



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Education important to Hong Kong's future: Governor

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Education is important to the future of Hong Kong, the Governor the Rt Hon Christopher Patten told the gathering at the opening ceremony of the Maryknoll Convent School's extension wing this (Thursday) afternoon.

Mr Patten said it was the team effort of the Government, the school management, the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club and former students that made the extension project possible.

"The project symbolises our joint aim: to improve the quality of education in Hong Kong," he noted.

The new extension wing will provide more room for education - more classrooms and staff rooms and more space for student activities.

Meanwhile, the Governor also praised the school for offering an all-round education to its students, nurturing them to become responsible members of the community.

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Alastair Goodlad to visit Hong Kong

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The Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Rt Hon Alastair Goodlad MP, will visit Hong Kong from January 8 to 10.

Mr Goodlad's visit will focus on trade and industry. He will be briefed by the Secretary for Trade and Industry, Mr T H Chau, and the Senior British Trade Commissioner, Mr Francis Cornish.

Visits will include the Hong Kong Productivity Council, Swire Technologies Ltd and the British Chamber of Commerce.

Mr Goodlad will also call on the Governor the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, attend a session of the Executive Council and meet members of the Legislative Council.

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Attention News Editors:

Mr Goodlad will arrive in Hong Kong by flight BA27 at 6 pm on Sunday (January 8). Media members are invited to cover his arrival.

He last visited Hong Kong in July 1994.

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#### Leveraged Foreign Exchange Trade Arbitration Panel membership

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The Acting Secretary for Financial Services, Mrs Lessie Wei, announced today (Thursday) that the Financial Secretary had appointed Mr Frank K S Wong and Mr Chris Pavlou the chairman and deputy chairman respectively of the Arbitration Panel under the Leveraged Foreign Exchange Trading Ordinance.

The Financial Secretary has also appointed the following persons members of the Arbitration Panel:

Mr Alan Chan  
Mr Chu Lap Ying  
Mr Francis Chu Siu Chuen  
Mr Stanley Ho Wai Hung  
Mr Raymond H M Kong  
Mr Davy Kwan Kwok Ki  
Mr Lam Yim Nam  
Mr Tommy Lee Cheuk Shun  
Ms Christine Lee Man Fei  
Mr Darryl Lewington  
Mr Anthony Ngai  
Mr Joseph Y W Pang

Mr Stefan F Stosik  
Mr T H Suen  
Mr Ronald Tam Po Chiu  
Mr P S Tam  
Mr Jimmy Tong  
Mr Andrew Tsai  
Mr Wong Fook Yuen  
Mr Yiu Pak Chow  
Mr Anthony K T Yuen

All the appointments are with immediate effect up to and including December 27, 1996.

Under the Leveraged Foreign Exchange Trading Ordinance, a client can require any dispute between him and a licensed trader to be settled by arbitration.

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Nomination for MC Elections to start on Monday

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Nomination of candidates for the Municipal Council (MC) Elections on March 5 will start on next Monday (January 9) and last until January 23.

Nomination must be handed in by the nominated candidate in person and received by the Returning Officer or one of his Assistant Returning Officers at the respective District Office between 9 am and 5 pm on any day other than a general holiday or a Saturday.

Nomination forms may now be obtained free of charge from any District Office or the Registration and Electoral Office (REO), 10th floor, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

An REO spokesman said for each constituency, unless there was less than two nominated candidates, a poll would be held on the election day on Sunday, March 5, 1995.

The spokesman said the REO had specially produced a video to help candidates to better understand the relevant election rules and guidelines.

Each candidate would receive a copy when he submitted his nomination. Prospective candidates could also approach District Offices for viewing the video before they handed in their nomination.

"We hope that through the video prospective candidates will have a general idea on the dos and don'ts in elections. We strongly advise them to study in detail the electoral rules and BEC guidelines before they launch their electioneering activities," he said.

There will be a total of 59 single-seat MC constituencies open for nomination, 32 for the Urban Council and 27 for the Regional Council.

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#### Construction of runway exit at HK International Airport underway

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The Civil Engineering Department (CED) today (Thursday) awarded a \$9.7 million contract to Wan Hin & Co., Ltd for the construction of an additional runway exit at the Hong Kong International Airport.

The works comprise mainly the construction of 3,800 square metres of bituminous pavement and 1,400 metres of ducts for electrical wiring.

Construction will begin this month for completion in nine months.

On completion, the new runway exit will enable aircrafts to clear the runway more quickly and thus help increase the runway capacity.

The works was designed and will be supervised by the Development and Airport Division of the Civil Engineering Office, CED.

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Better fire protection for Kwai Chung residents

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Residents of several housing estates in Lai King Headline, Kwai Chung, have been provided with better fire protection and rescue service following the completion of the Lai King Fire Station in late 1993.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the fire station today (Thursday), Chief Fire Officer (Headquarters), Mr Hsu King-ping, pointed out that the strategic location of the station constituted essential back-up resources both for the New Territories and Kowloon Fire Commands.

The new station serves a population of 45,000 in more than 50 domestic blocks at Lai King and Lai Yiu Estates, Cho Yiu Chuen and Wonderland Villa.

"It also covers nine schools, three elderly hostels, a dozen industrial buildings and two major container terminals, one of which being the largest in the world," Mr Hsu said.

Lai King is a fast developing area and there are quite a number of sites in the vicinity which are ready for development, he added.

From January to November last year, the station answered a total of 170 fire calls and 145 special service calls.

The Fire Services Department at present operates 65 fire stations and plans to build 10 more within the next five years.

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First-day covers and postcards on "Year of the Pig"

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The Agriculture and Fisheries Department (AFD) and the World Wide Fund for Nature Hong Kong (WWF HK) today (Thursday) announced the launching of two editions of first-day covers and one set of four postcards depicting the Year of the Pig for limited distribution.

The production of these items were timed to tie in with the new special stamps on pig breeds to be issued by the Post Office on the 17th of this month.

The postcards and first-day covers will be on sale from Saturday (January 7) at the WWF HK office, 1 Tramway Path, Central.

AFD's Acting Assistant Director (Agriculture), Mr Chan Chi-chiu said this was a good opportunity to introduce various pig breeds to the public and promote awareness of the importance of pigs as food animals in Hong Kong.

"Hong Kong people love to eat pork. Each person consumes about 25 kilograms of fresh pork per year. AFD has all along been working to upgrade the pig herd in local farms with introduction of modern breeds which are fast growing and lean."

Mr Chan thanked the WWF HK for the production of these items which also increase public awareness of preserving the existing wild species of pigs.

WWF HK Senior Conservation Officer Ms Jo Ruxton said: "Pigs are intelligent animals with a keen sense of smell and well developed hearing. They communicate incessantly with squeaks, chirrups and grunts.

"Habitat destruction, however, threatens many wild species such as Pygmy Hog and Javan Pig. Their population are so low that only habitat protection and captive breeding programmes can save them," she said.

She pointed out that WWF HK was working to educate the public about the threat of habitat destruction to the environment.

Further enquiries can be directed to either Miss Pauline Cheung of WWF HK on tel 2526 1011 or AFD's Mrs Christina Lo on tel 2674 0593.

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Latest issue of "COMAC News" published

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Following increasing public awareness of public access to the Commissioner for Administrative Complaints (COMAC), there has been a steady increase in the number of enquiries and written complaints received by the COMAC Office.

This is revealed in the latest issue of "COMAC News" published today (Thursday).

For the past six months, the total number of enquiries and written complaints received were 1,656 and 565 respectively, the report said.

The next issue of "COMAC News" will be published on February 6.

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Note to Editors:

For press enquiries, please contact Senior Executive Officer (Administration and Community Relations), Miss Anna Chan, on telephone 2805 7015.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	1,374	0930	+530
Closing balance in the account	1,485	1000	+530
Change attributable to :		1100	+530
Money market activity	+531	1200	+531
LAF today	-420	1500	+531
		1600	+531

LAF rate 3.75% bid/5.75% offer TWI 121.6 \*-0.1\* 5.1.95

### Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/Hong Kong Government bonds				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.14	17 months	2605	6.35	98.67	7.52
1 month	5.21	23 months	2611	6.90	98.66	7.83
3 months	5.65	28 months	3704	6.15	96.36	8.05
6 months	6.36	34 months	3710	7.25	98.10	8.17
12 months	7.09	60 months	5912	8.15	99.16	8.53

Total turnover of bills and bonds - \$18,644 million

Closed January 5, 1995

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