



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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GARDEN ROAD, 5th-8th FLOORS, MURRAY BUILDING,
HONG KONG. TEL.: 2842 8777

Monday, December 2, 1996

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Governor presents insignia and commendations to 129 people

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The Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, presented insignia and commendations to 129 people at a ceremony at Government House this (Monday) evening.

Following is the list of recipients:

CBE

Professor Ho-kei Chung Ma

Professor Chia-wei Woo

The Honourable Mr Justice Woo Kwok-hing

OBE

Mr Daniel Koo Shing-cheong

Mr Billy Lam Chung-lun

Dr Harry Lee Nai-shee

Professor John Leong Chi-yan

The Honourable Eric Li Ka-cheung

Mr Louis Kar-chit Wong

MBE

Mr Chan Shing-chung

Mr Chong Yuk-lau

Mr Michael Stanley Nicholas Farlie

Mr Ho Hau-shiu

Mr Ho Kwok-fong

Mr Peter Ho Wing-ko

Mr Ko Tam-kan

Mr Lai Wah-tung

Mr Joseph Lee Man-kong

Miss Sabina Leung Fuk-tai

Mrs Helen Luk Tuet Siu-wah

Mr Farley Ma Man-chiu

Mr Ng Ying-neen

Dr Pang Hok-tuen

Mr Tong Yun-kai

Dr Kenneth Wang Kuk-kei

Mrs Carrie Willis Yau Sheung-mui

Mr Wong King-wan

Mr Yip Wah

Mr Yung Tin-tack

QFSM

Mr Hsu King-ping

Imperial Service Medal

Mr Leung Yan

Mr Tam Leung-fu

Mr Tang Kau

CPM

Mr Iain Charles Grant

Mr John Yuen Ying-lam

Mr Lee Siu-kin

Mr Tse Yee-sum

Mr Stuart Wringe

Mr Ian Robert Mackness

Mr Francis Edwin Hillier

Mr Colin Frederick Thornborrow

Mr Lai Yuen-wing

Mr Rodney John Starling

Mr Charles William Mitchell

Mr Yu Shi-cheung

Mr Lam Chi-ning

Mr Cheung Tak-yiu

Mr Leung Sheung-man

Mr Wong Long

Mr Chan Ping-chiu

Mr Wu Kang-fuk

Mr Ng Chi-keung

Mr Leung Sai-kan

Mr Tsang Kwong-kwai (Fire Service)

Mr Yu Ah-chu (Fire Service)

Mr Lee Kee-cheong (Fire Service)

Queen's Commendation for Bravery in the Air

Mr Raymond Chang Yao-teng

Badge of Honour

Miss Chan Tan-lui

Mr Chan Wai-chung

Mrs Florence Chuang Cheng Sai-ger

Miss Augusta Chui

Mr Hau Kam-lam

Ms Ho Kim-fai

Mr Ho Wing-chuen

Mr Hui Ka-hoo

Mr Kwok Chi-leung

Mr Lam Kwok-yin

Mr Lam Sai-hung

Mr Lee Lok-ping

Mr Benedict Lee Shui-sing

Mr Lee Siu-tin

Mrs Laura Ling Lau Yuet-fun

Mr Luk Kwok-hung

Mr So Pang-gen

Mr Daniel To Yau-on

Mr Wong Kam-ming

Mr Wong Kin-wing

Mr Albert Young Siu-chuen

Governor's Commendations

Mr Wong Yu-hoi

Mr Dicky Chan Kong-sang

Mr Kwok Leung-ming

Mr Sun Yuk-lun

Mr Wong Fu-shing

Mr Wayne Franklin Parsons

Mr James Arthur Stokes

Mr Calvin Shum Chi-wai

Mr Mason Ng Wai-cheong

Mr Libby Lee Kwok-leung

Order of St John

Officer Brothers

Mr Fung Kwan-chee

Mr Malcolm Andrew Bleach

Mr Chan Shek-leung

Mr Yuen Yat-ming

Mr So Kwong-hung

Officer Sister

Miss Yu Ngar-nei

Serving Brothers

Dr Chan Kow-tak

Dr Yeung Ho-yin

Mr Lui Shu-cheung

Mr Li Ying-sang

Mr Yeung Sai-him

Mr Lau Ting-leung

Mr Cheung Po-wo

Mr Chong Kam-ning

Mr Sum Yuk-biu

Dr To Sau-ying

Mr Yeung Siu-wai

Mr Cheng Kam-chung

Mr Lai Hing-yuen

Mr Gan Wee-sean

Mr Yau Kim-hung

Mr Tang Wing-yan

Mr Wong Tung-yuen

Mr Yau Shek-on

Mr Yip Chi-kwong

Mr Chan Siu-lun

Mr Lau Hon-wah

Mr Arthur Antonio Da Silva

Mr Lau Tat-choi

Mr Wong Yat-wah

Mr Cheng Kam-wah

Serving Sisters

Dr Wai Yuk-chun

Miss Tang Sui-wan

Ms Ngai Oi-mun

Miss Au Yuen-oi

Miss Wong Ling-chi

Mrs Hu Leung Tze-wai

Miss Chiu Wai-ling

Miss Lai Kit-ming

Miss Mak Lai-yee

Miss Chow Siu-lui

End

Town planners strive to make HK a better place

* * * * *

Hong Kong has made significant achievements in town planning as reflected in its improved living conditions, well-coordinated transport infrastructure and conservation of natural environment and historical buildings, the Director of Planning, Dr Peter Pun, said today (Monday).

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the Planning Department's Out-reach Programme held at Saint Mark's School in Shau Kei Wan, Dr Pun said the Government had been playing an active role in planning and development since the 30s.

"Today, we have plenty of examples which demonstrate what good town planning can achieve. The new town and comprehensive housing developments since 1970s as well as the urban redevelopment programme have contributed to better living conditions with co-ordinated community and transport facilities," he said.

"Well-planned harbour reclamation projects have also provided new land to coincide with the overall planning for Hong Kong, such as the development of the new airport and the expansion of commercial centres in urban areas.

"In conservation of natural environment, we have also achieved good results and have successfully established environmental protection areas such as Mai Po Nature Reserve and Hoi Ha marine park."

Also officiating at today's opening ceremony were the Assistant Director of Education, Mr Wai Kwok-bong; Eastern District Officer, Mr Lui Hau-tuen; Eastern District Board Chairman, Mr Chan Ping-woon; and Principal of Saint Mark's School, Mrs Rosalind Chan.

The Out-reach Programme is aimed at enhancing students' understanding on town planning through exhibitions and talks. It represents the Planning Department's effort in achieving its mission to promote public awareness of the positive role of planning in shaping and improving its environment.

The exhibition at the Saint Mark's School is the first to be held at 12 secondary schools throughout the territory until May next year.

It features 12 display panels on topics including planning system, new town development, airport core projects, conservation and urban renewal. A briefing session on a town planning topic will also be given by professional town planners to students during the exhibition period.

Each participating school will be presented with an educational kit containing a video on "Town Planning in Hong Kong" and publications on town planning.

Dr Pun said town planning in Hong Kong was a very challenging work because of the acute shortage of land and continuous substantial growth in population.

"With the approach of the 21st Century, this will be an even more difficult job. To meet the enormous demand for land resulting from population growth, shift in the industrial sector, social-economic changes and rising expectations from members of the public, the Government must act scrupulously on all land use matters.

"Views expressed by the general public are taken well into account during the planning process. Apart from using our professional knowledge, we are also tasked with balancing the demand and interest of different parties in the society. Through public consultations, we listen to views of people from all walks of life before we formulate our plans.

"We endeavour to make Hong Kong a better organised, more efficient and a desirable home for every body." Dr Pun said.

End

Accommodation consultant for World Bank/IMF meetings engaged

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A consultancy and service agreement has been awarded to International Conference Consultants Ltd (ICC) and PC Tour & Travel (PC) to provide hotel booking service for visitors to the 1997 World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings. the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced today (Monday).

The two companies will work together to provide assistance on hotel arrangements and shuttle bus services for participants of the Annual Meetings

HKMA has already received hundreds of requests for hotel accommodation for the Annual Meetings from around the world. These requests would be transferred to the two companies for follow-up, said an HKMA spokesman.

The two companies will contact those banks and companies which have filed requests for accommodation during the Annual Meetings and they will be required to respond before the end of December 1996. Hotel rooms arrangements will then be notified to them latest by end of January 1997.

For administrative convenience and with immediate effect, future requests for hotel accommodation for visitors to the Annual Meetings should be addressed to ICC direct. ICC can be reached on (852) 2559 9973 (telephone) or (852) 2547 9528 (fax).

For official delegates, their hotel accommodation will be handled by the Joint Secretariat of the World Bank and IMF based in Washington DC.

The Annual Meetings will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre and its new extension in mid-September 1997.

End

Aeronautical search and rescue exercise to be held tomorrow

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The annual search and rescue exercise organised by Civil Aviation Department (CAD) Hong Kong will be held consecutively for three days starting tomorrow (Tuesday).

The exercise is to provide training and familiarisation in search and rescue techniques for staff of the Civil Aviation Department and other rescue units.

This year's exercise will consist of a search and rescue symposium by the various participating units, a short range rescue demonstration in the sea area near the Ninepins group of islands and a long range exercise in the South China Sea.

The short-range rescue demonstration will comprise dropping of a rescue kit which contains an inflatable life raft and jumping of a paramedic personnel from a C130 aircraft, winching of simulated survivors from the deck of a ship as well as from a life raft.

A spokesman for CAD responsible for organising and co-ordinating the exercise said today (Monday) that the main event would be held on Wednesday (December 4).

The exercise is aimed at testing the alerting, co-ordination and communication facilities of various participants. It will be activated tomorrow evening simulating an aircraft in distress about 130 kilometres south of Hong Kong.

Search aircraft, helicopters and ships will be dispatched to the area the next morning to search and locate the targets in the South China Sea.

In addition to CAD, other participants include the United States Air Force, United States Coast Guard, United States Navy, Royal Air Force, Royal Navy, Government Flying Service, Royal Hong Kong Police Force (Marine Region), Marine Department, Fire Services Department, Civil Aid Services and Information Services Department.

A number of search and rescue experts from the Asia-Pacific Region including China (Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Zhuhai), Macau, Thailand, Malaysia, Vietnam and Brunei are also attending as observers.

End

Contract to be signed with agents for sale of surplus flats

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The Chief Property Manager of the Government Property Agency, Mr Shum Kwok-sheer, will sign agency agreements with five real estate agents tomorrow (Tuesday) to provide sales service for the disposal of government quarters surplus to requirement.

The five real estate agents are Centaline Property Agency Limited, First Pacific Davies (Hong Kong) Limited, Midland Realty (Holdings) Limited, Ricacorp Properties Limited and Treasure Land Property Consultants Limited.

The service contracts will be effective for a term of two years until December 2, 1998.

Since April 1992, the Government has been selling quarters through property agents. Up to June 1995, 15 units had been sold, realising a total price of \$104 million.

End

Interest on Tax Reserve Certificates revised

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The Inland Revenue Department announced the revision of the current annual rate of interest payable on Tax Reserve Certificates from 4.8 per cent to 4.68 per cent (or \$0.40 per \$100 per month), with effect from today (Monday).

The revision was detailed in the Government Gazette published last Friday (November 29).

Tax Reserve Certificates bear simple interest and interest is calculated for each month or part of a month from the date of purchase to the date on which the certificate is accepted for payment of tax.

Interest is only credited when certificates are used to pay tax and no interest is due where the principal value of a certificate is repaid to the holders of such certificates.

Payments are subject to the general rule that interest ceases to accrue after 36 complete months.

The new rate will apply to all certificates issued on or after December 2, 1996. Certificates which were issued before that date will continue to earn interest at the rates prevailing on their respective issue dates as follows:

3.00% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 8 July 1992 and before 30 March 1994;
3.84% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 30 March 1994 and before 25 May 1994;
4.56% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 25 May 1994 and before 24 August 1994;
5.04% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 24 August 1994 and before 4 December 1995;
5.64% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 4 December 1995 and before 4 March 1996;
5.28% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 4 March 1996 and before 1 June 1996;
4.92% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 1 June 1996 and before 2 September 1996;
4.68% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 2 September 1996 and before 2 December 1996; and
4.80% per annum	for certificates issued on or after 2 December 1996 until further notice.

End

Staff member of unlicensed guesthouse fined

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A worker at a guesthouse was fined \$1,200 today (Monday) in South Kowloon Magistracy after pleading guilty to managing an unlicensed guesthouse in Tsim Sha Tsui.

Acting on a complaint, officers of the Home Affairs Department's (HAD) Licensing Authority and the Police inspected the premises on the fourth floor, Golden Crown Court, 66-70 Nathan Road on August 8 and found that it was being operated as a guesthouse without a licence.

A female staff member responsible for collecting rent and allocating rooms at the premises was subsequently charged under section 5 of the Hotel and Guesthouse Accommodation Ordinance.

An HAD spokesman said unlicensed guesthouses would not be tolerated and enforcement action would continue to be taken to ensure all guesthouses were being operated with proper regard for fire and building safety.

He also appealed to members of the public to continue offering help in the crackdown on unlicensed guesthouses by reporting them to the Licensing Authority on 2881 7034.

End

Parcel delievery centre in Sha Tin opened

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The New Territories Parcel Delivery Centre was officially opened this (Monday) morning.

Located at Unit 8, ground floor, Topsail Plaza, 11 On Sum Street, Siu Lek Yuen, Sha Tin, the centre provides door-to-door parcel delivery service for the whole New Territories once every Monday to Saturday, except on public holidays.

Its operation has actually started on November 18. The operating hours of the centre are from 8 am to 4 pm, Monday to Saturday.

The telephone number of the centre is 2647 8417.

Officiating at today's opening cenremony are the Postmaster General, Mr Robert Footman, and the Chairman of Heung Yee Kuk New Territories, Mr Lau Wong-fat.

End

Flushing water cut on Tsing Yi

The flushing water supply to all premises on Tsing Yi will be temporarily suspended from 10 pm on Thursday (December 5) to 8 am the following day for repair work on watermains.

End

Water storage figure

Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Monday) stood at 94.7 per cent of capacity or 555.218 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 572.453 million cubic metres of water, representing 97.7 per cent of capacity.

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$ million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	5705	0930	+340
Closing balance in the account	4000	1000	+340
Change attributable to:		1100	+340
Money market activity	-1160	1200	+340
LAF today	-545	1500	-1160
		1600	-1160

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 124.9 *+0.1* 2.12.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF Bills		EF Notes/MTRC Notes				
Terms	Yield	Terms	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	4.73	2 years	2811	5.72	100.45	5.55
1 month	4.62	3 years	3910	6.28	101.17	5.91
3 months	4.63	5 years	5109	7.32	103.85	6.47
6 months	4.73	7 years	7311	6.80	100.65	6.79
12 months	5.06	10 years	1610	7.37	103.25	7.03
		5 years	M503	7.35	102.60	6.81

Total turnover of EF Bills and Notes - \$16,746 Million

Closed December 2, 1996

End