



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1994

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STATEMENT ON XINHUA'S COMMENTS

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IN RESPONSE TO MEDIA QUESTIONS ABOUT REPORTS OF THE COMMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO XINHUA DEPUTY DIRECTOR ZHANG JUNSHENG TODAY IN PEKING, A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID:

"WE HAVE SUGGESTED USING THE NAME CORPORATION ON THE AIRPORT SOLELY BECAUSE IT IS MORE SUITABLE FOR AN ORGANISATION OPERATING IN THE COMMERCIAL WORLD THAN AUTHORITY WHICH, IN HONG KONG, IS USED FOR REGULATORY BODIES SUCH AS THE MONETARY AUTHORITY. THE NAME HAS NO OTHER SIGNIFICANCE WHATSOEVER, AND HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE FINANCIAL OR OTHER POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ORGANISATION. INDEED, WE HAVE SAID THAT WE MIGHT REVERT TO AUTHORITY AT THE END OF THE CURRENT CONSULTATION PERIOD ON THE AIRPORT CORPORATION BILL, IF THAT IS THE CONSENSUS".

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STATEMENT ON MTR COACH DERAILMENT

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THE SECRETARY FOR TRANSPORT, MR HAIDER BARMA SAID HE WAS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE DERAILMENT INCIDENT OF THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY LAST NIGHT BUT GREATLY RELIEVED THAT NO ONE WAS INJURED.

MR BARMA SAID HE HAD SPOKEN TO THE MTRC CHAIRMAN SOON AFTER THE INCIDENT AND WAS GLAD THAT THE MTRC HAD SO VERY PROMPTLY DEPLOYED A FULL TEAM TO INVESTIGATE.

THE GOVERNMENT'S CHIEF INSPECTING OFFICER OF RAILWAY ALSO WENT TO THE SCENE IMMEDIATELY TO CARRY OUT A SEPARATE INVESTIGATION.

"IT IS ESSENTIAL TO ESTABLISH THE FULL FACTS AND TAKE ALL PRACTICAL STEPS TO PREVENT SUCH INCIDENTS IN FUTURE.

"I AM EXPECTING THAT BOTH THE MTRC AND OUR CHIEF INSPECTING OFFICER OF RAILWAY TO SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY REPORT TO ME EARLY NEXT WEEK. FINDINGS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IN DUE COURSE," HE ADDED.

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EMPLOYER FINED FOR NOT PAYING COMPENSATION

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT TODAY (SATURDAY) REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT IT WAS AN OFFENCE IF THEY FAILED TO PAY COMPENSATION WITHIN A TIME LIMIT TO EMPLOYEES WHO WERE INJURED AT WORK.

SENIOR LABOUR OFFICER (COMPENSATION), MRS JENNY CHAN, GAVE THE ADVICE AFTER THE WAI LEE CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING COMPANY WAS FINED \$5,000 BY A EASTERN MAGISTRATE EARLY THIS MONTH.

THE COMPANY FAILED TO PAY COMPENSATION TO AN EMPLOYEE WHO WAS INJURED AT WORK AFTER THE AGREEMENT OF COMPENSATION BETWEEN THE EMPLOYER AND THE INJURED EMPLOYEE WAS APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR.

UNDER THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION ORDINANCE, AN EMPLOYER SHOULD ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT OF COMPENSATION WITH HIS INJURED EMPLOYEE WHO LOST MORE THAN FIVE PER CENT OF HIS EARNING CAPACITY.

MRS CHAN SAID THE AGREEMENT SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR LABOUR FOR APPROVAL.

ONCE THE AGREEMENT IS APPROVED, THE EMPLOYER SHOULD MAKE FULL PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO THE EMPLOYEE WITHIN 21 DAYS.

FAILURE TO DO SO IS AN OFFENCE THAT CARRIES A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000.

IN ADDITION, THE EMPLOYER HAS TO PAY TO HIS INJURED EMPLOYEE A SURCHARGE OF FIVE PER CENT OF THE OUTSTANDING AMOUNT OF THE COMPENSATION.

A 10 PER CENT SURCHARGE WILL BE IMPOSED ON THE OUTSTANDING AMOUNT IF THE PAYMENT IS NOT MADE WITHIN THREE MONTHS.

MRS CHAN FURTHER REMINDED EMPLOYERS THAT FROM JANUARY 1 THIS YEAR, THE MINIMUM LEVELS OF SURCHARGE HAD BEEN ADJUSTED.

"AN EMPLOYER WHO FAILS TO PAY THE SURCHARGE WITHOUT REASONABLE EXCUSE IS ALSO LIABLE TO PROSECUTION WITH A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$10,000," SHE ADDED.

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## LUCKY VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS SALE BY AUCTION

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ONE HUNDRED VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS WERE PUT UP FOR AUCTION TODAY SATURDAY FOR A TOTAL OF \$3,208,000 WHICH WILL GO TO THE GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES FUND FOR CHARITY PURPOSES AFTER DEDUCTION OF EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE CONDUCT THEREOF.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE RECITAL HALL OF THE CITY HALL, SAW THE REGISTRATION MARK DL2222 FETCH THE HIGHEST PRICE OF \$350,000.

ANOTHER REGISTRATION MARK DL8888 WAS SOLD AT THE SECOND HIGHEST PRICE OF \$320,000 WHILE THE LOWEST PRICE WAS \$1,000 EACH FOR FN8760, FN7261, FN7441, FN9177, DL8689, FN8715, FP1013, FN5871 AND FN3720.

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S MORNING SESSION AUCTION:

	\$		\$		\$		\$
FN9888	24,000	AT812	31,000	FN322	42,000	FN318	47,000
FN468	8,000	FN831	12,000	AY819	22,000	BM3181	20,000
*BB95	65,000	*1494	60,000	*194	100,000	*DL2222	350,000
FN8832	12,000	FN7771	10,000	FN813	48,000	FN863	12,000
CT312	20,000	HK2031	22,000	CT198	18,000	FN8240	W/C
FN8777	8,000	FM9928	18,000	FN6228	10,000	CE2438	W/C
CK8662	22,000	FN8324	2,000	CR1997	26,000	FN8760	1,000
*1957	160,000	*AX6	130,000	*FK16	55,000	*DK99	155,000
FN8212	6,000	FN8384	7,000	FN8892	4,000	FN8107	W/C
FN102	8,000	FN903	6,000	FN901	6,000	FN7261	1,000
FN7441	1,000	FN9177	1,000	*FS77	55,000	FN9295	W/C
DL8689	1,000	FN7572	W/C	FN8715	1,000	*CH282	50,000
FN855	8,000	FN7257	W/C				

FOLLOWING ARE THE RESULTS OF TODAY'S AFTERNOON SESSION AUCTION:

	\$		\$		\$		\$
FP6628	33,000	FP190	34,000	FP318	54,000	FP1191	3,000
FN8878	12,000	FN9381	4,000	HK5111	50,000	AL8589	20,000
*647	60,000	*583	60,000	*FU86	50,000	*HK95	200,000
FP2833	7,000	FP223	38,000	FP887	22,000	FN6378	5,000
CM3339	11,000	AU8268	14,000	FN6831	4,000	DD6168	20,000
FP216	11,000	FP3368	16,000	AA1096	19,000	FP7898	6,000
FN9223	3,000	FN8130	2,000	FN3390	4,000	XX5707	24,000
*FC17	37,000	*CL8888	320,000	*147	130,000	*FU2000	55,000
CA231	25,000	FP1386	15,000	BL902	12,000	FP1013	1,000
FP348	30,000	FP861	15,000	FP470	2,000	FN8764	3,000
FN5330	W/C	FN9106	W/C	*CM50	60,000	FP3809	2,000
FN3720	1,000	AZ8813	18,000	FN6460	W/C	*CD9090	20,000
FN5044	W/C	FN5871	1,000				

\* SPECIAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARK (NOT TRANSFERABLE)

\* \* W/C:WITHDRAWN

/SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS .....

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SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY BY CHEQUE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE BIDDING.

THE VEHICLE REGISTRATION MARKS AUCTIONED WILL BE ASSIGNED ONLY TO VEHICLES REGISTERED IN THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDERS WITHIN 12 MONTHS OF THE DATE OF AUCTION.

TODAY'S SALE, THE 211TH AND 212TH ORGANISED BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SINCE MAY 1973, BROUGHT THE TOTAL AMOUNT REALISED SO FAR TO \$236,547,905.

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#### RS PRAISES KWUN TONG DISTRICT BODIES

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THE REGIONAL SECRETARY FOR HONG KONG AND KOWLOON, MISS CHRISTINE CHOW, TONIGHT (SUNDAY) PAID TRIBUTE TO KWUN TONG'S DISTRICT BODIES FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PROMOTING CIVIC AWARENESS AND THE SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG LOCAL RESIDENTS.

SPEAKING AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY CUM CARNIVAL OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FESTIVAL '94, MISS CHOW ALSO COMMENDED THE EFFECTIVE DISTRICT MANAGEMENT ACHIEVED THROUGH THE CO-OPERATION AMONG THE DISTRICT BOARD, THE DISTRICT OFFICE, THE AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL GROUPS.

SHE URGED THE RESIDENTS TO CONTINUE THEIR SUPPORT TO DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS THROUGH THESE BODIES SO THAT THE COMMUNITY COULD BE DEVELOPED IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF ITS PEOPLE.

THOUSANDS OF RESIDENTS SHARED THE FUN IN TONIGHT'S CARNIVAL WHICH FEATURED PERFORMANCES BY POP SINGERS, TALENT SHOW BY THE ABLED AND THE DISABLED, CANTONESE OPERA, KARAOKE COMPETITION AS WELL AS CHILDREN'S GAMES CORNERS.

THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT FESTIVAL '94, BEGAN ON JANUARY 23, WAS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD, THE DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE URBAN COUNCIL.

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## FORUMS ON ARTS DEVELOPMENT

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THE THIRD OF A SERIES OF FIVE PUBLIC FORUMS ORGANISED BY THE HONG KONG ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL WORKING GROUP WAS HELD TODAY (SATURDAY) IN THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBER.

THE PURPOSES OF THIS SERIES OF PUBLIC FORUMS ARE TO EXPLAIN THE PROGRESS BEING MADE BY THE WORKING GROUP SINCE IT WAS APPOINTED IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR AND TO GATHER OPINIONS FROM BOTH THE ARTS COMMUNITY AND THE PUBLIC ON HOW THE ARTS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED IN THE 1990'S AND BEYOND.

THE FORUM HELD TODAY AND THE NEXT TWO FORUMS ARE EACH FOCUSED ON A PARTICULAR ART FORM.

THE PURPOSE OF THE FORUM HELD TODAY WAS MAINLY TO GATHER OPINIONS AND FORWARD-LOOKING IDEAS FROM BOTH THE ARTS COMMUNITY AND THE PUBLIC ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF LITERARY ARTS.

AFTER THE MODERATOR OF THE FORUM, MR VINCENT CHOW, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE WORKING GROUP, HAD INTRODUCED THE SPEAKERS, THE FOLLOWING SPEAKERS THEN GAVE THEIR VIEWS ON VARIOUS TOPICS RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF LITERARY ARTS.

NAME OF SPEAKER -----	TOPIC -----
(A) DR LEUNG PING-KWAN	PROMOTION OF LITERATURE IN HONG KONG
(B) MR LIU YI-CHANG	PROMOTION OF HONG KONG LITERATURE
(C) MS FLORA WONG	THE NEEDS OF LITERARY ARTISTS
(D) MS LO WAI-LUEN	RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LITERATURE, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
(E) MR JOSEPH CHAN YUEK-SUT	URBAN COUNCIL AND THE PROMOTION OF LITERATURE IN HONG KONG
(F) MR TING YIN-WAH	REGIONAL COUNCIL AND THE PROMOTION OF LITERATURE IN HONG KONG
(G) MISS SUSANNA CHEUNG	PROMOTION OF LITERATURE IN SCHOOLS
(H) MRS SIN CHOW DICK-YEE	PROMOTION OF LITERATURE IN SCHOOLS

THE MODERATOR OF THE FORUM THEN INVITED QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE FOR THE PANEL WHICH INCLUDED ALL OF THE SPEAKERS.

THE NEXT TWO FORUMS WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 5 AND 19, BOTH BEING SATURDAYS, FROM 9 AM UNTIL NOON IN THE URBAN COUNCIL CHAMBER AT 3 EDINBURGH PLACE.

THE COMING FORUM WILL COVER THE PERFORMING ARTS AND THE FINAL ONE WILL COVER FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, REPRESENTATION OF THE ARTS COMMUNITY ON THE ARTS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

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YAUMATI FERRY REDEPLOYED

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THE HONGKONG AND YAUMATI FERRY CO WILL CANCEL THE 7.35 AM ORDINARY FERRY SERVICE FROM TUEN MUN TO TSIM SHA TSUI FROM MONDAY (JANUARY 31) BECAUSE OF LOW PASSENGER DEMAND.

THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THE VESSEL RELEASED WOULD BE REDEPLOYED TO SERVE ON THE TSING YI - CENTRAL FERRY ROUTE.

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FIRING PRACTICE IN FEBRUARY

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HA TSUEN - CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON 15 DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED NOT TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE HOISTED.

THE DATES AND TIMES FOR THE FIRING PRACTICE ARE:

DATE	TIME
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FEBRUARY 1 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 2 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 3 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 4 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 14 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 15 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 16 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 17 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 18 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 19 (SATURDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 21 (MONDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 22 (TUESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 23 (WEDNESDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 24 (THURSDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM
FEBRUARY 25 (FRIDAY)	8.30 AM - 5 PM

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HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND  
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS  
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	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	4,664
REVERSAL OF LAF	-310
BALANCE AFTER REVERSAL OF LAF	4,354
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	+2,676
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	-275
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	6,755

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 126.9 \*+0.2\* 29.1.94

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