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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Monday, October 30, 1995

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Feasibility study for Ma On Shan rail link & KCR extension

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The Government today (Monday) commissioned a \$14.75 million feasibility study on the Ma On Shan to Tai Wai rail link and the KCR extension from Hung Hom to Tsim Sha Tsui.

In a ceremony today, the Director of Highways, Mr Leung Kwok-sun, signed the agreement with a joint-venture consultancy comprising MVA (Asia) Ltd and Maunsell Consultants (Asia) Ltd.

Mr Leung said the Ma On Shan rail link and KCR extension were one of the three high priority railway projects identified in the Railway Development Strategy published in December 1994. The projects are proposed to be implemented by 2001.

"The findings of the comprehensive feasibility study will assist the Government to decide on the best way to implement this railway project," he said.

Mr Leung said the proposed Ma On Shan rail link would be an intermediate capacity system capable of carrying up to 40,000 passengers per peak hour.

It is envisaged that the alignment of the Ma On Shan rail link will mainly follow an existing railway reserve as shown on the Sha Tin and Ma On Shan Outline Zoning Plans.

It will largely be above ground with segregation from roadways. Provisions for interchanging with KCR will be made at Tai Wai.

The KCR extension will start from the KCR Kowloon Station and run underground along the East Tsim Sha Tsui promenade towards Tsim Sha Tsui where a new East Tsim Sha Tsui Station will be located.

Provision will also be made for future extension of KCR to the West Kowloon Reclamation.

Upon completion, the railway lines will improve rail access to Ma On Shan areas and offer commuters from the North East New Territories a direct route to urban Kowloon without the need to interchange with the MTR at Kowloon Tong Station.

"This will save the journey time and help to relieve the congestion currently experienced at Kowloon Tong Station and along the Nathan Road Corridor," Mr Leung said.

The study will establish the preferred railway system type, alignments, locations of stations and depot for the Ma On Shan rail link and KCR extension.

It will also look into the aspects of transport, land use and planning, environmental and drainage impacts arising from the railways.

The findings of the study will provide the necessary cost and revenue data for the Government's independent assessment of the institutional and financial arrangement for the project.

The study will be supervised by the Railway Development Office of the Highways Department. It will take 12 months to complete.

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Water storage figure

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Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Monday) stood at 99.1 per cent of capacity or 581.047 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 569.092 million cubic metres of water, representing 97.1 per cent of capacity.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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	\$ million -----	Time (hours) -----	Cumulative change (\$million) -----
Opening balance in the account	1,614	0930	+960
Closing balance in the account	2,432	1000	+963
Change attributable to :		1100	+963
Money market activity	+958	1200	+963
LAF today	-140	1500	+958
		1600	+958

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 122.1 \*+0.1\* 30.10.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.28	2 years	2708	6.06	100.49	5.85
1 month	5.43	3 years	3810	6.15	100.04	6.23
3 months	5.54	5 years	5009	6.95	100.89	6.84
6 months	5.59	5 years	M501	7.90	102.82	7.29
12 months	5.64					

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$15,945 million

Closed October 30, 1995

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