into account increases relating to cost of living, general changes in market rates, company performance, merit and inscale increment, in accordance with the long established methodology approved by the Administration.

The Committee accepted the findings of the survey which indicate that the following average pay increases have been awarded by the surveyed companies:

- * 10.66% for employees earning less than \$11,315 per month;
- * 11.36% for employees earning between \$11,315 and \$34,690 per month;
- * 11.38% for employees earning between \$34,691 and \$69,060 per month.

A spokesman for the Committee has emphasised that these figures were the result of a survey of pay trends in the private companies. Pay adjustment in the civil service is a separate matter and the level of the adjustment is determined by the Government in consultation with the staff consultative councils.

The Pay Trend Survey Committee consists of representatives of the Standing Commission on Civil Service Salaries and Conditions of Service, the Standing Committee on Disciplined Services Salaries and Conditions of Service, the Administration, and the Staff Sides of the Senior Civil Service Council, the Model Scale 1 Staff Consultative Council, the Police Force Council and the Disciplined Services Consultative Council.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

JLG expert talks on Budget

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The Sino-British Joint Liaison Group will hold their second round of Expert Talks from May 22 to 27 in Hong Kong to discuss the preparation for Hong Kong's transitional Budget and related matters.

The British team will be led by Mr K C Kwong, Secretary for the Treasury of the Hong Kong Government. The Chinese team will be led by Mr Chen Zuo'er, Chinese Representative on the Sino-British Joint Liaison Group. They will be assisted by experts.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Sino-British Land Commission

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The 30th meeting of the Sino-British Land Commission was held on May 19. The two sides agreed that the Land Disposal Programme for the 1995-96 financial year should amount to 132.93 hectares. The programme comprises 45.11 hectares for commercial, residential and industrial development, 40.00 hectares for Home Ownership Scheme, Sandwich Class Housing Scheme, Private Sector Participation Scheme, Hong Kong Housing Society development and Village Housing; 16.23 hectares for public utilities, educational, welfare, religious, recreational and other uses; and 31.59 hectares as special requirements.

The two sides also agreed to set aside 5 hectares of land in a Supplementary Land Disposal Programme.

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Statistics on trade involving outward processing in China

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In the fourth quarter of 1994, 48% of Hong Kong's total exports to China were for outward processing; the figure was 68% for domestic exports, and 45% for re-exports. On the other hand, 71% of Hong Kong's imports from China were related to outward processing, according to statistics released today by the Census and Statistics Department.

Over the same period, 83% 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 fourth quarter of 1993 were 49% for total exports to China, 77% for domestic exports to China, 43% for re-exports to China, 76% for imports from China and 80% for re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China.

In 1994, 48% of Hong Kong's total exports to China were for outward processing; the figure was 71% for domestic exports, and 43% for re-exports. On the other hand, 76% of Hong Kong's imports from China were related to outward processing. Over the same period, 82% 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 1993 were 48% for total exports to China, 74% for domestic exports to China, 42% for re-exports to China, 74% for imports from China and 81% 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 fourth quarter and the whole year of 1994 are now available.

In value terms, \$49,395 million of Hong Kong's total exports to China in the fourth quarter of 1994 were for outward processing, representing an increase of 13% over the fourth quarter of 1993. The value of domestic exports to China for outward processing decreased by 11% to \$10,593 million whilst the value of re-exports to China for outward processing grew by 23% to \$38,801 million.

Over the same period of comparison, the value of imports from China related to outward processing increased by 11% to \$92,303 million. On the other hand, \$117,312 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 18%.

In 1994, \$181,179 million of Hong Kong's total exports to China were for outward processing, representing an increase of 13% over 1993. The value of domestic exports to China for outward processing dropped by 7% to \$41,959 million while the value of re-exports to China for outward processing grew by 21% to \$139,221 million.

Over the same period of comparison, the value of imports from China related to outward processing increased by 20% to \$354,912 million. On the other hand, \$422,544 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 16%.

For the purpose of the survey, exports (domestic exports and re-exports) to China for outward processing refer to the exportation of raw materials or semi-manufactures 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 the importation of processed goods from China of which all or part of their 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 produced through outward processing in China refer to those re-exports of which all or part of their 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 March issue of the "Hong Kong External Trade". This report will be on sale at the end of May at the Government Publications Sales Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, 66 Queensway, and at the Publications Section 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.

ESTIMATED VALUE AND PROPORTION OF TRADE INVOLVING OUTWARD PROCESSING IN CHINA, 4TH QUARTER OF 1994 AND THE WHOLE YEAR 1994

	4th qtr. <u>1994</u> (HKD Mn.)	Percentage change over 4th qtr. <u>1993</u> (%)	<u>1994</u> (HKD Mn.)	Percentage change over <u>1993</u> (%)
<u>Total trade value * :</u>				
Total exports to China	101,980	+14.6	380,160	+13.7
Domestic exports to China	15,577	+ 0.5	58,774	- 3.7
Re-exports to China	86,403	+17.6	321,386	+17.6
Imports from China	129,403	+18.6	467,831	+17.0
Re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China	140,534	+13.7	515,537	+14.2
<u>Estimated value involving outward processing in China :</u>				
Total exports to China	49,395	+13.4	181,179	+13.1
Domestic exports to China	10,593	- 11.0	41,959	- 7.0
Re-exports to China	38,801	+22.5	139,221	+21.0
Imports from China	92,303	+10.6	354,912	+20.2
Re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China	117,312	+18.0	422,544	+15.9

Estimated proportion involving outward processing in China :

	4th qtr. <u>1994</u> (%)	4th qtr. <u>1993</u> (%)	<u>1994</u> (%)	<u>1993</u> (%)
Total exports to China	48.4	49.0	47.7	47.9
Domestic exports to China	68.0	76.8	71.4	74.0
Re-exports to China	44.9	43.1	43.3	42.1
Imports from China	71.3	76.5	75.9	73.8
Re-exports of China origin to all countries other than China	83.5	80.4	82.0	80.8

* The value excludes commodities and transactions not classified according to kind.

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Value of manufacturers' orders-on-hand in March

The value of manufacturers' orders-on-hand for local production in March increased by 7% over a year earlier, according to the provisional results of a monthly survey released today (Friday) by the Census and Statistics Department.

Comparing March this year with March last year, significant increase in the value of outstanding orders was recorded in the electronic products industry (+33%). Increases in the value of orders were also recorded in the electrical products industry (+7%) and the wearing apparel industry (+5%). Value of orders for the printing & publishing industry showed little change.

On the other hand, significant decreases in the value of orders were registered in the fabricated metal products industry (-24%) and the textiles industry (-20%). Decrease in the value of orders was also recorded in the plastic products industry (-2%).

Compared with February, and bearing in mind that this comparison may be affected by seasonal factors, the value of manufacturers' orders-on-hand in March increased by 9%.

The Monthly Survey of Orders-on-hand covers a sample of some 300 manufacturing firms engaging 50 or more workers.

Manufacturers' orders-on-hand refer to orders and parts of orders received earlier by manufacturers for local production which remain unfilled as at the end of the reference month. Orders received by traders not engaged in production are included if such orders are further placed to manufacturers for production locally. However, orders placed to manufacturing firms for production in China and other places outside Hong Kong are not included in this series of orders-on-hand statistics.

A spokesman of the department pointed out that caution should be exercised in interpreting the manufacturers' orders-on-hand figures in a single month. Instead, the trend movement of the series as displayed over a wider span of time points should be looked at.

The survey report for March, at \$6.0 a copy, is now available for sale at the Government Publications Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, Queensway, and at the Census and Statistics Department Publications Section, 19th Floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

Enquiries about the survey results may be made to the Industrial Production Statistics Section of the Census and Statistics Department on 2805.6441.

The following table shows the year-on-year percentage changes in the value of orders-on-hand in different manufacturing industries.

	Percentage changes in the value of orders-on-hand in	
	February 1995 over February 1994 (Revised)	March 1995 over March 1994 (Provisional)
All industries covered in the survey	+7	+7
* Wearing apparel	+5	+5
* Textiles	-16	-20
* Electronic products	+33	+33
* Electrical products	+3	+7
* Fabricated metal products	-35	-24
* Plastic products	+12	-2
* Printing and publishing	+7	*

* Changes within +/-0.5%

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Provision of rehabilitation places on target

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The schedule for the development of the Aberdeen Rehabilitation Centre has been revised to enable work to be completed on time.

Upon completion in 1997, the purpose-built centre will provide 1,400 new places for people with various disabilities.

"This means that, if all goes well, the Government should meet its target of 3,930 new residential places by 1997," a spokesman for the Health and Welfare Branch said following the Governor's meeting with 13 representatives from five major parent associations of mentally handicapped people at Government House today (Friday).

In the 1992 Policy Address, the Governor pledged to meet the following key targets in the Green Paper on Rehabilitation: an additional 3,930 residential places for people with various disabilities; and an additional 3,760 day places for mentally handicapped persons, comprising 1,650 places in day activity centres and 2,110 places in sheltered workshops.

"Earlier this year it appeared that the Government might be unable to meet the target of 3,930 residential places by 1997," the spokesman said.

"However, following a meeting of officials chaired by the Governor last month, it is now clear that we should be able to meet our target by 1997, and may even slightly exceed this."

On day activity centres, the Government has looked critically at the original 1992 Policy Address of providing 1,650 places by 1997, in the light of the changing needs of mentally handicapped people.

The demand for this service has also been reviewed by the Rehabilitation Programme Plan Review Committee, consisting of representatives from non-governmental organisations, the Hong Kong Council of Social Service and concerned departments.

"We all agreed that the demand for day activity centre places is not as great as had originally been envisaged.

"The target of 1,650 has therefore been reduced by 242 places, and the funds saved have been redeployed for other rehabilitation services for mentally handicapped people.

"So we are spending the same resources but using them more flexibility to meet actual needs," the spokesman said.

Turning to sheltered workshops, the spokesman said the Working Party on Training and Employment for People with Disabilities, chaired by the Director of Social Welfare, considered that it made more sense to provide more supported employment places rather than an ever increasing number of sheltered workshop places.

"Responding to changing needs, the Government has increased the 2,110 target, originally for sheltered workshop places only, to 2,160 by 1997, but will be devoting an increasing number of these to supported employment places, for which there is an ever-growing demand," he said.

The spokesman added that the Governor had underlined his personal commitment to ensuring that not only the quantity but also the quality of services should be improved and waiting time for them reduced.

He had expressed his admiration for the role played by the parents of children with a disability and wished to do all he could to lighten their burden.

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LDC development scheme plan for Wan Chai published

The Town Planning Board today (Friday) published the Land Development Corporation's (LDC) draft Wan Chai Road/Tai Yuen Street Development Scheme Plan and the associated Land Use Diagram for a proposed redevelopment scheme in the southern part of Wan Chai.

The 0.86-hectare scheme area is bounded by Cross Street, Tai Yuen Street, Queen's Road East and Ruttonjee Hospital.

Most of the buildings in the area are four to eight-storey residential blocks completed before 1966.

The area is suffering from traffic congestion and unhygienic conditions due to proliferation of hawking activities along side streets.

Moreover, the area is in lack of government and community facilities and in acute shortage of parking and off-street loading and unloading spaces.

"The scheme area has been designated as 'Comprehensive Development Area' to enable the LDC to undertake comprehensive redevelopment of the area," a spokesman for the Town Planning Board said.

"The scheme plan provides a planning framework for the redevelopment of the scheme area so as to restructure the existing land uses and street patterns, avoid piecemeal redevelopment, optimise development potential, facilitate the provision of 'Government/Institution/Community' facilities and improve the environmental and traffic conditions of the scheme area.

"The proposed redevelopment, as shown on the Land Use Diagram, will comprise commercial and residential uses with the much-needed social welfare facilities.

"In particular, a new Urban Council market with a dry goods shopping arcade will be incorporated in the development.

"Social welfare facilities to be provided in the scheme include a day nursery and a home help centre," the spokesman added.

To achieve efficiency in land use, a portion of Stone Nullah Lane will be closed and form part of the development site.

Upon redevelopment, Wan Chai Road, Tai Yuen Street and Queen's Road East will be widened to facilitate vehicular circulation.

Apart from the provision of a bus bay along Queen's Road East, sufficient parking spaces and off-street loading and unloading facilities will also be provided within the development.

LDC will be required to submit a master layout plan for the scheme area to the Town Planning Board for approval.

The draft scheme plan is available for public inspection until July 19 at:-

- * Planning Department,
16th floor,
Murray Building,
Garden Road,
Hong Kong;

- * Hong Kong District Planning Office,
11th floor,
Leighton Centre,
77 Leighton Road,
Hong Kong; and

- * Wan Chai District Office,
ground floor,
2 O'Brien Road,
Wan Chai,
Hong Kong.

Any person affected by the scheme plan may submit written objection to the Secretary of the Town Planning Board, c/o Planning Department, 13th floor, Murray Building before July 19.

Copies of the draft scheme plan can be bought at the Survey and Mapping Office, Lands Department, 14th floor, Murray Building, and Kowloon Map Sales Office, ground floor, 382 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

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Draft Drainage Authority Area plan gazetted

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The Drainage Authority (who is the Director of Drainage Services) has prepared a draft Drainage Authority Area plan for the largest drainage basin in Hong Kong.

The draft plan shows the boundary of the "Drainage Area" in the Yuen Long, Kam Tin and Ngau Tam Mei Drainage Basin.

The basin covers Shap Pat Heung, Ping Shan, Fairview Park, Ngau Tam Mei, Nam Sang Wai, Pat Heung, Kam Tin and Yuen Long Town.

The Drainage Authority Area is about 90 square kilometres.

About 44 kilometres of watercourses within these areas are also designated by the Drainage Authority as "main watercourses" on the draft plan.

A notice on the draft plan was gazetted today (Friday).

A spokesman for the Drainage Services Department said upon gazetting of the draft plan, the Drainage Authority was given various powers to enter upon private land for executing drainage works, and to exercise control on erection of structures within the main watercourses.

"These measures are aimed at reducing the threat of flooding in the areas covered by the draft Drainage Authority Area plan," he explained.

The draft Drainage Authority Area plan showing the boundary of the "Drainage Authority Area" and the extent of main watercourses, can be seen at the following offices:

- * Drainage Services Department headquarters, 43rd floor, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai;
- * Land Drainage Division, Drainage Services Department, 11th floor, Kowloon Government Offices, 405 Nathan Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon;
- * Yuen Long District Office, Yuen Long District Office Building, 269 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long, New Territories;
- * Land Registry, 28th floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway; and
- * Yuen Long District Land Registry, seventh floor, Yuen Long Government Offices, 2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long, New Territories.

Any person affected by the draft Drainage Authority Area plan may lodge an objection in writing to the Drainage Authority not later than 60 days after the gazette notice. He should clearly set out the nature of and reasons for the objection, and any proposed alteration that would remove the objection.

Meanwhile, the Land Drainage (Appeal) Regulation and Land Drainage (Consent and Approval) Regulation which provide the procedures for making appeals and applications for consent under the Land Drainage Ordinance, were also gazetted today.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

More public piers for Sai Kung

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The Government plans to construct three public piers in Sai Kung. The piers will be located at Sha Kiu, Tai Tau Chau and Tung Lung Chau to provide better berthing and landing facilities for the local villagers and other members of the public.

The works will be carried out within the foreshore and sea-bed in Leung Shan Wan Hoi at Sha Kiu, Leung Shuen Wan Hoi at Tai Tau Chau and Tung Lung Chau.

Construction of the piers will begin in mid-1996 for completion in about two years.

The extent of the area affected are notified in three notices in the Gazette today (Friday).

The notices and their related plans can be seen on notice boards near the works sites.

The plans can also be seen at the Lands Department's Survey and Mapping Office, 14th floor, Murray Building, Garden Road; and at the Sai Kung District Office, ground floor, Sai Kung Government Offices, 34 Chan man Street, Sai Kung.

The plans can also be purchased at the Survey and Mapping Office.

Any persons who considers that he has an interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and sea-bed involved will be affected, may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands on or before July 19.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Authorised investments permitted for trustees list revised

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The Government today (Friday) published in the Gazette an amendment order to revise the list of authorised investments permitted for trustees as contained in the Second Schedule to the Trustee Ordinance.

The revised list of authorised trustee investments is the work of a Working Party set up under the Financial Services Branch in June 1993. The Working Party is chaired by the deputy Secretary for Financial Services and comprises representatives from the Securities and Futures Commission, the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, the Office of the Commissioner for Insurance, the Companies Registry, and the Attorney General's Chambers.

"The revised Second Schedule replaces the original list and comprises six categories, namely corporate securities, non-corporate debt securities, collective investment schemes, cash and short term investments, property, and derivatives for hedging purposes," said a Government spokesman.

"Corporate securities are restricted to shares of 'blue chips' or debentures that meet the specified credit ratings," he said.

"'Blue chips' are companies with a market capitalisation of HK\$10 billion or equivalent in a foreign currency and are listed in HK or a recognised stock market," he explained.

"The specified credit ratings are Moody's A3 or S&P's A- for long-term instruments or Moody's Prime-1 or S&P's A-1 for short-term instruments," the spokesman added.

Non-corporate debt securities include those issued or guaranteed by government or central bank in Hong Kong and overseas, or multilateral agencies. In Hong Kong, the Exchange Fund and 100% government-owned corporations are included. In overseas, the country must meet the specified sovereign rating, and multilateral agencies must meet the specified supranational rating. The specified sovereign/supranational rating are the same as the specified credit rating for corporate debt securities.

Collective investment schemes include all unit trusts and mutual funds authorised by the Securities and Futures Commission.

Property is confined to first legal mortgages of properties in Hong Kong and is a retained item from the existing list.

Cash and short-term investments include deposits, certificates of deposit, bills of exchange, promissory notes and short-term debt securities issued or guaranteed by an authorised institution or an exempted body.

"The Working Party emphasises that it is not recommending the inclusion of derivatives per se as a trustee investment but for hedging purposes only," the spokesman stressed.

"Use of derivatives is strictly restricted to hedging specific investments already held or to be purchased at the same time, and subject to obtaining and heeding the advice of an investment adviser under stringent conditions. Moreover, derivatives are confined to those traded on a market," he added.

The Second Schedule was last revised in 1984 and a review has been called for with the passage of time.

"Certain items in the original list has become inappropriate, archaic or irrelevant. The revision is necessary to bring the Schedule up to date with the developments in the financial and capital markets both here and elsewhere," he said.

"The revised list is capable of being updated automatically without the need for frequent legislative amendments. This is achieved by including instruments that draw reference from other legislation that is updated on a regular basis," the spokesman added.

The revised list is the result of consultation with the private sector conducted in June last year. Some 20 submissions were received including the HK Capital Markets Association, HK Investment Funds Association, HK Trustees' Association, HKAB, DTC Association, Bar Association, Law Society, HKSA, Federation of Insurers PAA, MTRC, KCRC, Housing Authority, Director of Accounting Services and the Secretary for Treasury.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Reconstruction of roads in Ho Man Tin

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The Highways Department is inviting tenders for the reconstruction of Fat Kwong Street and Pui Ching Road.

The works include the reconstruction and some local widening of Fat Kwong Street, Pui Ching Road as well as a section of Sheung Shing Street near its junction with Fat Kwong Street; and the associated road drainage and landscaping works.

Works are anticipated to commence in August this year and be completed in November 1996.

A notice on invitation to tender was published in the Gazette today (Friday).

Forms of tender and further particulars may be obtained from Regional Highway Engineer/Kowloon, Highways Department, 13th floor, Room 1321, Nan Fung Commercial Centre, 19 Lam Lok Street, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon. Enquiries can be made on 2707 7438.

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 on the lower ground floor of the Central Government Offices (East Wing), Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, before noon on June 9.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

The works have been designed and will be supervised by the Highways Department.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Weather radar station at Tai Lam Chung

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The Architectural Services Department is inviting tenders for the construction of a Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR) Station at Tai Lam Chung Marine Police Base.

The contract includes site formation, construction of a one-storey meteorological building with a steel radar tower on top plus drainage and external works at the Tai Lam Chung Marine Police Base.

Works are expected to commence in July. The station will serve the Chek Lap Kok Airport upon its completion in April 1996.

Tender forms and further particulars for the project can be obtained from the Architectural Services Department, 34th floor Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong.

Tender offers for the project will close at noon on June 16.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Submarine cable proposed for Siu Mo To

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China Light and Power Company Limited plans to lay a submarine cable for providing permanent electricity supply to a Civil Aviation Department's radar station on Siu Mo To Island.

The work will be carried out within an area of about 26 hectares of foreshore and sea-bed from Sham Shui Kok to Siu Mo To.

The work will be carried out in two phases. The work of Phase I will involve conventional dredging at both sides of the landing points while phase II work will relate to laying of the submarine cable from Sham Shui Kok to Siu Mo To.

The work will begin in November 1995 for completion by the end of January 1996.

The extent of the area affected is described in the Gazette today (Friday).

The notice and its related plans can be seen on notice boards near the site.

The plan can also be seen at the Lands Department's Survey and Mapping Office, 14th floor, Murray Building, Garden Road; Tuen Mun District Office, second floor, Tuen Mun Government Offices, 1 Tuen Hi Road, Tuen Mun; and at the Tsuen Wan District Office, first floor, Tsuen Wan Station Multi-storey carpark Building, 174-208 Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan.

The plan can also be purchased at the Survey and Mapping Office.

Any person who considers that his interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and seabed involved will be affected, may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands on or before July 19.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Pre-qualification invited for explosives complex

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The Civil Engineering Department is inviting contractors to participate in a pre-qualification exercise for the construction of buildings and mechanical and electrical works for the explosives complex at Kau Shat Wan, Lantau Island.

The works comprise mainly the construction of 19 single-storey buildings, internal roads, drains, fencing and landscaping works and installation of building services and mechanical and electrical works for the buildings, tunnels and caverns. A security system for the complex will also be provided under the contract.

Works are scheduled to start in February next year for completion in 14 months.

Contractors on the Approved Contractors for Public Works List I in Group C (confirmed) or List II (confirmed), for building works are invited to apply for pre-qualification documents from the TBV Consult, seventh floor, Caroline Centre, 28 Yun Ping Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong.

The deadline for submission of applications is noon on June 9 and tenders will be invited from the pre-qualified contractors in September.

The works have been designed and construction will be supervised by TBV Consult for Port Works Division, Civil Engineering Office, Civil Engineering Department.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Laying of fresh water mains in Sai Kung

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The Water Supplies Department is inviting tenders for the laying of about 2.6 kilometres of ductile iron fresh water mains a diameter of 300 to 400 millimetres along Hiram's Highway, Po Tung Road and Tai Mong Tsai Road in Sai Kung.

The project forms part of a public works programme to improve fresh water supply to Tseung Kwan O hinterlands to cater for future demands.

Works on this contract are expected to start in July for completion in about 14 months.

Tender forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Water Supplies Department, 44th floor, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Tender offers will close at noon on June 9.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Tenders invited for electronic turnstile system

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The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) is inviting tenders for the supply and installation of two money-operated turnstile systems for Urban Council's leisure pool complexes.

The systems, which will accept specified coins and notes for admission, will be installed one each at the Jordan Valley Leisure Pool Complex and Hammer Hill Road Leisure Pool Complex.

Each system will basically consist of seven electronically controlled turnstiles, a LED message display board, a control computer with printer, an uninterruptible power supply system and other auxiliary accessories.

A notice of the tender invitations was gazetted today (Friday).

Tender forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Contract Section of EMSD, Room 811, eighth floor, 98 Caroline Hill Road, Causeway Bay.

Tenders should be placed in the Public Works Tender Box at the lift lobby on 34th floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, before noon on June 16.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Legal study visit to Hong Kong

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At the invitation of the Hong Kong Government, Mr Hu Yiding, Deputy Director of the Office of the Minister, Ministry of Justice, will lead a delegation of seven officials from the Ministry of Justice, the Supreme People's Court, Supreme People's Procuratorate and the Hong Kong and Macao Office of the State Council to visit Hong Kong from May 22 to 29.

They will meet Hong Kong Government officials from the Attorney General's Chambers, Royal Hong Kong Police Force, Independent Commission Against Corruption, Correctional Services Department, Immigration Department, Legal Aid Department and the Judiciary.

The visit is one of a series of reciprocal Legal Study Visits that have taken place over the past few years.

These visits are intended to provide opportunities for officials from the Chinese and Hong Kong governments to meet on a regular basis to learn more about each other's legal system at a practical level.

Since the start of the Legal Study Visit programme in 1988, Hong Kong has sent four delegations to China and two Chinese delegations have visited Hong Kong.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Friends of the Earth committed to countryside conservation

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This year, Friends of the Earth has committed itself to a five year "Forest Adoption Project" organised by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department on the hillside of Lantau Country Park.

In March and April this year, work was started on site preparation and over 4,000 seedlings have been planted on the hillside.

The next stage involves clearing weeds around the seedlings, adding fertiliser, and protecting them from hill fires.

"But, I am confident that, after several years, all of you who have worked so hard on the project will see your seedlings growing into strong and healthy trees and becoming part of the woodlands in Hong Kong," Mrs Patten said at the "Plant for the Earth" Closing Ceremony organised by the Friends of the Earth today (Friday).

She was glad to see people from all walks of life join and participate in the Project, working together for the common good of countryside conservation.

"This shows that each and every one of us feels that responsibility and has the capacity to make a positive contribution to our environment," she said.

Last year, with the help of Friends of the Earth and support by government departments and an enthusiastic public, some eroded areas on Lantau Island near Mui Wo were revegetated.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

FSD praised for high professional standards

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The deputy Secretary for Security, Mr Jim Morris, today (Friday) praised the Fire Services Department for maintaining very high professional standards and enjoying an enviable reputation around the world.

He said the reputation enjoyed by the department had been earned by the dedication and professionalism of its members.

Speaking at the department's 109th passing-out parade at Pat Heung Fire Station, Mr Morris said the fine bearing and smart turnout of the graduates on parade reflected great credit on both themselves and their instructors.

"You have now completed your basic training and will shortly join one of the finest fire brigades in the world.

"As fire fighters, you will face many difficult challenges in serving Hong Kong and its community. You will be exposed to all kinds of dangers, and will be expected to display a great sense of commitment, determination and courage," he said.

Mr Morris noted that the graduates had been taught the use of many different types of equipment for saving life and extinguishing fire.

"The training that you have received over these past weeks is designed to prepare you for the work you will shortly be called upon to perform," he said.

He added that the need for discipline and team work were equally important.

"They are essential elements in a professional Fire Brigade, and it is up to you to become an effective part of that close-knit team," he said.

Congratulating the graduates on their joining an elite brigade, Mr Morris said he was confident that, under the guidance of more senior and experienced colleagues who would work side by side with them, they would perform their duties with courage and determination, and live up to the high professional standards and reputation of the department.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Open forum for arts groups

Members from the arts community wishing to have more information on the Guidelines for Representative Arts Organisations and for their nominees for membership of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council (HKADC), which were issued on May 8 this year by the Recreation and Culture Branch, are welcome to attend an open forum to be held next Tuesday (May 23).

The acting deputy Secretary for Recreation and Culture, Mr Ian Petersen, and the acting Principal Assistant Secretary for Recreation and Culture, Mr Raymond Tam, will be present to answer questions.

The HKADC will operate as a statutory body starting from June 1. Its second term of office will commence with effect from January 1 next year. At that time, it is intended to include up to nine specified organisations representing each of nine specified categories of arts interests, namely: literary arts, music, dance, drama, visual arts, film arts, arts administration, arts education and arts criticism.

The forum will be held at 4 pm in the Conference Room of the Recreation and Culture Branch, 41st floor, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai.

As the venue can only accommodate about 30 people, those interested should contact Mr Saul Ching on 2594 5625 to make reservations. Each organisation may only reserve up to two seats.

Attention News Editors:

Media representatives wishing to cover the open forum are requested to send in their names to Ms Winnie Lo on 2810 3354 before Tuesday.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

VM transfer operation tomorrow

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A Government spokesman announced today (Friday) that an exercise to transfer 1,500 Vietnamese migrants (VMs) from Section 1 of the Whitehead Detention Centre to High Island would take place tomorrow morning.

"This is part of the Government's plans to push ahead with the closure of detention centres," he said.

The spokesman explained that the intended transfer was announced in Section 1 on May 12. The VMs were asked to come forward for transfer and during the course of the following week intensive counselling was undertaken.

Since then, only 197 VMs have left the section.

"We shall continue our efforts to persuade the VMs to move peacefully and we still hope that many of them will agree to do so," the spokesman said.

The transfer exercise will be observed by independent monitors and UNHCR officials.

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results

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Tender date	19 May 95
Paper on offer	MTRC notes
Issue number	M501
Amount applied	HK\$1,930 MN
Amount allotted	HK\$500 MN
Average price (yield) accepted	100.30 (7.98 PCT)
Lowest price (yield) accepted	100.21 (8.00 PCT)
Pro rata ratio	About 10 PCT
Average tender price (yield)	100.00 (8.06 PCT)

End/Friday, May 19, 1995

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	1,307	0930	+1,193
Closing balance in the account	2,485	1000	+1,193
Change attributable to :		1100	+1,195
Money market activity	+1,195	1200	+1,195
LAF today	-17	1500	+1,195
		1600	+1,195

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 119.3 **+0.0* 19.5.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/Hong Kong Government bonds				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.78	18 months	2611	6.90	101.10	6.21
1 month	5.76	24 months	2705	7.40	100.18	6.40
3 months	5.80	29 months	3710	7.25	101.68	6.60
6 months	5.90	35 months	3804	6.90	100.53	6.81
12 months	6.07	58 months	5003	7.75	102.24	7.32

Total turnover of bills and bonds - \$ 12,911 million

Closed May 19, 1995

End/Friday, May 19, 1995