



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Handover ceremony for Hong Kong

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Joint Liaison Group ambassadors Hugh Davies and Zhao Jihua today (Friday) signed an agreement on a handover ceremony for Hong Kong, to take place around midnight on June 30, 1997.

The reaching of the accord was announced yesterday by British Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, following his meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Qian Qichen in New York. The Foreign Secretary also announced that Britain would stage a ceremony in Hong Kong at sunset on June 30 to mark the end of British administration.

The JLG accord says that there will be a solemn and dignified ceremony between the British and Chinese governments marking both the handover and the establishment of the new Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

The ceremony will be held in the Grand Foyer of the extension to the Convention and Exhibition Centre, now under construction on the waterfront of Hong Kong Island, and will be witnessed by guests from Britain, China, Hong Kong and overseas, including high level representatives from foreign countries and international organisations.

The agreement says that the ceremony will include the lowering of the Union and Hong Kong flags and the raising of the Chinese National Flag and the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Flag. It makes clear that normal internationally accepted media handling arrangements will apply, and that the Hong Kong Police will be responsible for security.

There is to be further discussion of the details in the JLG.

A Hong Kong Government spokesman said: "We welcome this agreement. The handover is a historical event which will focus huge international interest on Hong Kong. The ceremony will provide an excellent opportunity to present Hong Kong and the concept of 'one country, two systems' to the world."

He added: "We will make the best possible arrangements to welcome guests coming to Hong Kong for the ceremony and to facilitate media coverage of the handover."

On the British farewell ceremony, the spokesman said: "We welcome the British Government's decision to support the financing and staging of a farewell ceremony in Hong Kong on June 30 to mark the end of British administration.

"Hong Kong and Britain are part of each other's history. It is right that the ending of British administration should be marked in a proper way. The British Government will make a financial contribution to cover the production costs of the ceremony."

End

AG welcomes conclusion of Tan's case

* * * * *

In response to media enquiries on George Tan's case, a spokesman for the Attorney General's Chambers said today (Friday) that the conclusion of the case was proof of the importance of the rule of law in Hong Kong.

Welcoming the conclusion, the Attorney General, Mr Jeremy Mathews said: "The ending of the trial represents the closing chapter of the longest and most complex commercial fraud case in the history of Hong Kong and very possibly, that of the world."

He said the prosecution of a massive commercial fraud case of this nature would necessarily take a long time and be very expensive.

"We cannot put a price tag on justice," he said.

The prosecution of this case had taken a long time because it was necessary to gather a vast amount of evidence in Malaysia and other jurisdictions.

"However, it serves as an assurance to the community of Hong Kong and the rest of the world that Hong Kong will not shrink from the task of relentlessly pursuing those who prey upon that community and bring its financial system into disrepute.

"Commercial fraud will not be tolerated in Hong Kong. We are determined that offenders will be brought to justice," said Mr Mathews, reiterating that the rule of law in the territory will continue to be strenuously maintained for the protection of the whole community, without fear or favour.

End

Statement by the Judiciary on practice of Coroner

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In accordance with Section 6 of the Coroners Ordinance, the death of Mr David Chan Yuk-cheung has been reported to the Coroner upon the body being brought into the territory of Hong Kong.

It is the usual practice of the Coroner that whenever a Hong Kong resident dies suddenly or unexpectedly at sea, outside Hong Kong territorial waters, to require an autopsy and a death report from the Royal Hong Kong Police. Upon receipt of the report, the Coroner will determine whether to conduct an inquest.

The jurisdiction of the Coroner to investigate the circumstances of the death and to conduct an inquest arise from the presence of the body in Hong Kong.

The Coroner has been supplied with a Death Certificate from the authorities in Taiwan. That certificate states a cause of death, but does not state that an autopsy has been undertaken.

In accordance with the usual practice the Coroner has directed that an autopsy be conducted to ascertain the actual cause of death.

End

Australia and Hong Kong: Strategic Partner in Asia

* * * * *

The Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, called on Australian Prime Minister, Mr John Howard, today (Friday) before concluding her week-long visit to three major cities in Australia - Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne.

"I had met with the Prime Minister and had a useful discussion, exchanging views on matters of mutual concern," Mrs Chan said.

"Given our increasingly strong ties, it is in both our interests that travel between Australia and Hong Kong should be made flexible and easy.

"The Prime Minister assured me that his government will do everything possible to facilitate travel of Hong Kong people in and out of Australia and I believe that the government has under consideration certain arrangements that will make the visa application and obtaining the necessary visa even easier.

"So we look forward very much to discussion on those arrangements coming to fruition, so that these arrangements could be announced."

During her visit in Australia, she had met with the premiers of Victoria and New South Wales, with other senior officials, politicians, business people, academics and the media.

"One of the main purposes of this visit is to open our Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Sydney, which will be Hong Kong permanent presence in Australia after 1997," she said.

"As you know, in accordance with the Basic Law, we will have a high degree of autonomy in conducting our own economic and commercial affairs and we hope that with the existence of this office will help to strengthen and promote ties between Australia and Hong Kong. These ties are already very strong, not only in terms of trade, but also in terms of the human ties," Mrs Chan said.

Her programme in Melbourne today was a mixture of political calls, meetings with businessmen, media appearance and a tour to a food festival.

Earlier in the day, she paid a courtesy call on Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Councillor Ivan Deveson at the Melbourne Town Hall.

She also had a meeting with the Business Council of Australia and Committee for Economic Development of Australia which gave her an excellent opportunity to exchange views with members on a wide range of issues of mutual interest.

Later at a luncheon meeting, Mrs Chan and the Hong Kong delegates enjoyed a good discussion with members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

There was also a lighter side of Hong Kong that Mrs Chan brought with her to Hong Kong's friends in Australia. The Hong Kong Food Festival organised by the Hong Kong Tourist Association was a good example.

The food festival, held between today and October 4, will bring food lovers in Melbourne an opportunity to sample some of the delicious award winning dishes in previous food festivals in Hong Kong.

On the media side, Mrs Chan gave a live interview at the studio of 3AW Radio in the morning and she wrapped up her visit in Melbourne with a press interview following her call on the Prime Minister.

Mrs Chan will leave Melbourne on Sunday for Hong Kong.

End

Fees to be charged for waste import/export permits

* * * * *

Fees will be payable with effect from November 8 for the application of a permit for the import and export of hazardous or contaminated waste.

The new fees, aimed at recovering the cost for processing permit applications, are set out in the Waste Disposal (Forms and Fees for Licences) (Amendment) Regulation 1996 gazetted today (Friday).

This follows the introduction of the permit scheme on September 1 to regulate and control the import and export of waste in accordance with the Waste Disposal (Amendment) Ordinance 1995 and the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal.

The new fees are as follows:

- * Import/export permits for a single shipment of waste \$10,750;
- * Import/export permits for multiple shipments of waste \$17,460 (valid for up to 12 months).

A government spokesman said the Director of Environmental Protection must be satisfied that the waste shipment would be managed in an environmentally sound manner before he would issue a permit.

"Moreover, consent to the waste shipment must be obtained from the environmental authorities of the country of export, transit and import, as appropriate.

"In the case of waste to be imported into Hong Kong, the environmental authorities of the exporting country must agree to allow the return of the waste if the intended shipment cannot be completed," said the spokesman.

Most of Hong Kong's existing waste trade consist of non-hazardous and uncontaminated waste such as waste paper and scrap metals, which are not covered by the permit system.

Any person who imports and/or exports waste subject to control without a permit will be liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and six months' imprisonment upon first conviction.

End

Institute of Education to be put under UGC

* * * * *

The Government is proposing to amend the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIED) Ordinance so as to put the Institute formally under the aegis of the University Grants Committee (UGC).

The amendments, which seek to bring the ordinance in line with those of the seven tertiary institutions funded by UGC, are contained in the Hong Kong Institute of Education (Amendment) Bill 1996 gazetted today (Friday).

Explaining the Bill, a spokesman for the Education and Manpower Branch said it had been the Government's intention to put HKIED under the aegis of UGC since the Institute was established in September 1994.

On July 1, the Governor gave his approval to designate HKIED as an institution under the terms of reference of UGC.

"The UGC has a well-established monitoring and financial assessment mechanism for tertiary institutions. It now funds seven tertiary institutions, and advises the Government on their development as well as their funding requirements, in the light of their own academic plans.

"The HKIED could benefit from the UGC's expertise," the spokesman said.

"Besides, the Committee could advise the Government on the future direction of teacher education in the tertiary sector as a whole," he said.

The spokesman pointed out that the proposed amendments to HKIED Ordinance are basically technical in nature.

The main provisions of the Bill include amending the definition of "financial year"; deleting the requirement for HKIED to obtain the approval of the Financial Secretary for borrowing or fund raising activities and empowers HKIED to invest its funds; specifying the term of appointment for a member of the Council of HKIED; and removing the requirement for HKIED to submit to the Governor for his approval a programme of HKIED's proposed activities and estimates of its income and expenditure for the next financial year.

The Bill will be introduced to the Legislative Council on October 9.

End

External trade figures for August

* * * * *

The external trade figures for August 1996 released today (Friday) by the Census and Statistics Department showed that both re-exports and imports increased over a year earlier, while domestic exports fell.

The value of total exports (comprising re-exports and domestic exports) increased by 3.1% over a year earlier to \$124.9 billion in August 1996. The value of re-exports increased by 6% to \$106.7 billion, while the value of domestic exports decreased by 11% to \$18.2 billion.

Meanwhile, the value of imports increased by 0.7% over a year earlier to \$132.1 billion in August 1996.

As the value of total exports in August 1996 was smaller than that of total imports, a visible trade deficit of \$7.2 billion, equivalent to 5.5% of the value of imports, was recorded. This was nevertheless considerably smaller than the corresponding deficit of \$10.1 billion, equivalent to 7.7% of the value of imports, in August 1995.

For the first eight months of 1996 as a whole, the value of total exports grew by 4.6% over the same period last year. The value of re-exports rose by 7.4%, while that of domestic exports decreased by 8.3%. The value of imports showed an increase of 2.9%.

In the first eight months of 1996, a visible trade deficit of \$97.6 billion, equivalent to 9.7% of the value of imports, was recorded. This was smaller than the deficit of \$109.8 billion, equivalent to 11% of the value of imports, recorded in the same period in 1995.

Commenting on the latest trade figures, a government spokesman said export growth moderated somewhat in August 1996, after a marked pick-up in the previous month. On the other hand, as imports grew only marginally, the visible trade deficit showed a substantial decrease when compared with the same period in 1995.

Meanwhile, retained imports in August 1996 continued to fall, by 8.9% over a year earlier.

The table annexed presents the external trade figures in August 1996.

A more detailed analysis of Hong Kong's external trade for August 1996, by commodity and country, will be released in mid-October.

Census & Statistics Department, Hong Kong
香港政府統計處

External Trade Figures for August 1996

一九九六年八月份對外貿易數字

(HK\$ Million)
百萬港元

MERCHANDISE TRADE VALUES for August 1996		一九九六年八月份商品貿易價值			
Domestic Exports	港產品出口	18,182			
Re-exports	轉口	106,682			
Total Exports	整體出口	124,865			
Imports	進口	132,074			
Trade balance	貿易差額	-7,210			

COMPARATIVE FIGURES 比較數字				Change 變動	
		August 1996	August 1995	Value	%
		一九九六年八月	一九九五年八月	貨值	百分率
Same month last year	去年同期月份				
Domestic Exports	港產品出口	18,182	20,543	-2,361	-11.5
(% of Total Exports)	(佔整體出口百分比)	(14.6%)	(17.0%)		
Re-exports	轉口	106,682	100,605	+6,078	+6.0
Total Exports	整體出口	124,865	121,148	+3,717	+3.1
Imports	進口	132,074	131,207	+867	+0.7
Trade balance	貿易差額	-7,210	-10,059	+2,850	
		August 1996	July 1996		
		一九九六年八月	一九九六年七月		
Last month	上月				
Domestic Exports	港產品出口	18,182	20,798	-2,615	-12.6
(% of Total Exports)	(佔整體出口百分比)	(14.6%)	(15.8%)		
Re-exports	轉口	106,682	111,149	-4,466	-4.0
Total Exports	整體出口	124,865	131,946	-7,082	-5.4
Imports	進口	132,074	138,568	-6,494	-4.7
Trade balance	貿易差額	-7,210	-6,622	-588	
		Jun 96 to Aug 96	Jun 95 to Aug 95		
		九六年六月至八月	九五年六月至八月		
Latest 3 months	最近三個月				
Domestic Exports	港產品出口	55,883	63,273	-7,390	-11.7
(% of Total Exports)	(佔整體出口百分比)	(15.3%)	(17.7%)		
Re-exports	轉口	309,710	294,636	+15,074	+5.1
Total Exports	整體出口	365,593	357,908	+7,684	+2.1
Imports	進口	394,439	393,973	+466	+0.1
Trade balance	貿易差額	-28,846	-36,064	+7,218	
		Jan-Aug 1996	Jan-Aug 1995		
		九六年一月至八月	九五年一月至八月		
Calendar year to-date	本年首八個月				
Domestic Exports	港產品出口	138,241	150,761	-12,520	-8.3
(% of Total Exports)	(佔整體出口百分比)	(15.2%)	(17.4%)		
Re-exports	轉口	768,629	715,876	+52,753	+7.4
Total Exports	整體出口	906,871	866,637	+40,233	+4.6
Imports	進口	1,004,460	976,390	+28,070	+2.9
Trade balance	貿易差額	-97,590	-109,753	+12,163	
		Sep 95 to Aug 96	Sep 94 to Aug 95		
		九五年九月至九六年八月	九四年九月至九五年八月		
Last 12 months	過去十二個月				
Domestic Exports	港產品出口	219,137	232,571	-13,434	-5.8
(% of Total Exports)	(佔整體出口百分比)	(15.8%)	(17.9%)		
Re-exports	轉口	1,165,223	1,064,121	+101,103	+9.5
Total Exports	整體出口	1,384,360	1,296,691	+87,669	+6.8
Imports	進口	1,519,191	1,434,742	+84,449	+5.9
Trade balance	貿易差額	-134,831	-138,050	+3,220	

Note: Value of domestic exports and value of re-exports may not add up to the value of total exports due to rounding.

This sheet can be obtained free of charge from:
Trade Statistics Dissemination Section
Census and Statistics Department
Address: 19/F., Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road,
Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Tel: 2582 4915 Fax: 2802 1101

註: 由於進位關係, 港產品出口貨值加上轉口貨值, 可能會與整體出口貨值略有出入。

本單張可以於下列地點免費索取:
香港政府統計處
貿易統計資料發布組
地址: 香港灣仔港灣道十二號灣仔政府大樓十九樓
電話: 2582 4915 傳真: 2802 1101

9/96

Framework agreement for EMS trading fund signed

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The framework agreement for the Electrical and Mechanical Services Trading Fund was signed today (Friday) between the Secretary for Works, Mr Kwong Hon-sang, and the Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services (DEMS), Mr Hugh Phillipson.

A spokesman for the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) said the agreement governed the relationship between the Secretary and the Director in respect of the operation of the trading fund.

"The trading fund was established by a resolution of the Legislative Council under the Trading Funds Ordinance in June and came into operation on August 1 this year," he said.

Services provided under the trading fund include operating, continuously monitoring and maintaining the electrical, mechanical, electronic and building services systems and equipment in use at major installations such as office buildings, hospitals, airports and civic venues.

The department will also provide design, procurement, project management and other technical consultancy services in relation to electrical, mechanical and electronic systems and vehicle fleets.

It will also operate and maintain refuse incineration plant to agreed operational parameters.

"These services will continue to be provided to government departments, municipal councils and other government subvented or financially assisted agencies.

"The trading fund will also bid for and win business in other markets as opportunities arise," the spokesman said.

Under trading fund arrangements, operational assets employed in the provision of EMSD services and valued at around one billion dollars have been appropriated to the trading fund. This represents the Government's investment.

The cost of providing services including depreciation of assets will be charged to the trading fund and will be covered by revenue from charges to clients for services.

DEMS, as the general manager of the trading fund, will prepare each year a corporate and business plan based on these financial arrangements and submit it to the Secretary for Works for approval.

End

HK's economic bedrock to sustain vibrant growth: FS

* * * * *

The economic bedrock of Hong Kong would continue to sustain a vibrant economic growth in the next millennium and would not be jeopardised in 1997 or after, the Financial Secretary, Mr Donald Tsang, said today (Friday).

Speaking at the Global Partners Forum at University of California, Los Angeles, Mr Tsang said in turn it would bring benefits to the international community with whom Hong Kong vigorously traded.

"As Financial Secretary of Hong Kong, I see my role as re-affirming the economic system that we have developed and refined over the past decades," he said.

"I shall make sure that this system will carry us through the transition, forming a solid foundation and inspiring more enviable economic advancement for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region."

Mr Tsang pointed out that it was the solidity of this economic bedrock that bolstered the confidence of Hong Kong people in their economy.

"They firmly believe that our society will not only survive the transition but thrive on the challenge and prosper," he said.

"The strength and resilience of our economic fundamentals will ensure that in Hong Kong's longer term march towards greater prosperity in 1 July 1997 is just another date, and I can see Hong Kong and overseas adopting the same view, and investing now with an eye on returns well after 1997."

Mr Tsang said free enterprise spirit and level playing field was one of the pillars of Hong Kong's economic system.

"Anyone can start any legitimate business in Hong Kong. Without hidden constraints, import duty or non-tariff barriers; without prejudice to the nationality of the owners of the business; be they Hong Kong residents, Chinese, Japanese or Americans; and without favouritism or partiality on behalf of Government," he said.

"Our currency is fully convertible and there is complete freedom in the movement of funds and people across our borders.

"We in the Hong Kong Government take this very, very seriously and we are determined to keep this level playing field."

However, Mr Tsang said to stretch the analogy, the Government did not run the game, it just provided the pitch.

"It provides the infrastructure and support to business, but it never directs the private sector," he said.

"We remain impartial, not doing industry targeting or imposing investment priorities, because it is our firm belief that such initiatives are self defeating in the long run, leading to the inefficient deployment of resources and the economically destructive spectre of state subsidies."

Mr Tsang said Hong Kong's economic system would be maintained after next year as the Basic Law set out in detail the requirements placed on the SAR Government to maintain prudent monetary, fiscal and taxation systems and to ensure that Hong Kong remained an international trade and financial centre.

"And that is good news for you and me; for investors in Hong Kong and those doing business in Hong Kong; for the Hong Kong economy, the Chinese economy and for the US economy," he added.

Mr Tsang pointed out that up to the end of 1994 the cumulative value of foreign direct investment in Hong Kong was US\$94 billion.

The value of US direct investment alone was over US\$11 billion.

"These figures demonstrate the importance of Hong Kong and the importance of maintaining the Hong Kong system. So that business will thrive, profits will be made, and people will continue to prosper," he said.

Mr Tsang was on a duty visit to the United States. Earlier today he met the State Treasurer of California, Mr Matt Fong.

He will meet the Hong Kong Association of Southern California and the Hong Kong Schools Alumni Federation in Los Angeles.

Mr Tsang will visit Washington on September 29 and meet banking executives including the Deputy Secretary of European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Mr Marcus Fedder; China's Minister of Finance, Mr Liu Zhongli; and the Governor of the People's Bank of China, Mr Dai Xianglong.

End

Second round of informal get-together

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The second round of informal get-togethers between senior Hong Kong civil servants and officials of the Chinese side will take place between October and December, the announcement was made following consultation with the Xinhua News Agency (Hong Kong Branch).

Senior civil servants at Deputy Secretary and Deputy Director level or above and heads of agencies will participate.

The first get-together will be held from 3.30 pm on October 10 at the Voting Members' Box, Happy Valley Racecourse.

End

Large-scale building survey to commence soon

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The Buildings Department has awarded a large-scale consultancy study on the structural conditions of all private buildings constructed between 1959 and 1980 in the territory.

Speaking at the consultancy agreement signing ceremony today (Friday), the Director of Buildings, Dr Choi Yu-leuk, said that the survey would examine the structural integrity and stability of the buildings and recommend a strategy for their future inspection, investigation and necessary repair.

"It will also gather data on the durability performance and deterioration trends of cantilevered structures in these buildings and to ascertain their structural adequacies under the deteriorated conditions. About 1,000 cantilevered slab canopies will be investigated," he said.

The consultancy was awarded to a joint venture formed by three consultants at a cost of \$38 million. They are Taywood Engineering Limited, Ove Arup and Partners Hong Kong Limited, and Vigers Hong Kong Limited.

The survey will cover a total of 13,000 buildings and will be carried out in three parts in two years' time:

- * Visual inspection of the roof, external wall, and common areas of the 13,000 buildings to assess the nature and extent of their deterioration and causes for potential safety concerns;
- * Detailed investigation to be carried out on some 1,000 buildings, which would be statistically representative samples in different age sub-groups identified from part one above;
- * Structural investigation of 974 cantilevered slab canopies.

Some of these investigations will need to be done inside individual premises. To prove their identity, every member of the survey teams will carry an identity card and an authorisation letter issued by Buildings Department.

Advance notices will also be sent to the owners or occupants notifying them of the visit. Enquiries on the survey can be made to the Buildings Department on 2626 1309.

Dr Choi pointed out that the project was a major study and survey on the conditions of buildings.

"Based on the consultants' recommendations, the Buildings Department will be able to formulate a strategy for improving building safety in Hong Kong.

"I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to all the building owners, owners' corporations, and occupants involved in the survey to co-operate fully with the survey teams to make this project a success," Dr Choi said.

End

Personal Data (Privacy) Advisory Committee appointed

* * * * *

A Government spokesman today (Friday) announces the appointment of eight members to the Personal Data (Privacy) Advisory Committee.

The list is as follows:

- * Mr Chan Wai-kwan - Assistant Director of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce;
- * Ms Sara Ho Suk-ching - Senior Lecturer in Marketing of the Chinese University of Hong Kong; member of the Rice Advisory Committee; former member of the Consumer Council;
- * Ms Mary Kao May-loy - Executive Director of Legal and Secretarial Services of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited;
- * Mr Kevin Lau Chun-to - former Vice-chairman of the Hong Kong Journalists Association;
- * Mr Roger Luk Koon-hoo - Managing Director and Deputy Chief Executive of the Hang Seng Bank Limited; former Legislative Council member;
- * Professor Raymond Wacks - Professor of Law of the University of Hong Kong; member of Privacy Sub-committee of the Law Reform Commission;
- * Mr Yeung Kwok-keung - Deputy Managing Director of the Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited; former President of the Hong Kong Computer Society;
- * Deputy Secretary for Home Affairs or representative.

"The appointment is for a term of two years with effect from October 1 this year," the spokesman said.

"The Advisory Committee is to be chaired by the Privacy Commissioner for Personal Data, Mr Stephen Lau Ka-men. It is established under the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance.

"Based on their knowledge and experience in their respective fields, the members will advise the Privacy Commissioner upon any matter relevant to the privacy of individuals in relation to personal data or other matters relevant to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance," the spokesman added.

The appointment notice is gazetted today.

End

New members appointed to Hospital Authority

* * * * *

The appointment of four additional members to the Hospital Authority for two years with effect from October 1 was published in the Government Gazette today (Friday).

They are Professor Joseph Lee Chuen-kwun, Mr Joseph Chow Ming-kuen, Dr Chow Chun-bong and Mrs Alice Mak Chan Siu-hing.

Professor Lee has succeeded Professor Arthur Li Kwok-cheung as the new Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

His appointment would continue to ensure a close interface between the Hospital Authority and the university teaching hospital. He is appointed for a period of two years or until the end of his deanship, whichever the earlier.

Mr Chow is an expert in engineering and has extensive experience in capital works management. He was the former Deputy Chairman of the Council of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Dr Chow, a senior clinician in the Princess Margaret Hospital, is actively serving in different professional bodies. He is currently a member of the Hong Kong Medical Association and the Hospital Governing Committee of Our Lady of Maryknoll Hospital.

Mrs Mak is the General Manager in charge of administrative services in Prince of Wales Hospital. She has rich administrative experience and has participated actively in the implementation of various management reforms at different public hospitals.

The Secretary for Health and Welfare, Mrs Katherine Fok, welcomed the appointments and looked forward to the new members' active participation in ensuring the provision of quality patient care in the territory.

She also thanked all the incumbents for their unfailing support and invaluable advice throughout the years.

The following is a full list of the Hospital Authority Board:

Chairman

Mr Peter Woo Kwong-ching

Members

Dr Sally Aw Sian

Miss Eliza Chan Ching-har

Mr John Chan Cho-chak

Mr Peter Chan Fuk-sing

Miss Iris Chan Sui-ching

Mrs Pamela Chan Wong Shui

Dr Chow Chun-bong

Mr Joseph Chow Ming-kuen

Professor Chow Shew-ping

Mr Michael Ho Man-ka

Dr Conrad Lam Kui-shing

Professor Joseph Lee Chuen-kwan

Dr Leong Chi-hung

Mrs Sophie Leung Lau Yau-fun

Professor Felice Lieh Mak

Mrs Eleanor Ling Li Ching-man

Mrs Alice Mak Chan Siu-hing

Mr Simon C Penney

Sir David Todd

Mr Peter Wong Hong-yuen

Professor Rosie Young Tse-tse

Secretary for Health and Welfare or her representative

Secretary for the Treasury or his representative

Director of Health

Chief Executive Officer, Hospital Authority

End

Joint maritime exercise to test search and rescue strength

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An annual maritime search and rescue exercise will be held in the Pearl River estuary on October 3 (Thursday) to test the search and rescue resources of Guangdong, Macau and Hong Kong for dealing with an accident at sea.

This year's exercise, codenamed "Maritime SAREX96", is jointly organised by the Guangdong Provincial Marine Emergency Search and Rescue Centre, Macau Marine Department and Hong Kong Marine Department.

"With more people travelling between Hong Kong and the Pearl River by sea, it is necessary to conduct regular exercises in this busy waters to check the alerting, communications and responses of the search and rescue resources in Zhuhai, Macau and Hong Kong," said a spokesman for the Hong Kong Marine Department today (Friday).

Against the background that search and rescue exercises at a regional level can enhance better co-operation between neighbouring authorities, the search and rescue resources in the three places will be deployed in Maritime SAREX96 to deal with a scenario in which a high-speed ferry sailing from Hong Kong to Macau collides with another vessel, leaving many passengers injured.

Rescue craft, helicopter and launches from Zhuhai, Macau and Hong Kong are to be tasked for the search and rescue exercise.

End

Royal Navy warship to visit Hong Kong

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For the first time in over a year, a major warship of the Royal Navy is to visit Hong Kong. HMS Exeter, a Type-42 Guided Missile Destroyer, will enter Hong Kong for a routine visit tomorrow (Saturday).

She will depart next Thursday (October 3) for a goodwill visit to the Chinese port of Qing Dao. The last Royal Navy warship to visit China was HMS York - to Shanghai in 1985.

Hong Kong welcomes APEC business executives
HMS Exeter left her home town of Portsmouth on June 20 for a six-month deployment to the Middle East and Asia. After patrolling the Gulf during July, she headed east in mid-August, stopping for maintenance in Singapore.

Early this month the ship participated in a three-week series of exercises under the auspices of the Five Power Defence Agreement, with units of the Australian, New Zealand, Malaysian and Singapore Forces. Following her four-day visit to Qing Dao, the ship will head west, to resume duties in the Gulf.

HMS Exeter entered service in 1980. She has an overall length of 412 feet and a crew of 280 men. She has two 4,800 SHP Rolls-Royce Tyne gas turbines for cruising, and two 25,000 SHP Rolls-Royce Olympus gas turbines for pull power, which gives a maximum speed of over 28 knots.

The Type-42 Destroyer's primary role is anti-air warfare, and HMS Exeter is armed with the Sea Dart missile system which is designed to provide area air defence to a group of ships at sea.

She is also armed with an automatic 4.5-inch gun, capable of engaging air, surface and shore targets. Four 20mm guns provide close range air and surface defence, and two radar-controlled Gatling guns provide close-in defence against missile attack. She is also fitted with an extremely effective Sonar system, for the detection of submarine targets.

The ship also carries the high-speed multi-purpose Lynx helicopter, armed with anti-submarine weapons and the Sea Skua anti-ship missile. The Lynx helicopter can achieve a speed of over 150 knots, and also has a very useful search and rescue capability.

HMS Exeter will moor in Victoria Harbour, opposite the Prince of Wales Barracks.

End

Hong Kong welcomes APEC business executives

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The acting Financial Secretary, Mr Rafael Hui, this (Friday) evening hosted a dinner to welcome senior business executives from the 18 member economies of the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) who are in Hong Kong to attend the third meeting of APEC Business Advisory Council (ABAC).

The Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, joined ABAC members at the cocktail reception held before the dinner to give his support and had free and cordial exchanges with them.

In his speech at the dinner, Mr Hui stressed that the Hong Kong Government would continue to accord priority to APEC and the co-operation with the business sector in the process of trade liberalisation and facilitation.

ABAC is a business advisory body established by APEC Economic Leaders at their meeting in Osaka last November. Comprising prominent businessmen from the 18 APEC member economies, the ABAC is tasked to provide insight to APEC activities and to advise Economic Leaders on key policy issues.

The Financial Secretary has appointed Mr Gordon Wu, Dr Victor Fung, and Mr Victor Lo as Hong Kong's representatives in ABAC.

End

Draft drainage plan for Tin Shui Wai

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The Drainage Services Department has prepared a draft Drainage Authority Area Plan for Tin Shui Wai Drainage Basin, one of the flood prone drainage basins in Hong Kong.

A spokesman for the department said today (Friday) that the basin included Tin Shui Wai new town, Ha Tsuen, Ping Shan and Lau Fu Shan covering 22 square kilometres in area.

"About 16 kilometres of watercourses within the area are designated as main watercourses," the spokesman said.

Upon first publication of the draft plan in the Gazette today, the Drainage Authority is given various powers under the Land Drainage Ordinance to execute drainage works, 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 area," he said.

Any person aggrieved by the draft plan may deliver a written statement of objection to the Director of Drainage Services on or before November 26.

The objector should clearly set out in his written statement the nature of and reasons for the objection and any proposed alteration that would remove the objection.

The notice, both in English and Chinese, together with its related plan can be seen at the following offices:

- * Drainage Services Department Headquarters, 43rd floor, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong;
- * Land Drainage Division, Drainage Services Department, 11th floor, Kowloon Government Offices, 405 Nathan Road, 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, Hong Kong; and
- * Yuen Long New Territories Land Registry, seventh floor, Yuen Long Government Offices, 2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long, New Territories.

End

Tenders invited for construction of public piers

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The Civil Engineering Department (CED) is inviting tenders for the construction of three public piers in Sai Kung.

The works comprise the construction of three new piers, together with demolition of the existing jetties and landings at Tung Lung Chau, Tai Tau Chau and Sha Kiu Tau.

The piers will be used by kaitos, fishing boats and motorised sampans of the local villagers and other members of the public.

Construction will commence in December this year for completion in 18 months.

The works have been designed and will be supervised by the Port Works Division of the CED.

Forms of tender and further particulars may be obtained from the Chief Engineer, Port Works Division, Civil Engineering Office, CED at the fifth floor, Civil Engineering Building, 101 Princess Margaret Road, Kowloon.

The closing date for tender is noon on October 18.

End

Road works for Tsang Tai Uk Village proposed

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The Government is proposing to provide a new road, a car park, and a 80-metre emergency vehicular access and footpath in the Tsang Tai Uk Village Expansion Area in Sha Tin.

The proposed road works will include:

- * re-construction of a 30-metre cycle track;
- * re-construction of part of a footpath at the junction of Sha Kok Street;
and
- * associated ancillary landscaping and drainage works.

As part of the programme for the Village Improvements and Development Schemes in the New Territories, the works will commence in mid 1997 and take 15 months to complete.

Details of the proposed works were published in the Government Gazette today (Friday).

The plan and scheme showing the proposed works can be seen at:

- * Central Enquiry Service Centre, Central and Western District Office, Ground Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong;
- * Sha Tin District Lands Office, 2 Tung Lo Wan Hill Road, Sha Tin; and
- * Sha Tin District Office, 6th Floor, Citylink Plaza, Sha Tin KCR Station, Sha Tin.

Any person who wishes to object to the works or the use or both, is required to send his objection in writing to the Secretary for Transport on second floor, East Wing, Central Government Offices, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong by November 26, 1996.

End

Tenders for Lung Poon Street footbridge invited

The Highways Department is inviting tenders for the construction of a footbridge across Lung Poon Street in Wong Tai Sin and its associated landscaping and ground level works.

Designed and supervised by the Kowloon Regional Office, Highways Department, the works will commence in December for completion in October 1997.

Details of the tender was published in the Government Gazette today (Friday).

Tender forms and particulars may be obtained from the Regional Highway Engineer/Kowloon, Highways Department, Room 1321, Nan Fung Commercial Centre, 19 Lam Lok Street, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

Completed and sealed tenders must be clearly marked outside the envelope and addressed to the Chairman of the Public Works Tender Board . They should be placed in the Public Works Tender Box on 34th Floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong by noon October 18.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

End

Prequalification for management of parking meters

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The Transport Department is inviting tenders for the prequalification of a contract to manage and maintain all parking meters in Hong Kong.

The invitation was gazetted today (Friday).

Successful applicants in the prequalification exercise will be invited to tender for the contract. The contract will be for four years with an option to extend for a further period of up to six months.

Applicants are required to provide evidence of experience and competence in the management, operation and maintenance of vehicle parking systems, electronic parking devices, mechanical parking meters, smart card operated systems, clocks and watches or other related facilities; or alternatively evidence of ability to engage expertise and resources in these respects from acceptable sources.

They are also required to provide evidence of financial capability in undertaking the contract, submit sufficient and relevant information to enable assessments to be made on their eligibility to tender for the contract.

In their submission, applicants should also give sufficient details and submit proposals to demonstrate their good understanding of the tasks involved.

Interested parties, including joint ventures, may obtain the prequalification document by producing a company letter indicating their interest to bid for the contract during office hours from the Transport Department reception counter on 41st floor, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Applications should be addressed to the Chairman, Central Tender Board and placed in the Government Secretariat tender box situated in the lift lobby on the lower ground floor of the Central Government Offices (East Wing), Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, no later than noon on November 8.

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	2,359	0930	-200
Closing balance in the account	2,375	1000	-200
Change attributable to:		1100	-200
Money market activity	- 219	1200	-200
LAF today	+235	1500	-200
		1600	-219

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 124.6 *+0.1* 27.9.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/MTRC				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.11	2 years	2808	6.00	99.93	6.13
1 month	5.12	3 years	3907	6.80	100.96	6.52
3 months	5.18	5 years	5109	7.32	101.06	7.18
6 months	5.30	7 years	7308	7.24	99.27	7.51
12 months	5.59	5 years	M503	7.35	100.07	7.46

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$14,423 million

Closed September 27, 1996

End