



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1994

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GOVERNOR OPENS NEW BGCA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

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THE GOVERNOR, THE RT HON CHRISTOPHER PATTEN, HIGHLY COMMENDED THE LONG-TERM COMMITMENT OF THE BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF HONG KONG (BGCA) TO PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN RESPONSE TO THE EVER-CHANGING ENVIRONMENT.

OFFICIATING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE REDEVELOPED HEADQUARTERS BUILDING OF BGCA THIS (TUESDAY) AFTERNOON, MR PATTEN SAID: "HELPING HONG KONG'S BOYS AND GIRLS, YOUNG MEN AND YOUNG WOMEN, AND HELPING THEIR FAMILIES TO COPE WITH THE TRANSFORMATIONS AND TENSIONS THAT THEY FACE HAS BEEN THE COMMITMENT OF THIS ASSOCIATION SINCE ITS FOUNDATION IN 1936.

"I AM SURE THAT WITH THE RESOURCES THAT THIS SPLENDID NEW HEADQUARTERS PROVIDES, YOU WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN ENERGETIC AND INSPIRING HELP TO HONG KONG'S YOUNG PEOPLE FOR AT LEAST AS MANY YEARS TO COME," MR PATTEN SAID.

MR PATTEN ALSO SAID THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BGCA TO SHOW FRIENDSHIP, CARE AND TRUST TOWARDS YOUNG PEOPLE HAD HELPED THEM DEVELOP THEIR OWN CAPACITY; ENRICH THE COMMUNITY AND CONTRIBUTE TO ITS STABILITY.

THE GOVERNOR ADDED THAT THE ASSOCIATION HAD SHOWN GREAT RESILIENCE AND CAPACITY FOR THE TREMENDOUS CHANGE IN HONG KONG BY EXTENDING ITS WORK TO NEW AREAS OF NEED, DEVELOPING NEW SERVICES AND UPDATING OLD ONES.

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PLAGUE CONTROL MEASURES STEPPED UP

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THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH HAS STEPPED UP PLAGUE CONTROL MEASURES SINCE REPORTS OF AN OUTBREAK OF THE DISEASE IN INDIA LAST WEEK.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID: "ALL ALONG, WE HAVE IN PLACE A PLAGUE SURVEILLANCE PROGRAMME WHICH MONITORS THE GLOBAL SITUATION."

THE MEASURES ALREADY ADOPTED INCLUDE:

- * THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE LEAFLET "HEALTH ADVICE ON PLAGUE PREVENTION" TO TRAVELLERS DISEMBARKING FOR INFECTED PORT WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF AIRLINES;
- * YELLOW CARD "IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS ARRIVING IN HONG KONG" IS AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION IN THE ARRIVALS HALL OF AIRPORT;
- * TRAVELLERS ARE ADVISED TO SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE IF THEY DEVELOP SYMPTOMS WITHIN SIX DAYS OF ARRIVAL FROM A PLAGUE-INFECTED AREA; AND
- * TRAVELLERS ARRIVING AT HONG KONG WITH SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION ARE SEEN AT PORT HEALTH OFFICE;

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TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN INDIA, THE DEPARTMENT WILL IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL MEASURES:

- * PILOTS OF ALL AIRCRAFT COMING FROM INDIA TO DECLARE THE HEALTH STATUS OF PASSENGERS THROUGH AIRLINE COMPANY;
- * AIRLINE COMPANIES TO ALERT PORT HEALTH OFFICE IF SICK PERSON ON BOARD IS DECLARED BY THE PILOT;
- * PASSENGERS FROM INDIA DISEMBARKING IN HONG KONG TO COMPLETE THE "UNDERTAKING TO SUBMIT TO SURVEILLANCE" FORM AND PASS THEM TO THE PORT HEALTH OFFICE;
- * AIRLINE TO PROVIDE THE PORT HEALTH OFFICE WITH A LIST OF PASSENGER EMBARKING AT INDIA AND DISEMBARKING IN HONG KONG;
- * PORT HEALTH OFFICER TO INSPECT PASSENGERS AND CABIN CREW OF EVERY AIRCRAFT ARRIVING FROM INDIA WITH A VIEW TO DETECTING EARLY DISEASE; AND
- * TO CHECK ALL CARGO MANIFEST FOR CARGO FLIGHTS COMING FROM INDIA AND TO CONDUCT RODENT AND FLEA CONTROL MEASURES IN STORAGE DEPOT WHERE NECESSARY.

THE SPOKESMAN ADDED THAT PNEUMONIC PLAGUE WAS A HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS CONDITION CAUSED BY BACTERIA. "THE SYMPTOMS ARE FEVER, CHILLS, COUGH, SHORTNESS OF BREATH AND SHOCK.

"THE CONDITION IS TREATABLE AND PEOPLE CAN MAKE FULL RECOVERY WITH PROPER TREATMENT WITH ANTIBIOTICS," HE SAID.

PATIENTS WITH SYMPTOMS ARE ADVISED TO SEEK EARLY TREATMENT FROM DOCTORS.

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ATTENTION NEWS EDITORS:

THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH, DR LAM PING-YAM, WILL BRIEF THE MEDIA ON THE PLAGUE CONTROL MEASURES AT THE PRESS ROOM, HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AT 5 PM TODAY (TUESDAY).

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

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FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REFORM MADE IN GOVERNMENT

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS, OVER THE LAST TWO TO THREE YEARS, MADE CONSIDERABLE ADVANCEMENT IN FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REFORM AIMED AT GIVING AN INCREASED DEGREE OF DELEGATED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES TO BRANCH SECRETARIES AND TO THEIR HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY, MR DONALD TSANG, SAID TONIGHT (TUESDAY).

SPEAKING AT THE 1993 ASIAN MANAGEMENT AWARDS AWARDING CEREMONY, MR TSANG SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD, FOR MANY YEARS, FOLLOWED THE PRINCIPAL BUDGETARY GUIDELINE THAT GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE SHOULD NOT GROW FASTER THAN THE TREND GROWTH RATE OF THE ECONOMY.

"OVER THE YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN THAT AIM.

"SINCE WE INTRODUCED THE DISCIPLINE OF THE MEDIUM RANGE FORECAST IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 1980'S, THE CUMULATIVE GROWTH IN REAL TERMS IN GOVERNMENT SPENDING HAS ALMOST PRECISELY MATCHED THE GROWTH IN THE ECONOMY," HE SAID.

TO ENSURE THAT THE GOVERNMENT MAKES THE OPTIMUM USE OF THE RESOURCES AT ITS DISPOSAL, THE GOVERNMENT HAD ENCOURAGED THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO LOOK INCREASINGLY AT THE POSSIBILITIES OF INTRODUCING IMPROVED SERVICES BY THE REDEPLOYMENT OF FUNDS FROM EXISTING ACTIVITIES, MR TSANG NOTED.

"WE HAVE SET UP A FRAMEWORK OF REVIEW MEETINGS WHERE BRANCH SECRETARIES REVIEW THE RESOURCES USED AND THE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THEIR VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

"AND THROUGH THIS PROCESS, WE WILL BE ESTABLISHING TARGETS FOR BOTH SERVICE PERFORMANCE AND EFFICIENCY."

IN ADDITION, MR TSANG SAID, BRANCH SECRETARIES THEMSELVES WERE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR PROGRAMMES TO THE STAR CHAMBER, A COMMITTEE COMPRISING THE CHIEF SECRETARY, THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY, THE SECRETARY FOR THE TREASURY AND THE SECRETARY FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE.

"WE HAVE ALREADY FOUND THIS A VALUABLE PROCESS. IT HAS PROVIDED AN OPPORTUNITY TO SYSTEMATICALLY EXAMINE THE MASS OF GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON OUR EXISTING ACTIVITIES ON A CONTINUOUS BASIS.

"IT HAS LED TO AN ENHANCED AWARENESS, THROUGHOUT GOVERNMENT, OF THE NEED FOR THE ACTIVE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES AND IT HAS ALREADY PRODUCED SOME INTERESTING IDEAS AND INITIATIVES.

"WE DO NOT, OF COURSE, EXPECT OVERNIGHT SUCCESS, BUT WE HAVE TAKEN WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE A FURTHER AND VITAL STEP TOWARDS OUR GOAL OF ALLOCATING RESOURCES TO THOSE SERVICES WHICH PROVIDE THE OPTIMUM BENEFIT TO THE ECONOMY AND TO THE COMMUNITY," MR TSANG SAID.

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SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY FURTHER IMPROVED

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THE GOVERNOR HAS APPOINTED A WORKING GROUP ON CARE FOR THE ELDERLY TO EXAMINE THE NEEDS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE AND TO REVIEW THE EXISTING POLICIES ON VARIOUS SOCIAL SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY.

THIS IS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR IAN STRACHAN, WHEN HE OFFICIATED AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE YAN CHAI HOSPITAL WAN SHING MEMORIAL DAY CARE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY IN SHA TIN TODAY (TUESDAY).

NOTING THAT THE WORKING GROUP HAD RECENTLY SUBMITTED ITS REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR FOR CONSIDERATION, MR STRACHAN SAID SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY WOULD BE FURTHER IMPROVED UPON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKING GROUP.

"THE GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THAT SUPPORTIVE SERVICE SHOULD BE PROVIDED IN THE COMMUNITY SO AS TO ENABLE OUR SENIOR CITIZENS TO REMAIN IN THE COMMUNITY FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

"TO ACHIEVE THIS PURPOSE, A WIDE SPECTRUM OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES, INCLUDING HOME HELP SERVICE, MULTI-SERVICE CENTRE FOR THE ELDERLY, DAY CARE CENTRE, SOCIAL CENTRE AND RESPITE SERVICE HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED IN THE LAST DECADE THROUGH THE JOINT EFFORT OF THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS," HE SAID.

POINTING OUT THAT THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THESE SERVICES IN SUPPORTING SENIOR CITIZENS TO LIVE IN THE COMMUNITY HAD BEEN CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED, MR STRACHAN SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS COMMITTED TO FURTHER DEVELOP THESE SERVICES IN THE COMING YEARS.

"IN THIS CONNECTION, THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT PLANS TO PROVIDE 36 ADDITIONAL HOME HELP TEAMS, 51 SOCIAL CENTRES, 11 MULTI-SERVICE CENTRES AND 14 DAY CARE CENTRES FOR THE ELDERLY IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS," HE ADDED.

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TRAFFIC CONTROL CLOSED CIRCUIT TV SYSTEM FOR KOWLOON TO EXPAND

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THE AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM FOR KOWLOON IS TO BE EXPANDED TO PROVIDE COVERAGE FOR THE WHOLE KOWLOON REGION.

THE EXPANDED SYSTEM, WHICH IS ESTIMATED TO COST \$35 MILLION, WILL SUPPLEMENT THE COMPUTERISED TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROL SYSTEM OF KOWLOON, WHICH IS BEING UPGRADED.

A CONSULTANCY AGREEMENT FOR THE PROJECT WAS SIGNED BETWEEN THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND MAUNSELL CONSULTANTS ASIA TODAY (TUESDAY).

THE DEPARTMENT AT PRESENT OPERATES A SMALL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM OF 26 ROADSIDE CAMERAS COVERING THE WEST AND CENTRAL KOWLOON AREA.

/A SPOKESMAN

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT SAID THIS ENABLED CENTRAL MONITORING OF TRAFFIC CONDITIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT'S AREA TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTRE IN YAU MA TEI AND THE POLICE'S TRAFFIC HEADQUARTERS IN KOWLOON CITY.

"THE CONSULTANTS WILL DESIGN AND UPGRADE THE SYSTEM INCLUDING THE INSTALLATION OF ABOUT 40 ADDITIONAL ROADSIDE CAMERAS TO COVER THE WHOLE KOWLOON REGION AND TO PROVIDE INCREASED COVERAGE IN THE WEST AND CENTRAL KOWLOON AREA THAN THAT AT PRESENT," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

"WITH THE EXPANDED SYSTEM, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT AND THE POLICE WILL BE ABLE TO CENTRALLY MONITOR THE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS AND MAKE ADJUSTMENT TO THE TRAFFIC SIGNALS, AND ALSO TAKE ACTIONS TO DEAL WITH TRAFFIC-RELATED INCIDENTS QUICKLY," HE ADDED.

THE CONSULTANCY WILL START AT THE END OF THIS MONTH. THE INSTALLATION OF THE NEW ROADSIDE CAMERAS WILL START IN JULY 1995 FOR THE SYSTEM TO BE COMPLETED AND IN OPERATION IN JANUARY 1997.

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HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY TO BEGIN NEXT MONTH

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A NEW ROUND OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM NEXT MONTH TO SEPTEMBER 1995. THE RESULTS WILL BE USED AS AN IMPORTANT BASIS FOR REBASING THE VARIOUS CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) SERIES TO 1994/95.

ANNOUNCING THIS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY (TUESDAY), THE COMMISSIONER FOR CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MR FREDERICK W H HO, POINTED OUT THAT TWO KINDS OF WORK WERE REQUIRED IN COMPILING CONSUMER PRICE INDICES.

"FIRST, TO CREATE A BASKET OF GOODS AND SERVICES ITEMS THAT HOUSEHOLDS PURCHASE AND TO DETERMINE A WEIGHTING SYSTEM WHICH REPRESENTS THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE ITEMS IN THE BASKET."

"SECOND, TO COLLECT DATA CONTINUOUSLY ON THE PRICE MOVEMENTS OF GOODS AND SERVICES SO THAT MOVEMENTS OF THE MARKET PRICES CAN BE FULLY REFLECTED IN THE PRICE INDICES."

"INFORMATION ON THE BASKET OF GOODS AND SERVICES ITEMS AND THE WEIGHTING OF THE ITEMS IS TO BE OBTAINED FROM A HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY," HE SAID.

"THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IS THAT A NEW ROUND OF HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY (HES) WILL BE CONDUCTED ONCE EVERY FIVE YEARS TO COLLECT UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF HOUSEHOLDS. THIS PRACTICE CONFORMS WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND PRACTICES."

THE LAST HES WAS CONDUCTED FROM OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990. THE CURRENT CPI SERIES USE 1989/90 AS THE BASE YEAR.

THE CPI IS A MAIN ECONOMIC INDICATOR TO MEASURE CHANGES IN THE PRICE LEVEL OF THE GOODS AND SERVICES THAT HOUSEHOLDS PURCHASE. IT IS WIDELY USED IN ECONOMIC ANALYSES BY BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS AS AN IMPORTANT INDICATOR OF INFLATION FACED BY CONSUMERS. SOME EMPLOYERS ALSO USE IT AS A REFERENCE IN ADJUSTING SALARIES, WAGES AND VARIOUS LIVING ALLOWANCES.

MR HO EXPLAINED: "THREE DIFFERENT CPI SERIES, WHICH REFER TO HOUSEHOLDS IN DIFFERENT EXPENDITURE RANGES, ARE CURRENTLY COMPILED IN HONG KONG."

THE CPI(A) AND CPI(B), WHICH REFER TO HOUSEHOLDS IN THE RELATIVELY LOW AND THE MEDIUM EXPENDITURE RANGES, ARE COMPILED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE HANG SENG CPI, WHICH REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS IN THE RELATIVELY HIGH EXPENDITURE RANGE, IS COMPILED BY THE HANG SENG BANK.

BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF ALL THESE HOUSEHOLDS TAKEN TOGETHER, A COMPOSITE CPI IS COMPILED BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TO REFLECT THE IMPACT OF CONSUMER PRICE CHANGES ON HOUSEHOLDS AS A WHOLE.

"THE SURVEY RESULTS WILL BE ANALYSED IN LATE 1995 OR EARLY 1996. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE NEW CPI SERIES WILL BE PUBLISHED BY APRIL 1996," HE SAID.

A SAMPLE OF ABOUT 9,000 LIVING QUARTERS HAS BEEN RANDOMLY SELECTED FROM ALL LIVING QUARTERS IN HONG KONG. HOUSEHOLDS IN THE SELECTED LIVING QUARTERS WILL BE REQUESTED TO KEEP RECORDS OF ALL EXPENSES FOR A SPECIFIED PERIOD OF 14 DAYS.

IN THIS ROUND OF THE HES, MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON THE CONSUMPTION PATTERNS OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WILL BE COLLECTED FROM SOME HOUSEHOLDS TO FACILITATE MORE IN-DEPTH ANALYSES AND STUDIES OF HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION PATTERNS.

BEFORE EACH SURVEY CYCLE, LETTERS WILL BE SENT TO THE SAMPLED LIVING QUARTERS INFORMING HOUSEHOLDS THEREIN ABOUT THE DETAILS OF THE SURVEY. EACH LETTER WILL CONTAIN THE NAME OF AN INTERVIEWER.

ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTER DESPATCH OF THE LETTER, INTERVIEWERS WILL CALL ON THE HOUSEHOLDS AND REQUEST THE HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY.

SINCE THE FIRST SURVEY CYCLE WILL START NEXT MONDAY (OCTOBER 3), THE FIRST BATCH OF LETTERS HAVE ALREADY BEEN DESPATCHED.

WHEN CALLING ON A HOUSEHOLD, AN INTERVIEWER WILL CARRY WITH HIM AN IDENTITY CARD WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION. HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS SHOULD CAREFULLY CHECK THE IDENTITY OF THE INTERVIEWERS -- INCLUDING THE CHECKING OF THEIR PERSONAL HONG KONG IDENTITY CARDS IF NECESSARY.

"THE QUESTIONNAIRE USED IN THE SURVEY WILL BE DESIGNED IN THE FORM OF AN EXPENDITURE DIARY. HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS WILL NEED TO SPEND ONLY A FEW MINUTES A DAY TO COMPLETE THE RECORDING OF THEIR DAILY EXPENDITURE AND INTERVIEWERS WILL RENDER ASSISTANCE AS NECESSARY," MR HO SAID.

THE HANG SENG BANK HAS BEEN COLLABORATING WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT FOR THE MANY YEARS IN THE PROGRAMME OF MEASURING CHANGES IN PRICES BY COMPILING A HANG SENG CPI TO REFLECT THE IMPACT OF INFLATION ON HOUSEHOLDS IN THE RELATIVELY HIGH EXPENDITURE RANGE.

"IN THIS ROUND OF WORK TO UPDATE THE CPI SERIES, THE HANG SENG BANK HAS AGREED TO COLLABORATE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT AGAIN IN CONDUCTING THE HES AND THE SUBSEQUENT COMPILATION OF A NEW HANG SENG CPI SERIES. A NUMBER OF STAFF OF THE BANK WILL BE ATTACHED TO THE DEPARTMENT AND WORK ALONG WITH THE DEPARTMENTAL TEAM DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD," ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER OF THE HANG SENG BANK, MR ANTHONY K K WONG, SAID.

THE PARTICIPATING HOUSEHOLDS, AFTER PROVIDING ALL THE RELEVANT INFORMATION, WILL BE PRESENTED WITH AN HONORARIUM OF \$100.

MR HO SAID: "THE INFORMATION COLLECTED IN THE HES FORMS AN IMPORTANT BASIS FOR THE COMPILATION OF THE CPIS. THE RELIABILITY OF THE CPIS THEREFORE DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON THE QUALITY OF DATA COLLECTED IN THE SURVEY."

"I THEREFORE APPEAL TO ALL SELECTED HOUSEHOLDS TO CO-OPERATE BY SUPPLYING THE REQUIRED INFORMATION."

MR HO POINTED OUT THAT THE HES WOULD BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDINANCE. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS, THE INFORMATION THAT A HOUSEHOLD PROVIDES WILL BE KEPT IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE AND WILL NOT BE RELEASED TO EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS IN ANY IDENTIFIABLE FORM.

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PROVISIONAL RESULTS OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES
FOR THE 2ND QUARTER OF 1994

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THE VALUE OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE RESTAURANT SECTOR IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, ESTIMATED AT \$12.0 BILLION, INCREASED BY 7% WHEN COMPARED WITH THE SAME QUARTER OF 1993, ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONAL STATISTICS RELEASED TODAY (TUESDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

AFTER DISCOUNTING THE EFFECT OF PRICE CHANGES OVER THE PERIOD, TOTAL RECEIPTS DECREASED BY 1% IN VOLUME TERMS.

THE VALUE OF TOTAL PURCHASES OF RESTAURANTS IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, ESTIMATED AT \$4.3 BILLION, WAS 3% ABOVE THAT IN THE SAME QUARTER OF 1993.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF BARS RECORDED THE LARGEST INCREASE IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, BY 20% IN VALUE AND 13% IN VOLUME AS COMPARED WITH A YEAR AGO.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF NON-CHINESE RESTAURANTS REGISTERED A MODERATE INCREASE OF 9% IN VALUE AND 1% IN VOLUME.

THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF CHINESE RESTAURANTS ROSE BY 7% IN VALUE, BUT DECREASED BY 2% IN VOLUME. SIMILARLY, THE TOTAL RECEIPTS OF FAST FOOD SHOPS WERE DOWN BY 3% IN VOLUME, DESPITE AN INCREASE OF 4% IN VALUE.

COMPARING THE FIRST HALF OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD OF 1993, TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS ROSE BY 11% IN VALUE AND 3% IN VOLUME.

COMPARING THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994 WITH THE PRECEDING QUARTER, AND BEARING IN MIND THAT THE COMPARISON MAY BE AFFECTED BY SEASONAL FACTORS, TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS DECREASED BY 8% IN VALUE AND 9% IN VOLUME.

RESTAURANT RECEIPTS IN VOLUME TERMS ARE DERIVED FROM RECEIPTS IN VALUE TERMS AFTER ADJUSTING FOR PRICE CHANGES. THE RELEVANT COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ARE USED AS DEFLATORS.

THE REPORT ON THE QUARTERLY SURVEY OF RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994 IS NOW ON SALE AT \$3 PER COPY AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; AND THE PUBLICATIONS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL 802 1258.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

TABLE 1 PRESENTS THE REVISED FIGURES FOR THE TOTAL RECEIPTS AND TOTAL PURCHASES OF THE RESTAURANT SECTOR FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1994 AND THE PROVISIONAL FIGURES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994.

TABLE 2 SHOWS THE VALUE AND VOLUME INDICES OF TOTAL RECEIPTS BY TYPE OF RESTAURANT FOR THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1994 AND THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994, WITH THE QUARTERLY AVERAGE FROM OCTOBER 1989 TO SEPTEMBER 1990 TAKEN AS 100.

ALSO TABULATED ARE COMPARISONS OF THE RESULTS OF THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1994 WITH THOSE OF THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1994 AND THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1993; COMPARISONS OF TOTAL RECEIPTS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 1994 WITH THE SAME PERIOD IN 1993 ARE ALSO GIVEN.

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TABLE 1: TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS AND PURCHASES

		1st qtr. 1994 (Revised figures)	2nd qtr. 1994 (Provisional figures)
Total restaurant receipts	(in HK\$ million)	13 008.3	11 982.8
Total purchases by restaurants	(in HK\$ million)	4 586.9	4 261.4

TABLE 2: VALUE AND VOLUME INDICES OF TOTAL RESTAURANT RECEIPTS FOR 1st QUARTER 1994 AND 2nd QUARTER 1994

(Quarterly average of Oct. 89 - Sept. 90 = 100)

Type of restaurant	Index of restaurant receipts	1st quarter 1994	2nd quarter 1994	2nd qtr. 1994 compared with 1st qtr. 1994		2nd qtr. 1994 compared with 2nd qtr. 1993		1st-2nd qtr. 1994 compared with 1st-2nd qtr. 1993	
		(Revised figures)	(Provisional figures)	Points	%	Points	%	Points	%
Chinese restaurants	Value	145.2	124.6	-20.6	-14.2	+8.2	+7.0	+14.6	+12.1
	Volume	96.5	81.5	-15.1	-15.6	-1.4	-1.6	+2.6	+3.0
Non-Chinese restaurants	Value	144.8	149.4	+4.6	+3.2	+11.8	+8.6	+13.6	+10.2
	Volume	98.3	99.6	+1.4	+1.4	+1.2	+1.2	+2.3	+2.4
Fast food shops	Value	191.5	205.4	+13.9	+7.2	+7.9	+4.0	+12.4	+6.7
	Volume	137.4	144.6	+7.1	+5.2	-4.6	-3.1	-0.6	-0.4
Bars	Value	240.4	229.2	-11.1	-4.6	+38.8	+20.3	+44.0	+23.1
	Volume	150.5	144.9	-5.7	-3.8	+17.1	+13.4	+14.5	+10.9
Other eating and drinking places	Value	173.7	180.4	+6.7	+3.9	-9.7	-5.1	+1.9	+1.1
	Volume	119.9	120.3	+0.4	+0.4	-17.4	-12.6	-8.1	-6.3
All restaurant types	Value	151.4	139.4	-11.9	-7.9	+9.3	+7.1	+14.6	+11.2
	Volume	101.9	92.5	-9.4	-9.2	-0.9	-1.0	+2.4	+2.5

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APRIL - JUNE 1994 QUARTERLY REPORT ON
GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY AVAILABLE

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THE REPORT ON THE GENERAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY FOR APRIL TO JUNE 1994 IS NOW AVAILABLE.

IT CONTAINS STATISTICS ON EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT FOR THE QUARTER.

IT ALSO CONTAINS DETAILED ANALYSIS OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF MEMBERS OF THE LABOUR FORCE, INCLUDING THEIR AGE AND SEX STRUCTURE, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, ACTIVITY STATUS, OCCUPATION, INDUSTRY, HOURS OF WORK PER WEEK, MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT EARNINGS AS WELL AS REASON FOR UNEMPLOYMENT AND DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

COPIES OF THE REPORT AT \$24 EACH CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

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NEW CURRICULUM PROJECT RESOURCE CENTRE OPENS

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THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT'S NEW SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM PROJECT RESOURCE CENTRE IN NORTH POINT WILL OPEN TO TEACHERS FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY).

THE CENTRE PUTS TOGETHER REFERENCE MATERIALS ON SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, AND PROVIDES AN ADVISORY SERVICE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM PROJECT SCHEME.

IT IS LOCATED AT ROOM 211 OF THE HONG KONG TEACHERS' CENTRE, PAK FUK ROAD.

IT WOULD FACILITATE SCHOOL TEACHERS TO SHARE TEACHING EXPERIENCE ON SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SAID.

TEACHERS VISITING THE CENTRE WILL HAVE AN OPPOTUNITY TO READ AND USE REFERENCE MATERIALS IN THE FORM OF SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM PROJECTS, BOARD DISPLAY AS WELL AS AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS SUCH AS VIDEO PROGRAMMES, SLIDES AND CASSETTE TAPES.

IN ADDITION, TEACHERS WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE COPIES OF SELECTED MATERIALS OF THE SCHOOL-BASED CURRICULUM PROJECTS FOR USE IN THE CLASSROOMS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CENTRE WILL BE OPEN EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY, EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS. OPENING HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY	9 AM - 12.30 PM
WEDNESDAY	2 PM - 5 PM
SATURDAY	9 AM - NOON

FURTHER INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND PROJECTS SECTION, CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON TEL 892 5830 AND 892 5838.

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WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY
HOLDS ITS LAST PUBLIC BRIEFING IN MONG KOK

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THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION OF THE EDUCATION COMMISSION REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY WILL END ON OCTOBER 15, AND THE WORKING GROUP WILL ORGANISE ITS LAST PUBLIC BRIEFING ON ITS REPORT TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) AT THE SCHOOL HALL OF QUEEN ELIZABETH SCHOOL, 152 SAI YEE STREET, MONG KOK, STARTING AT 7.30 PM.

URGING MORE PARENTS, EDUCATORS AND OTHER INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY TO ATTEND THE LAST SESSION, THE WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN, MRS ANGELA CHEUNG, SAID: "THE LAST THREE SESSIONS HAVE BEEN STIMULATING AND USEFUL. THEY PROVIDED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR US TO TALK TO THE PARTICIPANTS, FACE TO FACE, ON THE LANGUAGE SITUATION IN HONG KONG, THE LANGUAGE PROBLEMS FACED BY OUR STUDENTS, AND OUR PROPOSALS TO TACKLE THEM.

"THE COMMENTS MADE BY SOME PARTICIPANTS ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS WERE VERY MUCH IN LINE WITH THE ANALYSIS OF THE WORKING GROUP REPORT. AS A WHOLE, THEY WELCOMED THE EFFORT MADE BY THE WORKING GROUP AND SUPPORTED OUR RECOMMENDATIONS," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"I SINCERELY HOPE THAT INTERESTED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC CAN JOIN US AT THE LAST SESSION TOMORROW AND SHARE WITH US THEIR VIEWS ON THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE OF LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY," MRS CHEUNG SAID.

"FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT COME TO ANY OF THESE SESSIONS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO WRITE TO US, GIVING THEIR VIEWS ON THE WORKING GROUP REPORT, BEFORE THE CONSULTATION PERIOD ENDS IN MID-OCTOBER."

APART FROM MRS CHEUNG, TWO WORKING GROUP MEMBERS WILL JOIN TOMORROW'S SESSION. THEY ARE MR CHO YU-FUN, WHO IS AN ENGINEER AND CHAIRMAN OF A PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION; AND MR CHEUNG CHI-HUNG, PRINCIPAL OF CHOI WAN ST JOSEPH PRIMARY SCHOOL.

COPIES OF THE WORKING GROUP REPORT AND A LEAFLET SETTING OUT THE CONTENT AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT CAN BE OBTAINED FROM DISTRICT OFFICES, POST OFFICES, DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICES AND THE EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARIAT AT THE EDUCATION COMMISSION SECRETARIAT, NINTH FLOOR, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES (WEST WING), ICE HOUSE STREET, CENTRAL.

FOR ENQUIRY, PLEASE CALL 810 3031 OR FAX 537 4591.

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ASIAN ANTI-DRUG OFFICERS TO GET TRAINING IN HK

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FOUR ANTI-DRUG PERSONNEL FROM THE NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD OF THAILAND, THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, AND THE KOREAN ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN CENTRE ARE HERE TO ATTEND A ONE-WEEK TRAINING PROGRAMME.

THEY ARE TO OBSERVE THE LOCAL TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FACILITIES AND HONG KONG'S EFFORTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE.

AS PART OF THE PROGRAMME, THE OFFICERS TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID AND REHABILITATION OF DRUG ABUSERS (SARDA)'S WOMEN TREATMENT CENTRE IN SHA TIN AND WERE BRIEFED ON THE TREATMENT FACILITIES AVAILABLE WHICH INCLUDED WORK THERAPY, INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP COUNSELLING, SOCIAL EDUCATION AND BEHAVIOUR MODIFICATION.

ORGANISED BY THE NARCOTICS DIVISION, THE TRAINING PROGRAMME COVERS VISITS TO HEI LING CHAU DRUG ADDICTION TREATMENT CENTRE OF THE CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT, VIOLET PEEL METHADONE CLINIC OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOME VOLUNTARY AGENCIES SUCH AS CARITAS LOK HEEP CLUB AND ST STEPHEN'S SOCIETY.

"HONG KONG HAS ALWAYS BEEN ACTIVE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING AND DRUG ABUSE," A NARCOTICS DIVISION SPOKESMAN SAID.

"VISIT OF THIS KIND IS A GOOD DEMONSTRATION SHOWING HOW HONG KONG SERVES AS A MODEL FOR OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES IN THE FIELD OF DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

IN 1993, HONG KONG RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 306 VISITORS FROM 19 COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS WHO CAME TO THE TERRITORY FOR TRAINING ATTACHMENT AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON ANTI-DRUG ISSUES,

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CLOSURE OF SAN PO KONG ILLEGAL STRUCTURES

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THE BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING TO CLOSE TWO UNAUTHORISED STRUCTURES IN SAN PO KONG SO THAT THEY CAN BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE OCCUPANTS AND THE PUBLIC.

THE TWO DOUBLE-STOREY STRUCTURES USED FOR STORAGE AND WORKSHOP PURPOSES ARE LOCATED ON THE ROOF OF AN INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AT THE JUNCTION OF 218-220 CHOI HUNG ROAD AND 23-25 NG FONG STREET.

NOTICES APPLYING FOR CLOSURE ORDERS FROM THE DISTRICT COURT UNDER THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE ON JANUARY 5, 1995 WERE POSTED ON THE PREMISES YESTERDAY (MONDAY).

DEMOLITION WILL START AS SOON AS THE CLOSURE ORDERS ARE ISSUED.

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91 VIETNAMESE RETURN HOME

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A GROUP OF 91 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES.

COMPRISING 51 MEN, 21 WOMEN, 11 BOYS AND EIGHT GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 216TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BROUGHT TO 4,284 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAD RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 42,897 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1994

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HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY
TENDER RESULTS

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TENDER DATE	27 SEPT 94	27 SEPT 94
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q439	H474
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD5,540 MN	HKD2,960 MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD1,500 MN	HKD800 MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	4.38 PCT	4.77 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	4.39 PCT	4.79 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 56 PCT	ABOUT 13 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	4.43 PCT	4.81 PCT

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 3 OCT 1994 -

TENDER DATE	4 OCT 94	4 OCT 94
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q440	Y494
ISSUE DATE	5 OCT 94	5 OCT 94
MATURITY DATE	4 JAN 95	4 OCT 95
TENOR	91 DAYS	364 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HKD1,500 + 300 MN	HKD500 + 150 MN

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1994

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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	2,204	0930	+2
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	2,188	1000	+2
CHANGE ATTRIBUTABLE TO :		1100	-18
MONEY MARKET ACTIVITY	-16	1200	-16
LAF TODAY	NIL	1500	-16
		1600	-16

LAF RATE 3.00 BID/5.00 OFFER TWI 121.7 *+0.1* 27.9.94

HONG KONG MONETARY AUTHORITY

EF BILLS

EF NOTES/HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS

TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	4.19	20 MONTHS	2605	6.35	100.49	6.12
1 MONTH	4.26	23 MONTHS	2608	6.15	99.85	6.33
3 MONTHS	4.40	31 MONTHS	3704	6.15	98.58	6.87
6 MONTHS	4.76	34 MONTHS	3707	6.95	100.11	7.02
12 MONTHS	5.41	60 MONTHS	5909	7.45	99.53	7.71

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 20,058 MN

CLOSED 27 SEPTEMBER 1994

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