



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Meeting between Governor and Mr Cheng An-kuo denied

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In response to a report about a "secret meeting" having been held between the Governor and Mr Cheng An-kuo, the Governor's spokesman said the report was complete rubbish.

"The Governor has never had a meeting or a conversation with Mr Cheng," the spokesman said.

End

1997 opens opportunities to British business sector: CS

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The Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, called on the British business community to help maintain the unique formula for Hong Kong's economic success and to respond positively to new opportunities that Hong Kong can provide after 1997.

Speaking to the Hong Kong Association in London today (Monday), Mrs Chan said Britain had a special relationship with Hong Kong that no other enjoyed.

"It has both a legal and moral responsibility towards Hong Kong that will last beyond 1997," she said.

"But it also has massive economic interests in Hong Kong's continuing prosperity."

Mrs Chan noted that British investments in Hong Kong were estimated at over 70 billion pounds sterling with more than 1,000 British companies operating in the territory.

"It leads the field among foreign investors in Hong Kong with 28 per cent of overall total investment," she said.

Mrs Chan believed that British businessmen looked at Hong Kong in the next century and find a great deal that was positive.

"1997 opens the door to a longer relationship, one which certainly continues to embrace Hong Kong but which also addresses the much wider opportunities in China and in the rest of East Asia region," she said.

She said as the interest in Hong Kong mounted, so did scepticism in some quarters.

"The heightened interest in Hong Kong is both a reflection of what is happening in Hong Kong and a growing realisation that Hong Kong matters a great deal to the world.

"I am neither starry-eyed about Hong Kong's future nor do I believe in total despair. We have to recognise the problems and face up to them.

"My message to you is that one can do that and still be positive about the future," said Mrs Chan.

To back up her faith in Hong Kong, she highlighted the guarantees given in the Joint Declaration and the Basic Law and the issues that had been resolved through the shared commitment by Britain and China.

In addition, she also noted the well-established institutions of Hong Kong, including the rule of law, the open economy of the territory, its legal and judicial system and the highly professional, loyal and corruption-free civil service, which are fundamental to maintaining Hong Kong's way of life.

She said the most difficult issue facing Hong Kong in the remaining days of the transition was the legislature because of the fundamental difference in the position of the British and Chinese sides.

"All eyes will be on China in the coming months - on how it will go about ensuring that Hong Kong has a credible truly representative legislature after 1997, consistent with the Basic Law and which will command the support of the Hong Kong community and of the international investing public," she said.

The Chief Secretary expressed her wish that Hong Kong could rely on the British business sector's support to maintain its unique formula for economic success far into the next century and to make a success of the remaining period of transition to 1997.

Above all, she added, it was the support needed for Hong Kong to respond positively to the new opportunities which China's modernisation was creating, not just for the Chinese people but for the entire world economy.

End

Journal to promote understanding of China law launched

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The first issue of a quarterly publication aimed at promoting better and wider understanding of the legal system in China is published today (Monday).

The China Law Quarterly, compiled by the China Law Unit of the Legal Policy Division, Legal Department, focuses on legal issues in China, including administrative, civil and criminal law. It also discusses developments in Hong Kong, to advance understanding of the territory's legal system in China.

Better mutual understanding and appreciation of the two disparate legal systems and maintenance of channels of communication will be most important especially after 1997 under "One Country Two Systems".

The first issue of the Quarterly examines the legislative headway made in China in 1994 and the People's Procuratorate.

It also has an article on the views of Professor Chen Guangzhong, Head of the Chinese Legal System Research Institute, ex-President of China University of Political Science and Laws, on the present position and developmental trends of the criminal justice system of China.

In his inaugural editorial of the Quarterly, the Solicitor General, Mr Daniel Fung QC, wrote that China's recent proposal in its new Five Year Plan to entrench the rule of law so as to found a socialist legal nation released a juridical seismic disturbance of the highest order.

"Conceptually, it marks a radical departure from a 4,000 year-old tradition of government by a combination of moral suasion and coercion exemplified by resort to a body of ethics, convention, custom and penal law," he said.

Coupled with the quantity of legislation passed over the past five year, he noted, the quality of the output warranted attention.

This was reflected in the passage in March of the new Criminal Procedure Law which introduced for the first time into Chinese jurisprudence the concepts of presumption of innocence, placing the burden of proof on the state, restricting the right of the state to impose administrative detention, and incorporated into Chinese law certain notions of common law criminal adversarial jurisprudence.

Other examples were privatisation of the Chinese Bar and weaning of lawyers off the Ministry of Justice and the state, passage of the Lawyers' Law, to take effect in January next year, and publication of the China Law Reports, recording decisions of the Supreme People's Court, he said.

Officers of the Legal Department has participated as members of the Advisory Board for publication of the China Law Reports in English since 1995.

The China Law Unit also takes part in the comparative study and reception of common law principles in other ways such as the incorporation of Hong Kong jurisprudence and criminal procedure into the training curriculum of Chinese Government legal and law enforcement agencies.

Mr Fung said the China Law Unit was proud to have played a small but pivotal role in these ventures, which would incrementally though radically alter values, attitude and mindset leading, hopefully, to eventual indigenisation of the rule of law in China in anticipation of the coming of the Pacific Century.

A total of 2,500 copies of the journal have been printed and will be distributed within the Government, and to tertiary education institutions and law schools locally and overseas, as well as to government bodies and agencies in China.

End

"Stay Safe" leaflet published

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The Government has published a leaflet to advise members of the public on what they should or should not do in order to stay safe during natural disasters and emergencies.

A Government spokesman said today (Monday) that the leaflet also contained a list of useful telephone numbers of Government departments from which assistance could be sought during typhoon, rainstorm, thunderstorm, flooding, landslip, earthquake and nuclear incident.

Chinese version of the leaflet is now available for public collection at district offices. The English version is under preparation and will be available soon.

He said that the leaflet formed part of a longer term public education programme to enhance residents' awareness of how to deal with emergencies and natural disasters.

Other activities to promote this objective will be worked out by a newly created Emergency Support Unit (ESU) under the Security Branch.

Formed by internal deployment, the unit is also responsible for co-ordinating contingency plans within Government departments, providing support to the Government's emergency response system and organising training for staff required to take up duties in emergency management.

In the meantime, the former Government Secretariat Emergency Co-ordination Centre is renamed the Emergency Monitoring and Support Centre (EMSC) from today in order to reflect more accurately its role and functions in the overall Government Emergency Response System.

"EMSC's main role is to act as the monitoring and support centre for the Government Secretariat during a widespread or major emergency.

"We hope this will help correct the commonly held misperception that it is an operational command centre, over and above the operational command centres in the Emergency Services," said the Government spokesman.

EMSC staff will monitor the development of incidents and Government's response. They will also render civilian support to the operations of the emergency services and supporting agencies when required.

The spokesman pointed out that the EMSC is part of the Government's emergency response system.

Most of Government's emergency responses are handled by the emergency departments at the operational level. The EMSC would be called into action only when a major incident causing widespread threats to security, property and life is evolving and where extensive Government emergency response operations were required.

"In discharging its monitoring role, EMSC will liaise closely with other command and communications centres such as the Police Headquarters Command and Control Centre and the Fire Services Communications Centre," he added.

End

### Employees' compensation improved

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A number of improvements to the Employees' Compensation Ordinance will take effect today (Monday).

These improvements made under the Employees' Compensation (Amendment) Bill 1996 have been passed by the Legislative Council on May 29 and the ordinance was gazetted on June 7.

A spokesman for the Labour Department explained that the amending ordinance would improve the mechanism for settlement of compensation claims and increase the levels of maximum fines.

He said under the existing provisions, there were two parallel systems for determining the amounts of compensation for permanent incapacity.

"For cases where the loss of earning capacity is not more than five per cent, the amount of compensation is assessed and certified by the Commissioner for Labour under the Certificate System," said the spokesman.

"Under the Agreement System, if the loss of earning incapacity is over five per cent, the amount is agreed between the employer and the employee subject to the minimum level provided by the law.

"For cases settled by certificate, the Labour Department has pledged to issue a certificate within three weeks of the assessment of the loss of earning capacity by an assessment board.

"The Agreement System involves a more time-consuming procedure as it requires both the employer and the injured employee to agree on the amount of compensation. The average time taken is 55 days.

"In order to reduce the time for determining the amount of compensation and avoid the confusion caused by the two systems, the Agreement System has been repealed whereas the Certificate System will be extended to all cases irrespective of the degree of loss of earning capacity."

Under the Employees' Compensation (Amendment) Ordinance 1996, the definition of "dependants" has been expanded under which the word "woman" has been replaced by "person" so that both sexes are entitled to equal protection.

The definition of "member of the family" would also be extended to cover parents-in-law, brothers-in-law and sons-in-law.

As regards the levels of maximum fines for certain offences under the Ordinance, the maximum fine has been revised ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

"This is to ensure sufficient deterrent effect and to maintain relativity with those offences of a similar nature under the Employment Ordinance," the spokesman said.

End

#### Residential Mortgage Survey results for May released

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Residential mortgage loans for the purchase of properties in Hong Kong continued to show significant growth in May, albeit below the 1.6% increase in each of the preceding three months, according to the results of the latest monthly survey conducted by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA).

The latest figures show that the total amount of outstanding mortgage lending by the 33 institutions in the survey increased by 1.3% to \$293.5 billion. The growth rate is slightly below the monthly average of 1.4% over the last twelve months.

New loans approved and gross loans advanced during the month both grew sharply. However, the effect of this was offset by a substantially higher amount of repayments which rose by 42% to \$9.3 billion during May. Nonetheless, such repayments remained quite modest in relation to the outstanding amount of loans (about 3%).

"The property market remained active in May," said the Deputy Chief Executive of HKMA, Mr David Carse.

"However, the volume of new lending also seems to have been boosted by customers refinancing existing loans to take advantage of lower mortgage rates during the period."

The annualised rate of growth in lending over the last three months decreased to 19% from 19.8% in the three-month period to April. The 12-month average of outstanding loans showed an annualised growth rate of 16.4%, compared with 17.7% in April.

The amount of new loans approved but not yet drawn increased by a substantial \$6.1 billion (77.9%) to \$13.9 billion in May.

"While these figures have no doubt been inflated by refinancing demand, they suggest that the outstanding loans will grow at a rapid rate in June," said Mr Carse.

The amount of residential mortgage loans associated with co-financing schemes accounted for 2.5% of total outstanding mortgage loan of the 33 surveyed institutions at end-May. Of the \$19.9 billion new loans approved during May, about 85% were accounted for by properties aged 15 years or below.

Lending for the purchase of properties in China increased by 1% to \$5.5 billion in May.

Gross loans made in May decreased in number (to 266 from 300) but increased in amount (to \$162 million from \$143 million). New loans approved in May increased both in number (to 425 from 286) and amount (to \$256 million from \$198 million).

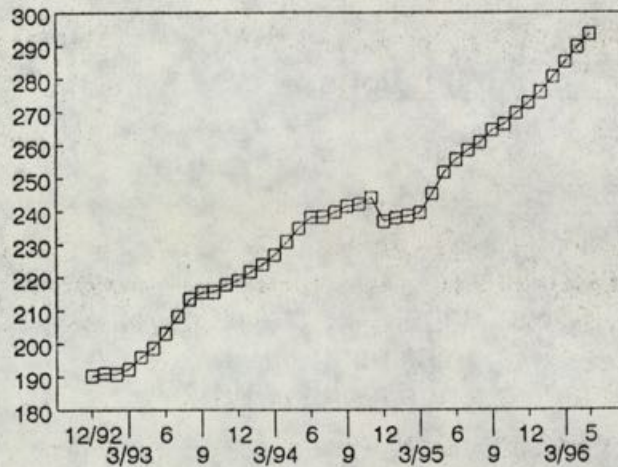
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Chart A

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

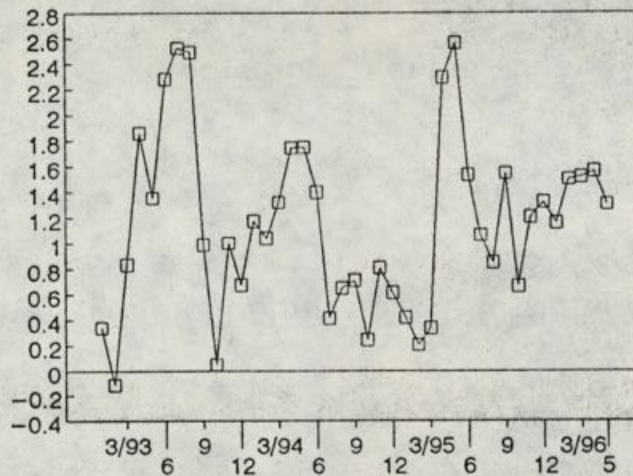
Outstanding balance at end of month



A1

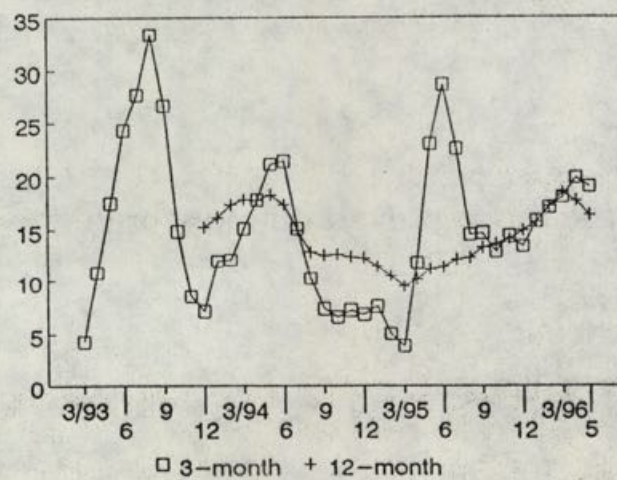
Remarks : The significant fall of outstanding balance in December 1994 was due to the effect of reclassification, securitization and sale of loans by some institutions.

Monthly growth rate



A2

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



A3

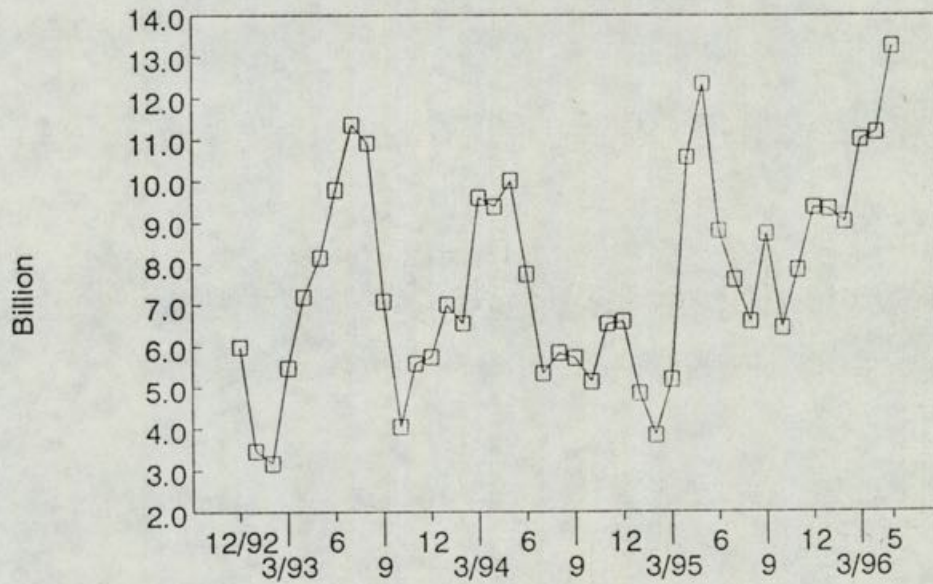
□ 3-month + 12-month

Chart B

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS IN HONG KONG  
(33 institutions)

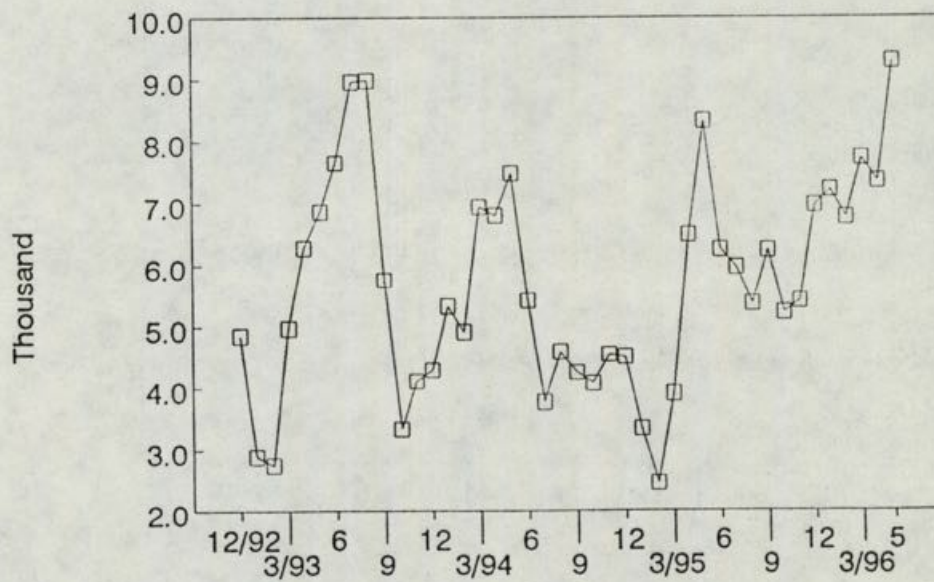
GROSS LOANS MADE DURING THE MONTH

Amount



B1

Number of accounts



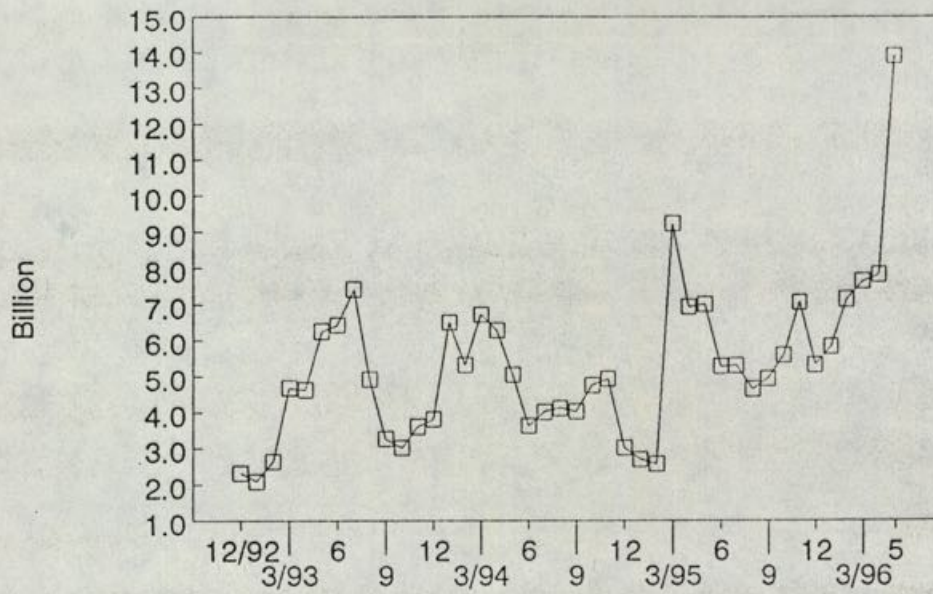
B2

Chart C

RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE LOANS IN HONG KONG  
(33 institutions)

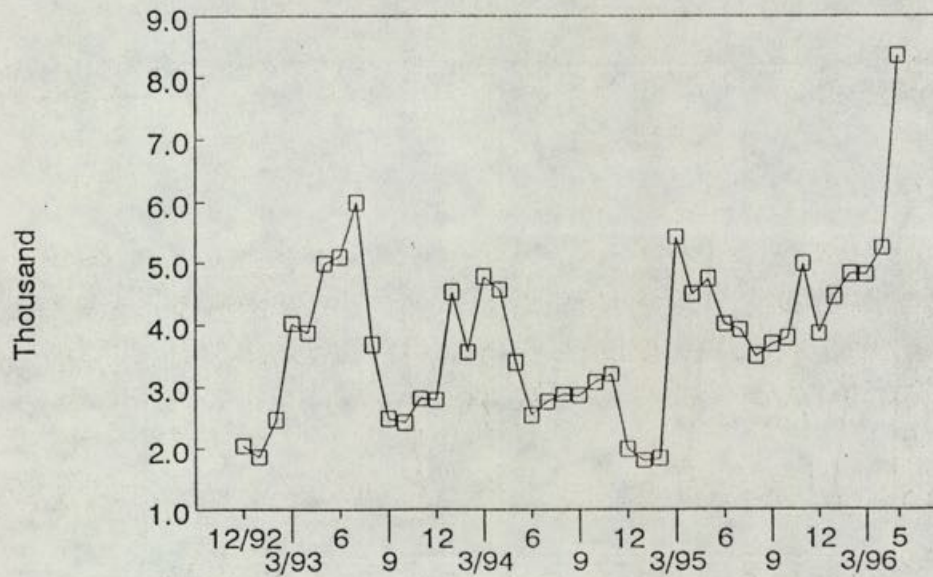
NEW LOANS APPROVED BUT NOT YET DRAWN

Amount



C1

Number of accounts



C2

### HKMA launches Internet Homepage

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The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) launches its homepage today (Monday), providing a wealth of timely monetary and banking information of Hong Kong around the clock and around the globe.

Internet surfers can reach the HKMA Homepage at <http://www.info.gov.hk/hkma>.

The HKMA Homepage includes descriptions of what the HKMA is and what it does, together with an introduction of its organisation and operations.

It also features information on the linked exchange rate system, Hong Kong's monetary system after 1997, development of the debt market, banking in Hong Kong, notes and coins of Hong Kong, the Exchange Fund and Foreign Reserves in Hong Kong as well as the 1997 World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings to be held in Hong Kong in September next year.

Monthly updated monetary and banking statistics, together with latest speeches, press releases and even HKMA's recruitment adverts are available at finger tips. Application forms for HKMA vacancies and subscription forms for HKMA publications are also available at the Homepage.

"The HKMA Homepage truly expands our ability to keep the general public abreast with the development of our local monetary system, allowing the world to keep track on what is happening in the financial system of Hong Kong," said Chief Executive of HKMA, Mr Joseph Yam.

"The launch of the HKMA Internet Homepage further represents our commitment to promote public understanding and transparency of our objectives and policies."

Anyone who would like more information on the HKMA Homepage is welcome to send electronic mail enquiries to the Press and Publications Section of HKMA at [gov\\_hkma@hk.super.net](mailto:gov_hkma@hk.super.net) or call at 2878 8261 or fax to 2878 1892.

End

Special education report now ready in Chinese

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School sponsors, serving school principals and teachers, practitioners in special education sector and related fields and members of the public are invited to give views and suggestions on a report on the review of local special education.

The Report, prepared by the Board of Education Sub-committee on Special Education, recommends a package of comprehensive measures to improve special education in the territory.

It offers 70 improvement recommendations, covering 10 areas in special education:

- \* administration and co-ordination of special education;
- \* educational concerns in special education;
- \* provisions in the Code of Aid for special schools;
- \* the curriculum and related matters;
- \* teacher education;
- \* education for children with learning difficulties;
- \* education for the gifted;
- \* education for the maladjusted;
- \* practical schools and skills opportunity schools; and
- \* other measures for further improvement.

Copies of the report in Chinese will be available for collection tomorrow (Tuesday) afternoon at the Education Department's reception counter on 10th floor, Wu Chung House, 213 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, and Perth Street Special Education Services Centre, 6 Perth Street, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon.

The English version of the report and the executive summary (in English and Chinese) have already been distributed to the public in early June.

Views and suggestions on the report should reach the Board Secretary, Mrs Fanny Lam, at Room 1123, Education Department Headquarters, Wu Chung House, on or before next Monday (July 8).

Enquiries about the report may be directed to Mrs Lam on 2892 6630.

End

BN(O) applications for citizens born between 1987 and 1991

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The final date for Hong Kong British Dependent Territories citizens (BDTCs) born between 1987 and 1991 to apply for British National (Overseas) (BN(O) passports will be on September 30, a government spokesperson reminded the public today (Monday).

BDTCs (such as persons born, naturalised or registered in Hong Kong) must obtain a BN(O) passport if they wish to continue to travel on British passports beyond 1997.

As specified in the Second Schedule to the Hong Kong (British Nationality) Order 1986, applications for BN(O) passports must be submitted on or before the final dates relevant to their age groups.

Parents or legal guardians of eligible children born between 1987 and 1991 must submit their applications on or before September 30.

They should apply for a Hong Kong permanent identity card on behalf of the children at the same time. To avoid a last minute rush, they are advised to apply early.

BDTCs living, working or studying abroad, are also required to observe the cut-off dates if they want to apply for a BN(O) passport. However, they are not required to return to the territory to do it.

They should submit their applications to the nearest British passport issuing office either by post or in person. The required overseas application forms can be obtained at those offices or the Hong Kong Immigration Department.

Persons who do not comply with the relevant cut-off dates will not be able to travel on British passports beyond 1997.

An application made after the final date will only be accepted if the applicant can show there are special circumstances which justify the late application.

A BN(O) Late Registration Appeals Advisory Committee has been established to advise the Governor on those late applications which have been rejected by the Immigration Department.

The spokesperson emphasised that those who already had a BN(O) passport, either the conventional hard-cover type or the burgundy red machine readable type, need not apply again.

To save time in queuing up at immigration offices, eligible applicants should send in their applications by post or make use of the drop-in box service. Drop-in boxes are installed at the Immigration Headquarters and branch offices throughout the territory.

Only persons who have lost their previous passports, or who need the passport for urgent travel should apply in person.

For more information, members of the public may telephone 2824 1177 (English) or 2824 1717 (Chinese).

End

#### Colloquium on conserving Chinese white dolphins

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Starting today (Monday), a three-day colloquium will be held in Hong Kong with the objective of developing a comprehensive management study for conserving and protecting the territory's Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphins (commonly known as Chinese white dolphins).

Eight overseas dolphin and cetacean experts, together with speakers with local expertise, from companies, tertiary institutions and various government departments, will be making presentations at the colloquium over the next two days. It will be followed by workshop discussion sessions on Wednesday.

In his welcoming address, Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, Dr Lawrence Lee, said the colloquium was expected to help focus on the important issues that threatened the continued survival of the Chinese white dolphins.

Dr Lee said: "The talks and workshop discussion sessions will be of considerable assistance in developing a comprehensive management strategy for the conservation and protection of the Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong.

"To give the dolphins a fighting chance of surviving in the 21st century all major threats must be identified. Having formulated a management strategy we will proceed to implement a management plan."

On the issue of Chinese white dolphins in Hong Kong territorial waters, Dr Lee said it came up following the decision to build the new airport at Chek Lap Kok. Large scale reclamation and associated development works had potential impact on these dolphins, whose population was so far little known.

A number of research studies and conservation work have been or being carried out by the Government to help protect these endangered mammals, he said.

In 1993, a three-year study on the local dolphin population was jointly conducted by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department and the Swire Institute of Marine Science, University of Hong Kong.

In March last year, a one-year study, including a controversial estimate of the Chinese white dolphin population, was completed by Dr Thomas Jefferson, a consultant to the Airport Authority (AA).

Dr Jefferson is working closely with the Ocean Park Conservation Foundation and is continuing his studies under an agreement with AFD which commenced in April this year, he said.

Another AA's consultant, Dr B Wursig had recommended the Government set up a dolphin sanctuary in the waters north of Lantau. Indeed, the designation of a marine park around Lung Kwu Chau and East Sha Chau was gazetted last April. In early 1995, a Marine Mammal Conservation Working Group with members drawn from green groups, academics and other government departments was formed to advise the establishment of the marine park.

Turning to the colloquium, Dr Lee said the first two days' talk sessions were mainly on status of cetacean knowledge, Hong Kong marine environment, human influences and management aspects.

The group discussions on Wednesday will centre on topics including fishery interactions with human dimensions, water quality and pollution issues, dolphin watching, marine traffic and noise as well as habitat loss and fragmentation.

End

Witnesses to hoverferry and tanker collision sought

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The investigator in charge of a local marine inquiry into the collision between a hoverferry and a tanker off Tsing Yi Island on June 27 is anxious to meet the passengers on board the ferry and other witnesses.

The collision occurred at about 9.50 am when the locally licensed hoverferry, HYF 120, and the locally licensed tanker, Feoso 8, collided about 0.6 nautical mile southeast of Tsing Yi Island.

Ten passengers of the hoverferry were injured in the collision. Both vessels sustained damage.

The investigator, Mr S H Tse, a surveyor of ships with the Marine Department, is anxious to contact any passengers on board the ferry and any witnesses to the incident.

They are advised to contact Mr Tse on 2852 4898 or fax their contacts on 2545 0556.

End

Industrial awards donation sponsors praised

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The Director-General of Industry, Mrs Regina Ip, today (Monday) paid tribute to 23 sponsors who had donated \$4 million this year for the Hong Kong Awards for Industry.

Speaking at a cheque presentation ceremony, Mrs Ip said: "The award scheme would not have been so successful without the generous donations of our sponsors."

The Awards, organised for the eighth consecutive year in 1996, was initiated by the Government in 1989 to give recognition to outstanding achievements in industrial performance.

Since then, the awards have become widely accepted as the highest and most prestigious accolades for industry, and a stimulus to sustained qualitative improvement in industrial performance.

"Winning a Hong Kong Award identifies a manufacturing company as an organisation committed to the pursuit of excellence in the production of goods and services which meet the expectations of its customers," Mrs Ip said.

Commenting on the 150 entries for this year's contest, Mrs Ip said: "The fact that more and more companies have come forward to participate in the Hong Kong Awards is clear indication that our manufacturers are increasingly confident of their industrial performance.

"In their determination to remain competitive in world market, our manufacturers are attaching increasing importance to increasing productivity, improving design, quality, environmental performance and export marketing."

The assessment of the entries for the six categories of this year's Hong Kong Awards is now under way. Final judging under the chairmanship of Executive Council member, Mr Andrew Li, will take place at the end of the month and the awards will be presented by the Governor at the presentation ceremony on September 23.

A total of six awards will be presented, one each for the six categories of consumer product design, machinery and equipment design, quality, productivity, environmental performance, and export marketing.

Seventeen out of the 23 sponsors each presented cheques for \$200,000 at the presentation ceremony. They are: Chekiang First Bank Ltd; Chen Hsong Holdings Ltd; Chiaphua-Shinko Copper Alloy Co Ltd; Fang Brothers Knitting Ltd; Gold Peak Industries (Holdings) Ltd; Hang Seng Bank Ltd; The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd; The Hong Kong Industrial Estates Corporation; The Kowloon Motor Bus Co (1933) Ltd; Lippo Group; Motorola Semiconductors Hong Kong Ltd; New World Telephone Ltd; Shanghai Commercial Bank Ltd; Standard Chartered Bank; VTech Group of Companies; Mr Vincent W F Woo; and YKK Hong Kong Ltd.

The remaining six each presenting cheques for \$100,000 are: ACL Group; the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce; the Hong Kong Industrial Technology Centre Corporation; Hong Kong Petrochemical Co Ltd; Regatex Manufacturers Ltd; and Sino Land Co Ltd.

The cheques were received by representatives of the six organising bodies of the Awards, namely, the Industry Department, the Federation of Hong Kong Industries, the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Productivity Council, the Private Sector Committee on the Environment, and the Trade Development Council.

End

Revised trade licences fees and charges effective on July 5

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The Trade Department reminded today (Monday) that revised fees and charges in respect of applications for textile licences, certificates of origin and other trade documents and related services would come into effect on July 5.

Effective on the same day will be a new scale of subscription fees for Trade Notices and Circulars, which have been revised as a result of a recent review.

The revised annual fee for factory registration will, however, come into force on August 1 while those for Generalised Preference Certificates and Certificates of Origin will be effective as from January 2 next year.

A spokesman for the Trade Department explained that the revision of fees and charges under the Import and Export (Fees) (Amendment) Regulation 1996 was necessary to recover the cost.

He said: "It is Government policy that the fees and charges should recover the full cost of providing a service and that a comprehensive costing exercise should be conducted once every four years.

"In the interim years, fee reviews are conducted annually to reflect inflation as measured by the movement of the Government Consumption Expenditure Deflator. The revised fees and charges are determined in line with this policy."

The spokesman said the measure of inflation for Government expenditure had worked out to be nine per cent this year and the revised fees were arrived at by applying the nine per cent factor with some of the figures rounded up or down for the convenience of collection or affixing stamps with appropriate denominations.

The revised fees and charges to be implemented with effect from July 5, 1996 (unless otherwise specified) are as follows:-

Fees

<u>Type of Application</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>
Application for issue of textiles export licence - non-restrained items (Form 4)	\$48	\$52
Application for issue of textiles export licence - restrained items (Form 5)	\$185	\$202

Annual fee for registration of companies for textiles control purposes	\$1,470	\$1,600
Application for transfer of quota	\$240	\$262
Application for swing of quota	\$215	\$235
Application for free quota export authorisation	\$435	\$475
Application for textiles import licence(Form 7)	\$34	\$37
Application for licence issued under the Special Export and Import Licensing (Textiles)Scheme for piece-knitted garments:		
a) Export Licence - restrained items (Form 8)	\$185	\$202
b) Special export licence - non-restrained items (Forms 8a and 8d)	\$50	\$54
c) Special import licence - non-restrained items (Forms 8b, 8c and 8e)	\$36	\$40
Official signature fees charged for the issue of certified true copies (CTC)of licence and certificates	\$258	\$280
Annual fee for Textiles Trader Registration	\$2,420	\$2,640
Delivery verification certificate	\$174	\$190
International import certificate	\$56	\$61
Landing certificate	\$330	\$360
Signature fees for certifying copy of trade declarations and cargo manifests	\$210	\$229

Provision of official records of statistical data derived or extracted from import and export manifests	\$13 (per page)	\$14 (per page)
Annual fee for factory registration (effective from August 1, 1996)	\$2,575	\$2,807
Certificate of Origin (CO) other than Generalised Preference Certificate (effective from January 2, 1997)	\$137	\$149
Generalised Preference Certificate (Form A) (effective from January 2, 1997)	\$278	\$303

The new scale of subscription fees per annum for Trade Notices and Circulars with effect from July 5, 1996 are as follows:

<u>Circulars</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Revised</u>
Notice to Exporters		
"O" Series		
Series 1: USA	\$192	\$209
Series 2: EU	\$192	\$209
Series 3: Countries other than USA and EU	\$192	\$209
"A" Series		
Series 1: USA	\$122	\$133
Series 2: EU	\$122	\$133
Series 3: Countries other than USA and EU	\$122	\$133
Certification Branch Circulars	\$117	\$128
Commercial Information Circulars	\$192	\$209

End

Requisition forms to obtain rental information issued

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The Rating and Valuation Department is now preparing for a regular three yearly general revaluation where rateable values of all properties in Hong Kong will be reviewed.

The revised rateable values will take effect from April 1 next year.

Some 450,000 requisition forms are issued to ratepayers today (Monday), seeking details of rents and other terms of tenancies for different categories of property including residential, commercial and industrial premises.

These forms are issued on a selective basis to ratepayers of properties where there are likely to be recently negotiated rents.

A spokesman for the department stressed that ratepayers who received the forms must complete and return them within the 21 days allowed.

If they have difficulties in returning the form within the specified period, they may apply, with reasons, for an extension. Failure to return the form may result in penalties being imposed.

Anyone who is in doubt as to how to complete the form may telephone the number printed on the form, or may visit the department at 17th Floor, Hennessy Centre, 500 Hennessy Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong, where assistance will be given.

Assistance may also be obtained from any public enquiry service centres at district offices.

End

Water storage figure

\* \* \* \* \*

Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Monday) stood at 92.5 per cent of capacity or 542.066 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 393.986 million cubic metres of water, representing 67.2 per cent of capacity.

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	3,925	0930	-1,967
Closing balance in the account	2,785	1000	-1,967
Change attributable to :		1100	-1,967
Money market activity	-1,970	1200	-1,970
LAF today	+830	1500	-1,970
		1600	-1,970

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 124.4 \*-0.1\* 1.7.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.14	2 years	2805	6.30	100.21	6.27
1 month	5.09	3 years	3904	6.30	99.33	6.67
3 months	5.20	5 years	5106	7.23	100.23	7.30
6 months	5.42	7 years	7305	7.60	100.67	7.61
12 months	5.75	5 years	M502	7.30	99.87	7.47

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$17,080 million

Closed July 1, 1996

End