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## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Press Statement by Secretary for the Civil Service

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Following is a statement by the Secretary for the Civil Service, Mr W K Lam:

"The retirement of former Director of Immigration, Mr Laurence Leung is an employment matter between the Hong Kong Government and Mr Leung himself. I want to state that the UK Government was not involved in the matter in any way.

I have made it clear in my evidence to the LegCo Select Committee that when I meet an officer to discuss their personal career situation, what passes between us remains confidential and should not be disclosed to third parties without the officer's consent. Now that Mr Leung has revealed the substance of my meeting with him on 5 July, he has clearly waived the implied confidentiality of the meeting in question. I can confirm that I invited him to the meeting on 5 July. At the meeting, I told Mr Leung that I was considering making a representation to the Governor under Colonial Regulation 59 that his retirement would be desirable in the public interest. But he could if he chose to retire voluntarily with immediate effect.

Under CR 59, before a report is made to the Governor, an officer must be informed of the grounds on which his retirement is contemplated and be given the opportunity to make representations. If Mr Leung had chosen not to retire voluntarily, he would have been informed of the grounds on which CR 59 action was contemplated and would have been given the opportunity to make representations. The report and any representations made by Mr Leung would then have been submitted to the Governor for a decision whether, having regard to all the circumstances the officer should be required to retire.

It was Mr Leung's choice to retire rather than to face Colonial Regulation 59 action.

Mr Leung volunteered to reveal today that he was the subject of an ICAC investigation and you will have seen a statement from the ICAC confirming that this was the case. I must explain again that in the absence of that disclosure by Mr Leung and confirmation by ICAC, I could not properly confirm or deny whether Mr Leung had been the subject of an investigation. I can further confirm that a copy of the ICAC's report was forwarded to the Administration to consider whether any disciplinary or administrative action against Mr Leung was necessary.

I will now have to consider the transcript of Mr Leung's evidence very carefully, in particular, his points about further disclosure of information. When we have done so, we will then consider whether we have anything more to say."

End

Sufficient housing land will be provided

\* \* \* \* \*

The Government is fully aware of the public's concern about housing land supply and is committed to, as we have been, providing sufficient land to meet our housing demand, the Secretary for Planning, Environment and Lands, Mr Bowen Leung said.

Speaking at a dinner hosted by the Chinese Executives Club tonight (Friday), Mr Leung said the notion that the Government had not provided enough land to enable the Housing Authority to achieve our public housing programme aims was not correct.

He noted that the level of demand for public housing changed over time because of such factors as population and income growth, redevelopment and clearance programmes, prices and rents of private housing and so on, which was a constantly moving target.

"Our aim has always been to provide sufficient land to meet clearly identified public housing demand over a period and this is reviewed regularly.

"For example, when the Housing Authority adjusted income limits and eligibility criteria in 1992 and 1993, the Government promptly found 49 hectares of extra land to meet the additional demand.

"In 1995, the Government earmarked another 30 hectares of land for allocation to the Housing Authority for construction of public housing up to the year 2000-01.

"In the last five years, we have disposed of 257 hectares of land for subsidised home ownership and rental public housing.

"We also aim to make available 327 hectares of new land for subsidised home ownership and rental public housing in the next five years. A considerable portion of this land will be in areas such as North-east New Territories, Tseung Kwan O New Town and Tin Shui Wai New Town."

Mr Leung said the Government had not ignored the need to make available land for private housing.

"In the last five years, we have disposed of 145 hectares of land for private housing.

"In the next five years, 260 hectares of land will be made available for private housing.

"This is over 100 hectares more when compared with the total of the last five years.

"We shall aim to programme for their disposal in a phased and orderly manner, ensuring an even spread."

He said a number of strategic growth areas including South-east Kowloon and Kai Tak airport, the remaining phases of Tung Chung New Town and Tseung Kwan O New Town and Au Tau-Kam Tin had also been identified in the Territorial Development Strategy Review as target areas for further residential development between 2001 and 2006.

"We are identifying a list of potential in-fill sites for detailed feasibility study to provide for more land for housing."

These are sites in selected locations previously designated for industrial and unspecified Government, Institution and Community uses, or sites within comprehensively designed areas where existing community services and infrastructure systems have spare capacity. They also include potential new development sites on the periphery of planned or developed areas to which new roads and infrastructure can be extended without undue difficulty.

Mr Leung said the Government had commissioned studies on the potential in converting old or obsolete industrial areas into residential use and recommendations were expected shortly.

"We shall then be able to review our industrial land policy and where possible, rezone not just part of the old industrial areas but also land reserved for industrial use but not yet taken up as such to meet the more pressing need for housing in Hong Kong.

"These actions will be completed when we finalise the new Territorial Development Strategy later this year."

"As you may be aware, we have been rezoning and giving approvals to applications to convert old or disused industrial sites to other uses."

A large number of residential developments in Sham Tseng, Tsuen Wan and Quarry Bay, for example, and commercial development in Kwun Tong, have been provided in this manner.

"We shall continue to process such applications and give approval to them on their merits."

On the Territorial Development Strategy, Mr Leung said its primary goal was to establish a broad long-term land use-transport-environmental planning framework within which the necessary land and infrastructure could be provided to meet our development needs, having regard to resource availability and current policies.

"I am pleased that we have reviewed the Strategy and received considerable comments and views on the outcome of the review.

"We aim to complete a final strategy this year so as to set our plans and programmes in place and implement them to take Hong Kong into the next century."

End

#### Tsing Yi South Bridge structurally safe and sound

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In response to recent public concerns about the allegedly excessive movement of joints of the Tsing Yi South Bridge, the Government has today invited a consultant to examine the structural safety of the bridge.

"The consultant has confirmed the Government's earlier findings that the bridge is structurally safe and sound," a spokesman for the Highways Department said today (Friday).

"The vertical movement of some of the joints is all within the designed safety margin, and the bridge is capable of handling the existing traffic, including heavy goods vehicles."

The Highways Department has been carrying out regular inspections of the bridge at quarterly intervals. The last routine inspection was conducted in mid-December, the spokesman said.

"However, in view of the public concern, the Department will carry out routine inspections on a monthly basis from now on," he said.

The spokesman said the construction of the Duplicate Tsing Yi South Bridge is in good progress and is scheduled for completion at the end of 1998.

"The completion of the new bridge will not only bring about improved local traffic condition but will also provide a good opportunity for more extensive maintenance works to be carried out to the existing bridge," he added.

End

#### Auxiliary Forces Pensions (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill

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The Government will introduce legislative amendments to provide for a unified scheme for the payment of pensions and gratuities to members of the auxiliary forces or their dependants.

The Auxiliary Forces Pensions (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 1997, which seeks to ensure fairness and uniformity in this respect for all auxiliary forces, is gazetted today (Friday).

The auxiliary forces are : the Auxiliary Medical Services, the Civil Aid Services, the Royal Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force and the Government Flying Service (Auxiliary Section).

A Government spokesman said that some deficiencies were identified in a general review of the present provisions governing the payment of pensions and gratuities to members of the different auxiliary forces.

"These include differences in the calculation and payment of pensions to members of different auxiliary forces, and the ineligibility of the widower and dependants of a deceased female member for pension benefits," he said.

The spokesman said that to overcome the deficiencies, the Bill proposed to introduce a unified scheme of calculation and payment of pensions and gratuities under the Auxiliary Forces Pay and Allowances Ordinance.

"This will also ensure that pension benefits for members of the auxiliary forces will be no better than those for members of the civil service," he said.

The major proposals under the unified scheme include :

- \* An injury pension will be granted to a member who is permanently injured while on duty and whose service has to be terminated. This pension will be calculated according to the percentage of permanent impairment to his capacity ;
- \* A death gratuity will be granted in respect of a member who dies as a result of any injury sustained in the discharge of his duty. In addition, a dependant pension will be paid to the spouse (covering both widows and widowers) and dependants of such member ;
- \* Increases to pensions will be paid in line with those applicable to members of the civil service ; and
- \* Free medical treatment in respect of injuries sustained in the course of duty will be provided to a member who has retired because of that injury.

The spokesman added that under the proposed scheme, members could opt for either pension benefits under the regulation to be made under the Bill, or compensation under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, the Pneumoconiosis (Compensation) Ordinance or the Occupation Deafness (Compensation) Ordinance as appropriate.

"The Bill also proposes to empower the Government to recover the commuted amount of the pension benefits paid to a member from a third person, if that person is found to be liable for the member's injury or death," he added.

The Bill is expected to be introduced into the Legislative Council on January 22 this year.

End

International congress a two-way exchange

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Hong Kong's respect for education and the Government's investment in the development of the full potential of young people in the territory are the messages delivered in the United States this week by the Director of Education, Mrs Helen C P Lai Yu.

"Parents value education as the key to their children's success and to social mobility. Government views our young as Hong Kong's most important resource. Public spending on education is our largest item of recurrent expenditure and is our major contribution to social and economic stability," she said.

Mrs Yu chaired the Hong Kong Symposium as part of the 10th International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement (ICSEI).

More than 600 education experts from at least 25 territories were at the international meeting this week in Memphis, Tennessee, USA.

"In Hong Kong, our mission in education is to develop the full potential of our young to guide them to be independent and responsible citizens. Our aim is to help them learn, to live fully as individuals and to fulfil their responsibilities to their families and the community," Mrs Yu told her audience at the Hong Kong Symposium entitled "The latest Initiatives for School Effectiveness and Education Quality in Hong Kong" during the congress.

Speakers at the symposium included the Chairman of the Education Commission, Professor Rosie Young; Chairman of the Board of Education, Mr Moses Cheng; Chairman of the Towards a Better School Movement, Mr Issac Tse; and Director of the Research Centre of the Hong Kong Institute of Education, Professor Cheng Yin-cheong.

The common theme developed by all of the speakers was the need for quality school education. The audience of the symposium was impressed by the concerted commitment demonstrated by education advisors, government officials, school practitioners and researchers towards school effectiveness and education quality in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong's participation in the 10th ICSEI has generated considerable interest in the territory's education development and its strategy for reform.

Addressing concern over the continuity of Hong Kong's education system after the handover, Mrs Yu told congress participants and the US media that it would be business as usual and that Hong Kong would continue to improve.

"The Basic Law provides that the Government of the Special Administrative Region shall, on its own, formulate policies on the development and improvement of education, and that educational institutions of all kinds may retain their autonomy and enjoy academic freedom," she said.

During the five-day congress, the Hong Kong delegation had the opportunity to take reference from views and ideas of educators worldwide. In turn, the Education Commission delegation shared Hong Kong's experience with them.

There were also visits to schools in the Memphis area for first-hand insights into some of the educational initiatives in the US.

"We appreciate the warm interest in Hong Kong shown by overseas delegates," Mrs Yu said. "Many have told us that they admire the value placed on education by our community, underlined by the low rates of non-attendance and drop-out. All in all, they wish to learn from us, in particular in this respect."

"However, it is a two-way exchange. We, too, by attending a conference such as this, have our hands full of reference materials and our heads filled with ideas," Mrs Yu added.

End

#### Advisory Council on AIDS holds 20th meeting

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At a meeting of the Hong Kong Advisory Council on AIDS (ACA) today (Friday), it was decided that the Second Hong Kong AIDS Conference should be held in two to three years' time focusing on the wider perspective of the Pearl River Delta region instead of Hong Kong alone.

At today's meeting, members examined the report of the Organising Committee of the First Hong Kong AIDS Conference held in November 1996.

Encouraged by the active participation in that event, it was resolved that the conference should be convened every two to three years.

The council also endorsed a proposal to strengthen the HIV surveillance programme on young people in the community.

It also approved the adoption of a new Chinese name and a new logo for the council.

The new logo was adapted from the one designed for the First Hong Kong AIDS Conference.

The ACA was first appointed by the Governor in March 1990. It is currently chaired by Dr Conrad Lam.

The council meets every three months and is underpinned by three committees - Committee on Education and Publicity on AIDS; AIDS Services Development Committee and Scientific Committee on AIDS.

End

#### Views on quality school education invited

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Members of the public are reminded to send their views on quality school education to the Education Commission before the consultation period ends on January 15 (Wednesday).

Quality school education is the theme of the Education Commission Report No 7 Consultation Document which was published last November for a two-month public consultation.

A spokesman for the Education Commission said today (Friday): "We are pleased with the initial response to the consultation document. From the views collected, it can be seen that the main thrust of the recommendations is generally supported by the community."

The spokesman pointed out that around 20 consultation and discussion sessions had been arranged so far for Legislative Councillors, principals, teaching professionals, educational bodies, school councils and sponsors, advisory boards and committees, parents, the business community and district boards to gauge their views. Around 60,000 copies of the consultation document have been distributed.

"The Commission will take into account all the views collected before finalising their recommendations for consideration by the Government," he said.

The recommendations in the consultation document are aimed at helping schools to improve their performance and ensuring that resources for school education are used in the most effective, efficient and accountable manner.

"It represents the Commission's vision of a quality school education system which will have lasting benefits to generations to come," the spokesman added.

Copies of the consultation document are available at all district offices and the sub-offices of the Education Department. It is also available at the Hong Kong Government Home Page - Hong Kong Government Information Centre (<http://www.info.gov.hk>).

Public are welcome to forward their views before January 15 (Wednesday) to the Secretary, Education Commission, ninth floor, Central Government Offices (West Wing), 11 Ice House Street, Central. (fax:2537 4591 or E-mail address : [embinfo@emb.gcn.gov.hk](mailto:embinfo@emb.gcn.gov.hk).)

End

September 1996 employment and vacancy statistics released

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According to the figures released today (Friday) by the Census and Statistics Department, employment in all major service sectors increased in September 1996 when compared with September 1995.

Meanwhile, employment in the manufacturing sector remained on a downtrend, whereas employment at construction sites registered a significant year-on-year increase over the same period.

Vacancies in most of the major service sectors showed year-on-year increases in September 1996. However, vacancies in the manufacturing sector continued to decrease when compared with a year earlier. Vacancies at construction sites fell as employment surged.

There were around 50,600 vacancies in September 1996 for all major sectors surveyed taken together, as compared to 47,500 vacancies recorded in June 1996.

In terms of the number of persons engaged, the wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels sector was the largest, employing 1,046,600 persons in September 1996. This was followed by the financing, insurance, real estate and business services sector, with an employment of 391,200; the manufacturing sector, 327,500; the community, social and personal services sector, 314,500; and the transport, storage and communications sector, 179,800. Also, there were 76,600 manual workers at construction sites.

In terms of change from a year earlier, employment at construction sites (for manual workers only) picked up to show a notable increase, by 16.3% in September 1996. This was followed by employment in the transport, storage and communications sector, rising by 5.8%; the community, social and personal services sector, by 5.4%; the financing, insurance, real estate and business services sector, by 4.2%; and the wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels sector, by 1.5%. Employment in the manufacturing sector, on the other hand, fell by 15.2%.

The respective employment figures are shown in greater detail in Table 1.

As regards the vacancy situation in individual sectors, the wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels sector had the largest number of vacancies, at 21,160 in September 1996. This was followed by the financing, insurance, real estate and business services sector, with 10,640 vacancies; the community, social and personal services sector, 8,260 vacancies; the manufacturing sector, 5,870 vacancies; and the transport, storage and communications sector, 3,230 vacancies. Also, there were 1,460 vacancies for manual workers at construction sites.

In terms of change from a year earlier, vacancies in the wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels sector fell by 3.6% in September 1996, and those in the manufacturing sector by 14.5%. Vacancies for manual workers at construction sites had a further decline of 42.6%. But vacancies in the financing, insurance, real estate and business services sector had a significant increase of 24.2%. Vacancies in the community, social and personal services sector also rose, by 5.8%. Those in the transport, storage and communications sector were likewise higher, by 3.6%.

Job vacancy figures are shown in greater detail in Table 2.

Of the total of some 50,600 vacancies (other than those in the Civil Service) recorded in September 1996, the majority fell into four major occupation groups, namely, associate professionals; clerks; service workers and shop sales workers; and elementary occupations. They together accounted for over three-quarters of the total number of vacancies in all the major sectors surveyed.

In September 1996, vacancies in the craft and related workers, plant and machine operators and assemblers, and clerks categories continued to decline over a year earlier, albeit at a more moderate rate than in June 1996. They fell by 24%, 12.3% and 10.2% respectively over a year earlier. Vacancies in the managerial and administrative occupation category also recorded a decline of 4%. But vacancies in the professionals, associate professionals, as well as the service workers and shop sales workers categories all showed increases, by 6.1%, 19.4% and 8.2% respectively over a year earlier. Vacancies in the elementary occupation category also bottomed out to show only a marginal decline of 0.4% over the same periods of comparison.

Vacancy figures broken down by major occupation group are shown in Table 3.

The above statistics for September 1996 were derived from the Quarterly Survey of Employment and Vacancies, the Supplementary Survey of Job Vacancies and the Quarterly Employment Survey of Construction Sites conducted by the Census and Statistics Department.

In the former two surveys, some economic activities (for example, those where self-employment are predominant, such as taxi operators, hawkers and freelance authors) are not covered and hence the respective employment and vacancy figures relate only to those selected industries included in the surveys. In the latter survey on construction sites, employment and vacancy figures relate to manual workers only.

Detailed breakdowns of the above statistics are available from the Quarterly Report of Employment, Vacancies and Payroll Statistics, September 1996 and the Quarterly Report of Employment and Vacancies at Construction Sites, September 1996. They will be available at \$48 and \$19 per copy (both exclusive of postage) respectively at the Government Publications Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong and the Publications Unit of the Census and Statistics Department, 19th floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

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Table 1 : Employment figures and percentage changes by selected major sector

<u>Selected major sector</u>	<u>Persons engaged (employment)</u>			<u>Percentage change</u>	
	<u>Sep. 95</u>	<u>Jun. 96</u>	<u>Sep. 96</u>	<u>Sep. 96 over Sep. 95</u>	<u>Sep. 96 over Jun. 96</u>
Manufacturing	386 100	336 700	327 500	-15.2	-2.7
Construction sites (manual workers only)	65 800	72 600	76 600	+16.3	+5.5
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels	1 030 900	1 031 600	1 046 600	+1.5	+1.5
Transport, storage and communications	170 000	176 300	179 800	+5.8	+1.9
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	375 400	386 900	391 200	+4.2	+1.1
Community, social and personal services	298 300	310 100	314 500	+5.4	+1.4

Table 2 : Vacancy figures and percentage changes by selected major sector

<u>Selected major sector</u>	<u>Number of vacancies</u>			<u>Percentage change</u>	
	<u>Sep. 95</u>	<u>Jun. 96</u>	<u>Sep. 96</u>	<u>Sep. 96 over Sep. 95</u>	<u>Sep. 96 over Jun. 96</u>
Manufacturing	6 860	5 860	5 870	-14.5	+0.1
Construction sites (vacancies for manual workers only)	2 550	1 520	1 460	-42.6	-3.4
Wholesale, retail and import/export trades, restaurants and hotels	21 950	19 980	21 160	-3.6	+5.9
Transport, storage and communications	3 120	2 870	3 230	+3.6	+12.5
Financing, insurance, real estate and business services	8 570	8 970	10 640	+24.2	+18.7
Community, social and personal services	7 810	8 320	8 260	+5.8	-0.7

Table 3 : Vacancy figures and percentage changes by major occupation group

Major occupation group	Number of vacancies			Percentage change	
	Sep. 95	Jun. 96	Sep. 96	Sep. 96 over Sep. 95	Sep. 96 over Jun. 96
Managers and administrators	1 030	1 220	990	-4.0	-19.0
Professionals	2 810	3 250	2 980	+6.1	-8.3
Associate professionals	7 280	7 450	8 700	+19.4	+16.7
Clerks	11 510	10 120	10 330	-10.2	+2.1
Service workers and shop sales workers	11 800	11 040	12 770	+8.2	+15.6
Craft and related workers	4 560	3 760	3 470	-24.0	-7.7
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	4 340	3 700	3 800	-12.3	+2.8
Elementary occupations	7 640	7 000	7 600	-0.4	+8.6

End

Review group on pilot NLCDPs invites views

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The Review Group on Pilot Neighbourhood Level Community Development Projects (NLCDPs) in Old Urban Areas held its first meeting last Wednesday (January 8). The Review Group has agreed to invite written submissions from the welfare sector, interested parties and general public.

The principal task of the Review Group is to examine the effectiveness of the two existing pilot NLCDPs in Nam Cheong and Mong Kok and to make recommendations on the need for the continuation of the two pilot projects and whether NLCDP services should be extended to other old urban areas.

Interested parties should send in their submissions on or before January 31 this year to the Secretary of the Review Group on Pilot NLCDPs in Old Urban Areas, 31st Floor, Southorn Centre, 130 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong. The Facsimile number is 2591 6002.

End

Tenders for engineering works in Yung Shue Wan invited

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The Civil Engineering Department is inviting tenders for engineering works for Yung Shue Wan Development, Phase I, on Lamma Island.

Works comprise the reclamation of about 1.1 hectares of land and the construction of 300 metres long vertical seawall, 170 metres long rubble mound seawall, an emergency vehicular access, and associated drainage and sewerage works.

The contract will also include the reconstruction of an existing pier at Yung Shue Wan.

Construction will commence in April this year for completion in 21 months.

The works have been designed and construction will be supervised by the Development and Airport Division of the Civil Engineering Office of the Department.

Tender forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Chief Engineer of the division, second floor, Civil Engineering Building, 101 Princess Margaret Road, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon.

Tender offer will close at noon on Friday, January 31.

End

**Prequalification tenders invited**

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The Architectural Services Department (Arch SD) is inviting contractors to participate in a prequalification exercise for the supply and installation of a stage wagon and elevators for a civic centre at Yuen Long Tai Yuk Road in the New Territories.

The contract also includes the supply and installation of maple flooring at the main stage of the civic centre.

Contractors with a proven track record of carrying out this type of specialist works, and overseas contractors who have a local presence or will undertake to set up a local office if the contract is awarded, can apply for prequalification.

Prequalification documents can be obtained from Chief Building Services Engineer 2, Arch SD, 37th floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong.

Completed prequalification applications should be submitted before noon on January 31 (Friday).

Meanwhile, the department is also inviting tenders for conversion and extension works, including associated drainage, for four aided schools.

Works will start in June this year for completion in August 1998.

Tender forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Arch SD, 34th floor, Queensway Government Offices.

Tender offer for the school project will close at noon on February 14 (Friday).

End

Garment manufacturer heavily fined for malpractice

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A garment factory partner was fined \$398,004 at North Kowloon Magistracy today (Friday) after pleading guilty to five counts of making a false statement regarding the origin of goods in certificate of origin application.

The court heard that the factory submitted five applications for certificates of origin covering 840 dozens of ladies' knitted dresses for export to the United States on April 1 last year.

It was stated in the applications that the goods were of Hong Kong origin.

However, investigations by officers of the Customs and Excise Department found that the production of the goods were done in China.

A spokesman for the Customs and Excise Department said the offences were serious.

The department would step up its enforcement actions to track down such malpractices to protect the commercial reputation of Hong Kong and to ensure that the confidence of its trading partners in Hong Kong's textiles control system would not be undermined by some dishonest businessmen, the spokesman stressed.

The maximum penalty for making a false statement in certificate of origin application is a \$500,000 fine plus two years' imprisonment.

End

Reciprocal postal agreement signed

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An agreement was signed between the Hong Kong Post Office and Canada Post Corporation for the reciprocal marketing of stamps today (Friday).

For the first time, Hong Kong stamps will be on sale in Canadian Post Offices and Canadian stamps will go on sale in the 19 Hong Kong Post Office Philatelic Offices.

The agreement was signed by Mr Robert Footman, the Postmaster General, and Mr Andre Ouellet, the Chairman of the Board of Canada Post Corporation.

The agreement represents a strengthening of ties between the two administrations and allows them to better serve their mutual customers.

Hong Kong has similar marketing agreements with four other postal administrations - China, Macau, Malaysia, and Singapore.

At the signing ceremony the Canadian Lunar New Year stamp for the Year of the Ox was unveiled. This will be the first Canadian stamp that will be sold in Hong Kong.

Details of sales arrangement will be announced in due course.

End

#### Second nomination received for Tai Po DB by-election

\* \* \* \* \*

One nomination was received today (Friday) for the Tai Po District Board by-election in respect of Shuen Wan constituency to be held on February 23.

The nomination was submitted by Mr Man Chen-fai, a 42-year-old executive director.

This is the second nomination received for the by-election since the nomination period started on January 3.

Mr Man can be contacted on 9042 9052 or 7988 0088 (daytime) and 2656 9393 (night time).

Nomination will last until January 16 (Thursday).

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority Interbank Liquidity

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		Time	Aggregate Balance Of Settlement  Accounts
Opening aggregate balance	436 mn	0930 hr	9,008 mn
Closing aggregate balance	594 mn	1000 hr	19,301 mn
Change attributable to :		1100 hr	23,552 mn
Money market activity	-349 mn	1200 hr	32,701 mn
LAF reversal	+7,847 mn	1500 hr	32,608 mn
LAF today	-7,340 mn	1600 hr	34,426 mn

Laf rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer Twi 125.5 \*-0.1\* 10.1.97

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

Ef bills		Ef notes/Mtrc notes				
Terms	Yield	Terms	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	4.38	2 years	2811	5.72	100.24	5.65
1 month	4.44	3 years	3910	6.28	100.66	6.10
3 months	4.53	5 years	5112	6.57	99.70	6.75
6 months	4.75	7 years	7311	6.80	99.11	7.08
12 months	5.09	10 years	1610	7.37	100.97	7.36
		5 years	M503	7.35	101.77	7.01

Total turnover of ef bills and notes - \$23,920 mn

Closed January 10, 1997

End