



# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR NOVEMBER PUBLISHED

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) PUBLISHED THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES FOR NOVEMBER 1990.

THE CPI(A) (OCT. 84 - SEP. 85 = 100) FOR NOVEMBER 1990, AT 147.2 WAS 10.9 PER CENT HIGHER THAN IN NOVEMBER 1989 WHILE THE CPI(B), AT 146.9, WAS 10.8 PER CENT HIGHER.

THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF INCREASE IN SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER WERE 9.7 PER CENT AND 10.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FOR CPI(A) AND 9.9 PER CENT AND 10.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY FOR CPI(B).

THE FASTER RATES OF INCREASE IN BOTH INDEXES IN NOVEMBER WERE MAINLY DUE TO THE CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, AS WELL AS HIGHER RENTALS OF PRIVATE HOUSING UNITS.

FOR THE PERIOD OF JANUARY TO NOVEMBER 1990, THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) BOTH INCREASED BY 9.6 PER CENT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD OF 1989.

ON A YEAR-ON-YEAR COMPARISON, THE FASTER RATES OF INCREASE IN CPI(A) IN NOVEMBER 1990 WERE RECORDED IN THE INDEXES FOR FUEL AND LIGHT, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION), TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES, AND SERVICES AT 19.8 PER CENT, 18.9 PER CENT, 14.3 PER CENT AND 13.4 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE CORRESPONDING RATES OF INCREASE FOR THE SAME COMPONENTS IN THE CPI(B) WERE 18.4 PER CENT, 18.8 PER CENT, 14.9 PER CENT AND 12.8 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS, WHICH HAS THE LARGEST WEIGHTING IN THE INDEX, INCREASED BY 10.6 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 10.8 PER CENT IN CPI(B).

THESE FIVE COMPONENTS TOGETHER ACCOUNTED FOR 75 PER CENT OF THE OVERALL INCREASE IN THE CPI(A) AND 70 PER CENT OF THE INCREASE IN THE CPI(B).

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1990 WITH OCTOBER 1990, THE CPI(A) INCREASED BY 0.6 PER CENT AND THE CPI(B), BY 0.8 PER CENT, LARGELY BECAUSE OF HIGHER CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, HIGHER RENTS FOR SOME PRIVATE HOUSING UNITS AND HIGHER PRICES OF OUTERCLOTHING.

THE AVERAGE CPI(A) AND AVERAGE CPI(B) FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 1990, AT 140.7 AND 140.3 RESPECTIVELY, WERE BOTH 9.6 PER CENT HIGHER THAN THE AVERAGE FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED NOVEMBER 1989.

DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED NOVEMBER 1990, THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(A) INCREASED AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 1.1 PER CENT PER MONTH AND THE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED CPI(B), AT 1.0 PER CENT PER MONTH.

/THE CPI(A) .....

THE CPI(A) AND THE CPI(B) ARE BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERNS OF 50 PER CENT AND 30 PER CENT, RESPECTIVELY, OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG, WHICH WERE DERIVED FROM THE 1984/85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

THE CPI(A) REFERS TO HOUSEHOLDS SPENDING BETWEEN \$2,000 AND \$6,499 A MONTH AT THAT TIME AND THE CPI(B) BETWEEN \$6,500 AND \$9,999 A MONTH.

CHANGES IN THE INDEXES FOR NOVEMBER 1990 IN RESPECT OF THE NINE COMMODITY/SERVICE SECTIONS IN THE TWO CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES, AS COMPARED WITH OCTOBER 1990 AND NOVEMBER 1989, ARE GIVEN BELOW.

(OCTOBER 1984 TO SEPTEMBER 1985 AVERAGE = 100)  
CPI(A) CPI(B)

SECTION	CPI(A)			CPI(B)		
	INDEX FOR NOV. 90	% CHANGE OVER OCT. 90	% CHANGE OVER NOV. 89	INDEX FOR NOV. 90	% CHANGE OVER OCT. 90	% CHANGE OVER NOV. 89
FOODSTUFFS	147.4	+0.1	+10.6	149.6	+0.2	+10.8
HOUSING	138.3	+0.7	+10.8	132.6	+1.0	+10.8
FUEL AND LIGHT	115.7	+2.6	+19.8	114.4	+2.5	+18.4
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND TOBACCO (FOR HOME CONSUMPTION)	159.1	+0.6	+18.9	160.5	+0.6	+18.8
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	150.9	+3.5	+7.6	154.3	+3.4	+7.7
DURABLE GOODS	127.9	+0.8	+4.1	126.8	+0.7	+4.0
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS	145.5	+0.3	+8.0	144.8	+0.3	+7.6
TRANSPORT AND VEHICLES	159.5	+0.6	+14.3	159.4	+0.5	+14.9
SERVICES	170.3	+0.6	+13.4	168.7	+0.7	+12.8
ALL ITEMS	147.2	+0.6	+10.9	146.9	+0.8	+10.8

COMPARING NOVEMBER 1990 WITH OCTOBER 1990, THE INDEX FOR FOODSTUFFS INCREASED BY 0.1 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.2 PER CENT IN CPI(B). THIS WAS MAINLY DUE TO INCREASES IN THE CHARGES FOR MEALS IN RESTAURANTS AND OTHER EATING PLACES, WHICH MORE THAN OFFSET THE DECREASES IN THE RETAIL PRICES OF FRESH VEGETABLES, FRESH FRUIT AND LIVE POULTRY.

THE INDEX FOR HOUSING INCREASED BY 0.7 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 1.0 PER CENT IN CPI(B) DUE TO HIGHER RENTS FOR SOME PRIVATE HOUSING UNITS.

THE INDEX FOR FUEL AND LIGHT INCREASED BY 2.6 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 2.5 PER CENT IN CPI(B) AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS AND KEROSENE AS WELL AS THE UPWARD FUEL COST ADJUSTMENT FOR TOWNGAS.

THE INDEX FOR CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR INCREASED BY 3.5 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 3.4 PER CENT IN CPI(B) BECAUSE OF HIGHER PRICES OF OUTERCLOTHING.

THE INDEX FOR DURABLE GOODS INCREASED BY 0.8 PER CENT IN CPI(A) AND BY 0.7 PER CENT IN CPI(B) DUE TO HIGHER PRICES OF ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES, VIDEO AND SOUND EQUIPMENT.

FIGURES HEREIN REFER TO CPI SERIES NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED. ALL PERCENTAGE CHANGES ARE DERIVED FROM CPI FIGURES TAKEN TO MORE THAN ONE DECIMAL PLACE.

MORE DETAILS ARE GIVEN IN THE "CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REPORT" FOR NOVEMBER 1990, WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT \$5 PER COPY FROM THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GROUND FLOOR, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL; OR FROM THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER 1, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI; OR FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT, FRENCH MISSION BUILDING, 1 BATTERY PATH, CENTRAL FOR LOCAL AND OVERSEAS MAILINGS.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE INDEXES CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 805 6403.

THE HANG SENG CPI WAS 158.0 IN NOVEMBER 1990, UP BY 1.0 PER CENT OVER OCTOBER 1990 AND BY 12.0 PER CENT OVER NOVEMBER 1989.

THE HANG SENG CPI IS BASED ON THE EXPENDITURE PATTERN OF THE 10 PER CENT OF URBAN HOUSEHOLDS IN HONG KONG THAT SPENT \$10,000-24,999 A MONTH DURING THE 1984/85 HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE SURVEY.

FURTHER DETAILS REGARDING THIS INDEX ARE INCLUDED IN THE HANG SENG CPI REPORT ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC RESEARCH DEPARTMENT OF HANG SENG BANK LTD.

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NEW QEH LIBRARY PROVIDES BETTER READING ENVIRONMENT

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STAFF OF THE QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL ARE NOW PROVIDED WITH A MORE SPACIOUS AND COMFORTABLE READING ENVIRONMENT AFTER THEIR MEDICAL LIBRARY MOVED TO A NEW EXTENSION BLOCK IN THE HOSPITAL.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE NEW MEDICAL LIBRARY HAS AN AREA OF 788 SQUARE METRES, AND IS AT PRESENT THE LARGEST MEDICAL LIBRARY UNDER THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT IN TERMS OF SPACE AND MATERIALS.

"THE LIBRARY INITIALLY CONTAINS SOME 2,400 VOLUMES OF BOOKS, 2,100 VOLUMES OF BOUND JOURNALS AND 130 ITEMS OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS, INCLUDING VIDEO CASSETTE TAPES, AUDIO CASSETTE TAPES, SOUND SLIDE PROGRAMMES, MICROFILMS AND MICROFICHE."

/"IT PROVIDES .....

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"IT PROVIDES A TOTAL OF 96 SEATS, INCLUDING 28 STUDY CARRELS IN WHICH LIBRARY USERS CAN ENJOY READING QUIETLY," HE SAID.

"LIBRARY USERS CAN ALSO MAKE USE OF THE TWO DISCUSSION ROOMS IN THE LIBRARY IF ADVANCED BOOKING IS MADE," THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

THE MEDICAL LIBRARY AT QEH MAINLY SERVES THE STAFF OF THE HOSPITAL BUT THE MATERIALS AND INFORMATION ARE ALSO ACCESSIBLE TO OTHER STAFF OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

THE HOSPITAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT NOW MANAGES 15 MEDICAL LIBRARIES WHICH ARE LOCATED AT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS.

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#### SEAWALL AND DRAINAGE WORKS IN SHA TIN

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CONSTRUCTION WORK WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN CERTAIN AREAS IN MA ON SHAN AS PART OF THE SHA TIN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

THE PROJECT WILL COMPRISE AN 11-KILOMETRE SEAWALL, RECLAMATION AND ASSOCIATED STORMWATER DRAINAGE IN AREA 77, AND SITE FORMATION IN AREA 108.

THE WORK IS TO PROVIDE ABOUT 23 HECTARES OF LAND IN AREA 77 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME/PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION SCHEME FLATS. IT IS ALSO FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES, GOVERNMENT/INSTITUTION AND COMMUNITY USE AND OPEN SPACES.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO START IN FEBRUARY NEXT YEAR AND TAKE ABOUT 27 MONTHS TO COMPLETE.

THE TERRITORY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT WHICH SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY JANUARY 11 NEXT YEAR.

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#### FIGHT CRIME SLOGAN DESIGN COMPETITION IN SHAM SHUI PO

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A CHINESE ANTI-CRIME SLOGAN DESIGN COMPETITION IS BEING ORGANISED FOR SECONDARY STUDENTS IN THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT.

ORGANISED BY THE DISTRICT FIGHT CRIME COMMITTEE, THE COMPETITION IS DIVIDED INTO THE JUNIOR SECTION FOR FORMS 1 TO 3 STUDENTS AND THE SENIOR SECTION FOR FORMS 4 TO 7 STUDENTS.

/EACH SLOGAN .....

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EACH SLOGAN SHOULD NOT EXCEED 14 CHARACTERS, BUT CAN CONTAIN ONE OR MORE PHRASES. IT SHOULD AIM AT ENCOURAGING THE PUBLIC TO PREVENT AND REPORT CRIME DURING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR PERIOD AS WELL AS TO COME FORWARD AS WITNESS WHEN REQUIRED.

ENTRY FORMS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT OFFICE AT 37 TONKIN STREET AND LOCAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS. ENTRIES WITH COMPLETED FORMS SHOULD REACH THE DISTRICT OFFICE BY NOON ON JANUARY 12.

THE TOP THREE WINNERS OF EACH SECTION WILL BE AWARDED TROPHIES AND BOOK COUPONS OF \$500, \$300 AND \$200 RESPECTIVELY. ANOTHER FOUR OUTSTANDING ENTRIES WILL BE SELECTED FROM EACH SECTION AND THE WRITERS WILL BE AWARDED BOOK COUPONS OF \$100 EACH.

THE WINNING ENTRIES WILL BE USED FOR PUBLICITY PURPOSES.

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