



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Transcript of the Governor's media session

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Following is the transcript of the media session given by the Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, after attending the launching ceremony of the Occupational Safety Charter at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre this (Monday) morning:

Governor: Good morning. As you know, I've given particular priority over the last few years to improving standards of safety and health at work. The figures in Hong Kong have been very bad, while all our other figures have been showing considerable improvements in our standard of living and our quality of life. So I'm very keen to support the initiative that was launched today. We've started to see some improvements in the figures overall though, in particular sectors like the construction industry we've still got plenty to be worried about but I very much hope that as a result of the recognition that safety is a shared responsibility that we will see a real improvement in the situation in Hong Kong and much fewer examples of unnecessary tragedy blighting lives, blighting families and increasing the expense of our health service and employers and our economy.

Question: How do you respond to a report from Daily Telegraph that you will take a 6-month long leave next year to act as an off-shore Governor?

Governor: It's nonsense.

Question: Just nonsense?

Governor: Complete and utter nonsense.

Question: ... There are about 50 people going on a rather rusty ship to Diaoyu Islands. There might be British subjects on board. Has the Government actually informed the Japanese authorities as to this ship and if they run into problem, can Hong Kong do anything about it?

Governor: We've behaved with this group of travellers exactly as we would behave with any other and I understand that the ship was treated in exactly the same way as other ships would have been. I hope that those involved in this enterprise don't do anything which puts their health or the health of others at risk. None of us would like to see that but of course if that sort of risk was to happen, if there were to be problems, we'd react as we would for any other Hong Kong citizens. I just hope, as I'm sure the whole community hopes, which feels very strongly about this issue, that it can be amicably sorted out between the principle parties concerned.

Question: (inaudible)

Governor: I didn't hear your question.

Question: Yesterday Mr Tsang Yok-shing ...?

Governor: Well, I've made it clear that it's the Government's position that we will give the maximum co-operation to the Chief Executive (Designate) and his or her team. I don't think I can say anymore than that. I very much hope that Mr Tsang Yok-shing and his colleagues and Chinese Officials in particular will ensure that the present administration gets the support and understanding that it deserves.

Question: Some Legislators have gone to Taiwan and early this morning they had gone near Diaoyu Islands and there were about 13 Japanese warships around them. Do you think ...?

Governor: Well, I don't want to repeat what I said before which was fairly explicit but I stand by the remarks I made earlier to a similar question.

End

Chief Secretary launches HK Promotion in Australia

* * * * *

The Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, today (Monday) began her week-long visit to three cities - Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne - in Australia.

The highlight of her first day's programme in Sydney was the launching of the first ever Hong Kong promotion in the country with the opening of the Hong Kong House and a gala dinner for 450 guests at the Regent Hotel. She also called on the Premier of New South Wales, Mr Bob Carr.

In the morning, Mrs Chan unveiled a commemorative plaque to mark the opening of the Hong Kong House, the home to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade office (HKETO), Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) and Hong Kong Tourist Association (HKTA).

Mrs Chan said the opening of the new Hong Kong House signified a major step taken by Hong Kong to strengthen its already important trade and cultural ties with Australia.

She also took the opportunity to sign the Hong Kong/Australia Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters with Mr Darl Williams, Attorney General and Minister for Justice of Australia. Also present at the opening ceremony was the speaker of the Legislative Assembly, Mr John Murray.

The signing of the bilateral agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters was to enhance the co-operation between Hong Kong and Australia in the investigation and prosecution of criminal offences and proceedings relating to criminal matters.

Right next to the Hong Kong House in the Queen Victoria Building, a Hong Kong promotion organised by the HKTA was being staged. The main attraction at the promotion was a 18-metre tall lantern, the world's largest, specially built to celebrate the Mid-autumn Festival.

Joined by the Hong Kong delegates made up of senior government officials and leading businessmen who were currently in Sydney promoting Hong Kong, Mrs Chan toured the promotion featuring a travel expo and a consumer promotion.

During the day, Mrs Chan and the delegates also had opportunities to exchange views with the business community and members of a think-tank on issues of mutual interest. She first took part in a roundtable discussion with the State Chamber of Commerce, New South Wales, and later attended a luncheon hosted by the Asia-Australia Institute, University of New South Wales.

In the evening, Mrs Chan attended as a guest of honour a gala dinner organised by the HKETO to celebrate the Hong Kong promotion in Australia.

The Hong Kong delegates and guests from the Sydney political, business and professional community then enjoyed a cabaret show performed by singer Frances Yip and popular Australian singer, Tony Pantano.

Amid her hectic schedule during the day, Mrs Chan has given two live interviews with ABC AM Radio in the morning and ABC's '7.30 Report' in the evening. She also talked to the editorial board of The Australian, followed by a meeting with the published of the paper, Mr Lachlan Murdoch.

Tomorrow (Tuesday), the major promotional activity will be a half-day business conference organised by the HKTDC. Mrs Chan will deliver a keynote speech at a luncheon and hold a press conference afterward. She will also have meetings with political leaders and visit a children hospital. Her programme in Sydney will conclude in a pop concert organised by the HKETO and produced by the Television Broadcasting Ltd at the Sydney Town Hall.

End

Consumer price indices for August

* * * * *

Consumer price inflation moderated significantly further in August, according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) figures for August 1996 released by the Census and Statistics Department today (Monday).

CPI(A) showed a year-on-year increase of only 4.9% in August 1996, substantially below the increase of 6.1% in July. This was the lowest inflation rate recorded since July 1987.

Moderation was also recorded in CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI. In August, CPI(B) rose by 5.5%, compared with 6.4% in July, while Hang Seng CPI increased by 5.8%, compared with 6.1% recorded in July.

Composite CPI, which is compiled based on the combined expenditure pattern of all households, also showed a less rapid year-on-year rate of increase of 5.4% in August 1996, against 6.2% in July.

A government spokesman said the moderation in inflation could be attributed mainly to slower price increases in the food component, with a price decline for fresh vegetables and a more modest price rise for meals bought away from home. In addition, slower increases in private housing rentals also contributed.

Analysed by component, faster year-on-year increase than the overall average in August was recorded for housing (8.5% in CPI(A) and 9.2% in Composite CPI).

Meanwhile, those components with slower year-on-year increases in prices than the overall average were food (excluding meals bought away from home) (-1.3% in CPI(A) and -0.7% in Composite CPI); durable goods (1.3% in both CPI(A) and Composite CPI); meals bought away from home (3.8% in CPI(A) and 3.5% in Composite CPI) and miscellaneous goods (3.9% in CPI(A) and 3.2% in Composite CPI).

Comparing August 1996 with July 1996, CPI(A) and CPI(B) both increased by 0.1%. The corresponding increases for Hang Seng CPI and Composite CPI were 0.3% and 0.2% respectively.

Taking the first eight months of 1996 together, the increases in CPI(A) and CPI(B) averaged at 6.1% and 6.6% over a year earlier. The corresponding increases in the Hang Seng CPI and Composite CPI were 6.9% and 6.5% respectively.

For the three months ended August 1996, CPI(A) and CPI(B) were, on average, higher by 5.7% and 6.1% respectively over a year earlier. The corresponding increases for Hang Seng CPI and Composite CPI were 6.2% and 6% respectively.

For the 12 months ended August 1996, CPI(A) and CPI(B) were, on average, higher by 6.6% and 7.1% respectively than the preceding 12-month period. The corresponding increases for Hang Seng CPI and Composite CPI were 7.4% and 7% respectively.

The seasonally adjusted monthly rates of increase in CPI(A) and CPI(B) both averaged at 0.3% during the three months ended August 1996. The corresponding increases for Hang Seng CPI and Composite CPI were 0.4% and 0.3% respectively.

Further details are shown in Tables 1 and 2 and Charts 1 to 4.

More details are given in the Consumer Price Index Report for August 1996, which is on sale at \$37 per copy from the Government Publications Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong.

It is also available at the Publications Unit of the Census and Statistics Department, 19th floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

For local and overseas mailings, contact should be made with the Information Services Department, 28th floor, Siu On Centre, 188 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

For enquiries about the indices, please telephone the Consumer Price Index Section of the Census and Statistics Department on 2805 6403.

Table 1 Consumer Price Indices and Rates of Increase for August 1996
(Oct. 94 - Sep. 95 = 100)

Component	CPI(A)		CPI(B)		Hang Seng CPI		Composite CPI	
	Index for August 96	% change over August 95	Index for August 96	% change over August 95	Index for August 96	% change over August 95	Index for August 96	% change over August 95
Food	106.1	+1.5	106.0	+2.1	105.3	+2.3	106.0	+1.9
Meals bought away from home	106.5	+3.8	106.1	+3.4	104.9	+3.3	106.1	+3.5
Food, excluding meals bought away from home	105.6	-1.3	105.8	-0.3	106.1	+0.3	105.7	-0.7
Housing	112.5	+8.5	113.9	+8.8	116.2	+10.3	114.2	+9.2
Fuel and light	106.6	+4.5	106.4	+4.6	107.3	+5.9	106.6	+4.7
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	108.7	+6.3	108.8	+6.2	107.9	+5.6	108.6	+6.2
Clothing and footwear	108.1	+8.9	108.9	+9.6	102.2	+2.6	106.5	+7.1
Durable goods	102.5	+1.3	102.0	+1.2	102.7	+1.6	102.3	+1.3
Miscellaneous goods	104.8	+3.9	104.3	+3.3	103.3	+2.3	104.2	+3.2
Transport	109.3	+6.1	109.0	+5.9	108.0	+5.4	108.8	+5.8
Miscellaneous services	108.9	+7.8	108.6	+7.3	106.7	+5.2	108.1	+6.7
All items	108.2	+4.9	108.7	+5.5	108.9	+5.8	108.6	+5.4

Monthly consumer price indices are compiled on the basis of (a) expenditure patterns of relevant households and (b) prices collected currently in the month. The expenditure patterns underlying the 1994/95-based consumer price indices are based on those patterns derived from the 1994/95 Household Expenditure Survey. The CPI(A) is based on the expenditure pattern of about 50% of households in Hong Kong, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$4,000-\$15,999 in 1994/95. The CPI(B) is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 30% of households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$16,000-\$29,999 in 1994/95. The Hang Seng CPI is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 10% of households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$30,000-\$59,999 in 1994/95.

Whereas the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI are based on the expenditure patterns of groups of households with different magnitudes of household expenditure, the Composite CPI is compiled based on the expenditure pattern of all these households taken together. Thus, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI show the impact of consumer price changes on different groups of households, the Composite CPI shows the impact of consumer price changes on the household sector generally.

Table 2 Consumer Price Indices and Year-on-year Rates of Change for
October 1995 - August 1996
 (Oct. 94 - Sep. 95 = 100)

<u>Year/month</u>		<u>CPI(A)</u>		<u>CPI(B)</u>		<u>Hang Seng CPI</u>		<u>Composite CPI</u>	
		<u>Index</u>	<u>Year-on-year rate of change (%)</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Year-on-year rate of change (%)</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Year-on-year rate of change (%)</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Year-on-year rate of change (%)</u>
1995	October	104.3	8.0	104.5	8.4	104.7	8.7	104.5	8.4
	November	104.3	7.8	104.7	8.1	105.4	8.2	104.7	8.1
	December	103.9	6.4	104.6	7.2	104.9	7.2	104.5	7.0
1996	January	104.1	5.8	104.8	6.6	105.1	7.3	104.7	6.5
	February	105.4	6.4	105.9	7.0	105.7	7.5	105.7	6.9
	March	106.1	6.5	106.4	7.0	106.3	7.6	106.3	7.0
	April	107.3	6.8	107.8	7.0	107.5	7.1	107.6	7.0
	May	107.1	6.1	107.9	6.6	108.5	6.9	107.8	6.5
	June	107.8	6.1	108.3	6.4	109.1	6.6	108.4	6.4
	July	108.0	6.1	108.5	6.4	108.6	6.1	108.4	6.2
	August	108.2	4.9	108.7	5.5	108.9	5.8	108.6	5.4

Chart 1 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in CPI(A)
(1994/95-based)

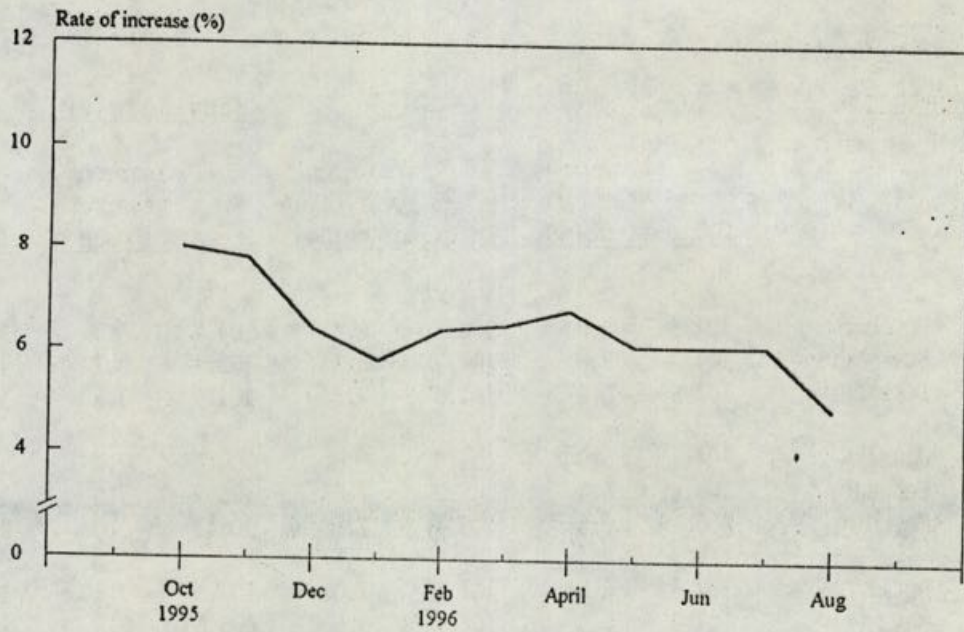


Chart 2 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in CPI(B)
(1994/95-based)

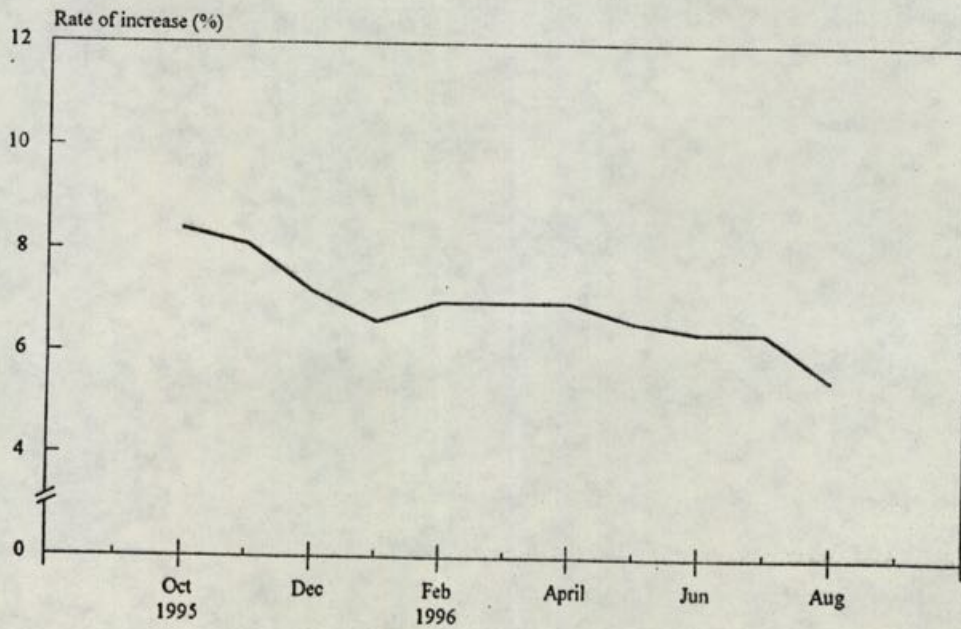


Chart 3 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in Hang Seng CPI
(1994/95-based)

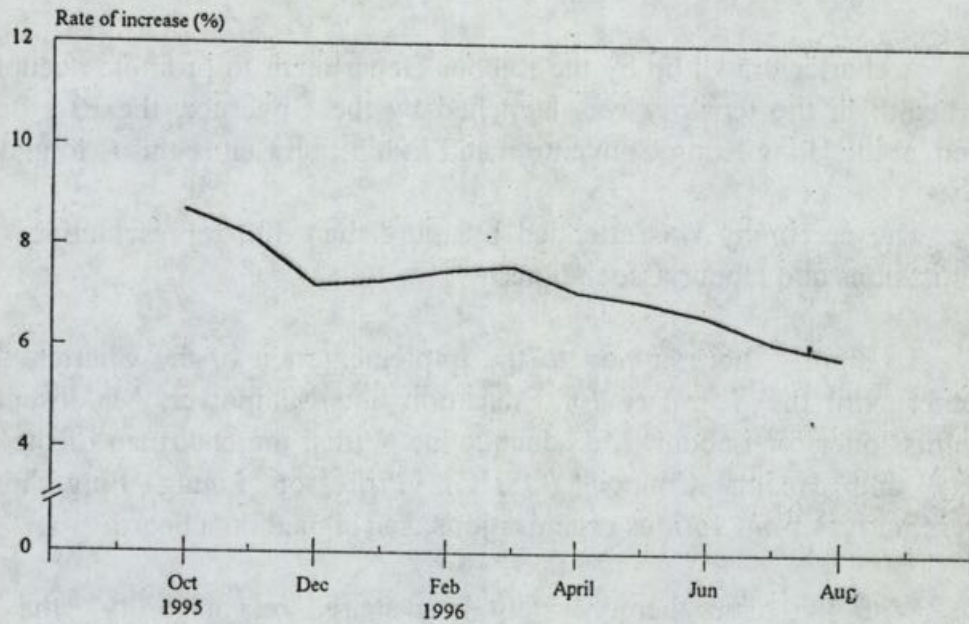
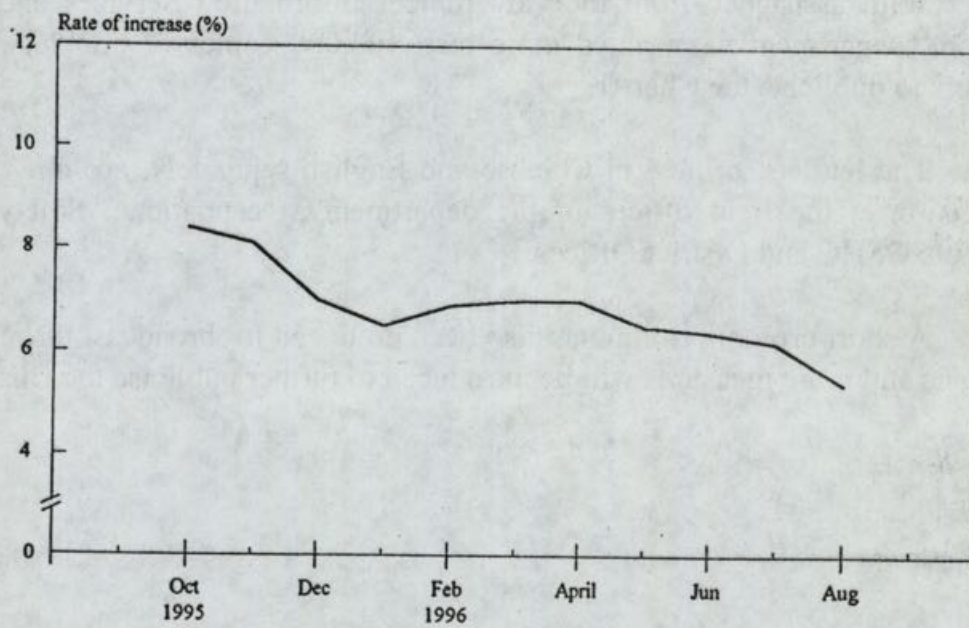


Chart 4 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in Composite CPI
(1994/95-based)



End

Occupational Safety Charter launched

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A charter drawn up by the Labour Department to promote occupational safety and health in the territory was launched by the Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre this (Monday) morning.

The ceremony was attended by more than 300 representatives from various organisations and labour associations.

To signify their support to the implementation of the Charter, the Governor, together with the Secretary for Education and Manpower, Mr Joseph Wong; the Commissioner for Labour, Miss Jacqueline Willis; the chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC), Professor Leung Ping-chung; and 24 representatives from various organisations, had signed on a board.

With the main theme "safety is a shared responsibility", the Occupational Safety Charter conveys constructive and meaningful messages to employees so that they understand their rights to enjoy a safe working environment.

It also outlines the responsibilities of employers to prevent workplace accidents and promote occupational health.

With assistance from the Government Information Services and OSHC, the Labour Department has printed more than 100,000 copies of booklets, leaflets and posters to publicise the Charter.

The leaflets, printed in Chinese and English separately, are now available for collection at the field offices of the department's Occupational Safety and Health Branch, OSHC and District Offices.

A short promotion film has also been produced for broadcast through television stations and more measures will be introduced to further publicise the Charter.

End

Awards for excellent industrial performance

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The 1996 Hong Kong Awards for Industry were presented by the Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, this (Monday) evening to five companies in recognition of their excellence in industrial performance.

This year's winners are: Spectra Technologies Co Ltd for the Consumer Product Design category; Prima Design Systems Ltd for the Machinery and Equipment Design category; C and C Offset Printing Co Ltd for the Productivity category; QPL International Holdings Ltd for the Quality category; and TAL Apparel Ltd for the Export Marketing category.

The winners are entitled to display the official logo of the awards scheme on the company letterheads, envelopes, complimentary slips, press advertising and other promotional materials for a period of three years.

They also receive a trophy, an individually-crafted sculpture, as a memento of their achievement.

Introduced in 1989, the award scheme commends distinguished companies which have achieved excellence in different aspects of industrial performance.

Competitions are held annually in the six award categories each organised by a different organisation.

The Federation of Hong Kong Industries is responsible for the Consumer Product Design category; the Chinese Manufacturers' Association of Hong Kong for the Machinery and Equipment Design category; the Hong Kong Productivity Council for the Productivity category; the Industry Department for the Quality category; the Private Sector Committee on the Environment for the Environmental Performance category and the Hong Kong Trade Development Council for the Export Marketing category.

Apart from the Hong Kong Awards for Industry, which are presented to the most outstanding entry in each category, each of the six organisations also gives out a number of awards and certificates of merit in its own name to deserving entries in the category for which it is responsible.

End

HK team to attend UN hearing on rights of the child

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A six-member Hong Kong Government team headed by the Crown Solicitor, Mr Ian Wingfield, will attend a hearing on Hong Kong's initial report on the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in Geneva on October 2 and 3.

A Government spokesman said today (Monday) that the team, which forms part of the British delegation, will explain to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child the contents of the report and will provide information on the latest developments in Hong Kong.

"The team will also assist the British delegation in answering questions on various aspects concerning the implementation of the Convention in the territory," the spokesman said.

The initial report was submitted by the United Kingdom Government to the United Nations in February this year. It was tabled in the Legislative Council and made public the following month.

The report details the measures adopted by the Hong Kong Government that give effect to the rights recognised in the Convention up to September 7 last year, the first anniversary of the extension of the Convention to Hong Kong.

The Convention was ratified by the United Kingdom Government in 1991 and extended to Hong Kong in 1994.

Apart from Mr Wingfield, the other team members are Principal Assistant Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Ng Hon-wah; Senior Assistant Solicitor General, Mr Ian Deane; Principal Assistant Secretary for Security, Mr Gordon Leung; Assistant Secretary for Health and Welfare, Ms Rebecca Pun; and Senior Crown Counsel, Miss Melody Hui.

End

Non-official chairman for Advisory Council on AIDS appointed

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The 19th meeting of the Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA), chaired for the first time by a non-government official, was held today (Monday).

Dr Conrad Lam was appointed by the Governor as the Chairman of ACA for three years with effect from August 1.

He took over from the Director of Health who became the Vice-chairman while a Consultant (Special Preventive Programme) of the department served as secretary to the Council.

The newly appointed Council has multisectoral representation and for the first time, its members include representatives of Education Department and Social Welfare Department.

At the first meeting of its new term today, the Council proposed to undertake a comprehensive review on Hong Kong's AIDS programme, with a view of recommending future direction and strategies on the prevention, care and control of HIV/AIDS in the coming years.

To enhance transparency, the Council would report, on a regular basis, to the public on the progress of its work in the coming term.

ACA was first appointed by the Governor in March 1990. There were three committees under the Council - Scientific Committee on AIDS, AIDS Services Development Committee, and Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS.

End

Ceiling seepage problem in buildings

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In response to today's (Monday) newspaper reports regarding the problem of water leakage on ceiling causing nuisance to residents and the methods used by the Water Supplies Department (WSD) to detect such leaks, a spokesman for the department said :

"The principal duty of WSD is to provide fresh and flushing water for the community. WSD's involvement in leakage complaint cases is to avoid water wastage and pollution and is not responsible for resolving the nuisance caused by leakage of all types. The inspections by WSD staff in these ceiling seepage cases serve such purpose. The complainant should seek assistance from other authorities to deal with nuisance problem.

"The water pipes and fittings are part of the properties of building owners who are responsible for their proper maintenance. WSD has been issuing leaflets to the public advising people on how to deal with leakage problem in buildings.

"WSD has scientific equipment for detecting leakage from city water mains, but these equipment are not suitable for detecting small leakage causing nuisance inside buildings. The pressure test method as suggested by a political party is equally not possible to confirm the leakage location and may even cause unnecessary leakages at the weak points of the plumbing system, which would further enlarge the leakage problem and complicate the issue."

The spokesman also pointed out that less than 10 per cent of the ceiling seepage cases inside flats were caused by water mains leaking and the remainder were due to problems in the waste water and rain water drainage system.

"Prevention is always better than cure. The best long term solution to tackle the problem of ceiling seepage is to have good plumbing design, material of better quality and better workmanship in the construction stage," the spokesman stressed.

End

Quarterly employment and vacancies survey begins

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The survey to collect data on employment and vacancies in major sectors of the economy in respect of September 1996 has just started by the Census and Statistics Department.

The survey is conducted quarterly and the results are useful in serving as short-term economic indicators and providing information on the latest changes in the labour market.

This round of the survey covers about 58,000 establishments which are drawn from various sectors including the industrial sector (mining and quarrying; manufacturing; electricity and gas), the distributive trades sector (wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels) and the services sector (transport, storage and communications; financing, insurance, real estate and business services; community, social and personal services).

Information on number of persons engaged and vacancies as at September 30 will be sought from each sampled establishment and questionnaires are being mailed to them.

In accordance with the Census and Statistics (Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies) Order, these establishments are required to complete and return the questionnaires to the Census and Statistics Department within the specified period.

If they have difficulties in completing the questionnaires, they may contact the department for assistance on 2582 5076.

End

Monitors' report submitted to CS

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The monitors appointed to observe the Tai A Chau Detention Centre decantation operation this (Monday) morning have submitted their report to the Chief Secretary.

The three monitors comprised a non-official Justice of the Peace, Mr Chung Pui-lam; and representatives from two non-government organisations, Ms Judy Au from Oxfam and Dr Gilla Nemayechi from Medecins Sans Frontieres.

End

Parents reminded to return primary one application forms

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The Education Department today (Monday) reminds parents wishing to apply for primary one places in public sector schools for their children next September to send in their application forms on or before Friday (September 27).

Parents applying for a discretionary place in government or aided primary schools should submit the completed application forms and all relevant documents to the school directly during school hours.

For those participating in central allocation only, they should return the completed application forms and relevant documents to one of the following centres during office hours:

- * Primary One Admission Unit
Lui Kee Education Services Centre
second floor, 269 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai
- * Education Department, Kowloon Sub-office
seventh floor, 405 Nathan Road, Kowloon
- * Sha Tin District Office
Public Enquiry Service Centre
first floor, Citylink Plaza
Shatin Station Circuit, Sha Tin

- * Tai Po District Office
Public Enquiry Service Centre
ground floor, Tai Po Government Offices Building
Ting Kok Road, Tai Po

- * Tsuen Wan District Office
Public Enquiry Service Centre
first floor, Tsuen Wan Station Multi-Storey
Carpark Building,
Castle Peak Road, Tsuen Wan

- * Tuen Mun District Office
Public Enquiry Service Centre
second floor, Tuen Mun Government Offices Building
Tuen Hi Road, Tuen Mun

- * Yuen Long District Office
Public Enquiry Service Centre
ground floor, Yuen Long District Office Building
Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long

- * North District Office
Public Enquiry Service Centre
ground floor, North District Government Offices
Pik Fung Road, Fanling

Parents are reminded that they should only hand in one application form for each child.

If they are found to have applied to more than one government or aided schools, their applications will be rendered void and no discretionary place will be allocated.

End

Moonrise, transit and moonset times for Mid-autumn Festival

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During the Mid-autumn Festive period, the times of moonrise, transit and moonset will be as follows:

September 26, Thursday

Moonrise	at 05.40 pm
Transit (Meridian passage)	at 11.50 pm
direction due south	
elevation 68 degrees	
Moonset	at 06.05 am (next morning)

September 27, Friday (Mid-autumn Festival)

Moonrise	at 06.25 pm
Transit (Meridian passage)	at 00.43 am (next morning)
direction due south	
elevation 72 degrees	
Moonset	at 07.06 am (next morning)

September 28, Saturday

Moonrise	at 07.10 pm
Transit (Meridian passage)	at 01.36 am (next morning)
direction due south	
elevation 77 degrees	
Moonset	at 08.05 am (next morning)

End

PDB launches homepage on Internet

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The Port Development Board (PDB) launched its homepage on the Internet today (Monday). The homepage contains exhaustive information on Hong Kong port development.

Accessing PDB's newly set-up homepage today, the Chairman of the PDB, Mr Peter Thompson, said: "The homepage will enable us to share the future progress and development of our port with a wide audience in Hong Kong and overseas."

He noted: "Since its establishment in 1990, the PDB has seen Hong Kong emerge as the world's number one container port for the years 1992 to 1995. In that period our throughput grew from eight million to 12.5 million TEUs.

"This came about as a result of the considerable co-operative efforts of the private sector and Government, both in planning and investment."

Mr Thompson said: "These efforts have been rewarded by the continuing support given to us by the shipping lines and the many diverse commercial enterprises which use our port.

"It is their confidence in our port which has been the cornerstone of our success and we will continue to ensure that we provide them with the facilities they require."

While sharing Mr Thompson's view, the Secretary of the PDB, Mr Tony Clark, said: "The setting up of the homepage is part of PDB's programme to raise the profile of Hong Kong port locally and overseas, in both general and in respect of development projects."

In addition to information on the history and the future of Hong Kong port development and the work of the PDB -- together with its various committees -- summary statistics on port traffic, including container, port cargo and river trade throughput and forecasts of port requirements can be obtained through PDB's homepage. The address is <http://www.info.gov.hk/pdb/>.

End

Water cut in Yuen Long

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The fresh and flushing water supply to some premises in Yuen Long will be temporarily suspended from 11 pm on Thursday (September 26) to 6 am the following day for waste detection work on watermains.

The suspension will affect all premises at Tai Shu Ha Road East between Ma Tong Road and Tai Tong Road including Ma Tin Tsuen.

End

Water storage figure

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Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Monday) stood at 98.6 per cent of capacity or 577.716 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 558.111 million cubic metres of water, representing 95.2 per cent of capacity.

End

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	1,816	0930	+340
Closing balance in the account	2,101	1000	+340
Change attributable to:		1100	+340
Money market activity	+340	1200	+340
LAF today	- 55	1500	+340
	+340		

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 124.5 *+0.0* 23.9.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/MTRC				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.06	2 years	2808	6.00	99.59	6.33
1 month	5.08	3 years	3907	6.80	100.47	6.72
3 months	5.20	5 years	5109	7.32	100.36	7.36
6 months	5.34	7 years	7308	7.24	98.41	7.68
12 months	5.69	5 years	M503	7.35	99.34	7.65

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$5,610 million

Closed September 23, 1996

End