



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Statement by the Judiciary

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The Chief Justice, Sir Ti Liang Yang, has confirmed that he will accept nomination as a candidate for the post of Chief Executive. When such nomination is formally put forward, a decision will be made regarding his appointment as Chief Justice.

End

Statement of the Governor's spokesman

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Commenting on the statement by the Chief Justice, Sir Ti Liang Yang, the Governor's spokesman said Sir Ti Liang had informed the Governor about the matter and confirmed that he would accept nomination as a candidate for the post of Chief Executive.

As regards Sir Ti Liang's position as Chief Justice, the spokesman said a decision would be made if and when Sir Ti Liang's nomination was formally put forward.

End

Acting Chief Justice's statement

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"Widespread publicity has been given to statements by Crown Counsel, Mr Ian McWalters and Mr John Reading, that during the weekend of August 17 and 18, 1996, District Judge Caird complained to them that two fellow judges had tried to influence him against Mr Aaron Nattrass, a defendant in a District Court prosecution which was being heard by Judge Caird.

"This matter having become public Judge Caird on August 22 stated in Court that 'there's a few matters which have been raised. I wish to state there's been no pressure, political or otherwise, exerted on me other than length and complexity of the hearing and Mr Nattrass's state of health. I do not consider that any statement in the nature of gossip, when I was not seized of the case, warrants any action'.

"The Chief Justice was gravely concerned and commenced an inquiry into the matter on August 22 which he directed me to pursue after he left Hong Kong on August 23 to attend the Commonwealth Law Conference in Vancouver.

"I have conducted a comprehensive inquiry into this matter and I am satisfied that no judge or judges have ever brought any pressure to bear upon Judge Caird in relation to the Natrass case or any other matter.

"As can be seen from Judge Caird's statement set out above he now accepts that this is so. Disquiet may, however, remain in the public mind as to the complaints made to Mr McWalters and Mr Reading. This must be dispelled.

"Judge Caird says that his statements to Crown Counsel were made at a time when, because of the length and complexity of the trial and his concern with the health of the defendant, he felt himself to be under acute pressure which resulted in persistent insomnia over a number of weeks.

"He states that as a result of this on the weekend of August 17 and 18 purely social conversations became magnified in his mind and assumed a significance which they did not have. He acknowledges that any complaints of pressure were unfounded and should never have been made.

"This morning Judge Caird has removed himself from the Natrass prosecution stating: 'I have been concerned about my health. As a consequence I sought medical advice and am continuing to do so. I am unable to continue with this hearing and can only add that I believe it would not be in the interests of either the Crown or the defence, i.e. the applicant, for me to continue as I cannot be confident of ensuring a fair trial. Accordingly, I shall not continue for health reasons and disqualify myself for the reasons given.'

"Judge Caird is presently on sick leave and is receiving medical attention. He will only resume duty when I am satisfied that he has fully recovered."

End

Senior government appointments announced

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The Government today (Tuesday) announced the appointments of Mr Andrew Leung as Director of Social Welfare; Mr Kenneth Pang as Commissioner, USA; Mr Thomas Chan as Director of Information Services and Dr B N Dailly as Government Chemist.

Mr Leung, currently Police Administration Officer, will take over from Mr Ian Strachan as Director of Social Welfare. Mr Strachan will be retiring in early October after 31 years of service in Government.

Mr Pang, currently Land Registrar, will fill the post vacated by Mr Barrie Wiggham as Commissioner, USA. Mr Wiggham has earlier proceeded on pre-retirement leave after 35 years of service in Government.

Mr Chan will be taking over from Mrs Irene Yau as Director of Information Services upon her retirement early next year. Mrs Yau will have served in the Government for over 32 years. Mr Chan is now Director (Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs) San Francisco.

Dr Dailly, Assistant Government Chemist, will succeed Mr Lee Nam-sang as Government Chemist with effect from November 4 upon the latter's retirement from the civil service.

The Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, expressed full confidence in the four officers.

"They are all competent and conscientious officers who will bring a wealth of experience and proven leadership skills to their new posts," she said.

"With nearly 30 years of service in the Government and a strong track record in a wide variety of posts, Mr Andrew Leung is eminently qualified to head the Social Welfare Department.

"His ability in the administration of a sizeable department and in resource management has been well honed through his previous postings as Deputy Director-General of Industry, Policy and Administration Co-ordinator of Legal Aid Department, and now as Police Administration Officer.

"Mr Kenneth Pang is a versatile officer with strong leadership skills and I am confident that he will be very effective in promoting Hong Kong's interests in the US as our senior representative there.

"Mr Thomas Chan stands out as a highly suitable candidate to succeed Mrs Yau as Director of Information Services on the basis of his solid record of performance as Deputy Director of Information Services from 1990 to 1994 and his experience in overseas public relations work."

On the appointment of Dr Dailly as the Government Chemist, Mrs Chan said: "Dr Dailly has served the Government Laboratory for 23 years and is best suited to head the Government Laboratory on the strength of his ability, experience and professional expertise."

The Chief Secretary also thanked Mr Barrie Wiggham, Mr Ian Strachan, Mr Lee Nam-sang and Mrs Irene Yau for their dedicated and meritorious service in Government. Each of them has devoted more than 30 years to serving the community of Hong Kong.

Following are biographical notes of the officers:

Mr Leung Kin-pong, Andrew, JP

Aged 51. Mr Leung joined the Government in 1967 as an Executive Officer II. He joined the Administrative Service in 1973 and rose to his present rank of AOSGB1 in January 1995.

While in the Administrative Service, Mr Leung took up a variety of appointments including Security Branch, the former New Territories Administration, the former Office of Unofficial Members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, Finance Branch, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Brussels, Industry Department, Transport Branch and the Legal Aid Department. He has been Police Administration Officer since October 1994.

Mr Pang Tsan-wing, Kenneth, JP

Mr Pang is 50 years old. He joined the Hong Kong Government in 1967 as a Valuation Assistant and became a Rating and Valuation Surveyor in 1972. He was promoted to Assistant Commissioner of Rating & Valuation in 1984 and to Deputy Commissioner of Rating and Valuation in 1989.

He attended a Master of Public Administration programme at the Harvard University from 1990 to 1991. He has been Land Registrar since February 1993.

Mr Chan Chun-yuen, Thomas

Aged 46. Mr Chan joined the Government in June 1973 as an Assistant Trade Officer. He joined the Administrative Service in October in the same year and rose to his present rank of AOSGB in January 1994.

Over the years, Mr Chan has worked in a number of departments and branches including the Labour Department, Finance Branch, the then New Territories Administration, Civil Service Branch, the then Medical and Health Department, the City and New Territories Administration and Housing Branch.

He was seconded to the Radio Television Hong Kong from September 1989 to April 1990 and was Deputy Director of Information Services from 1990 to 1994. He has been Director (Hong Kong Economic and Trade Affairs) San Francisco since August 1994.

Dr Bryce Nelson Dailly, JP

Dr Dailly is aged 57. He joined the Hong Kong Government as Chemist in 1973 and was promoted to Senior Chemist in 1976 and then to Chief Chemist (later retitled as Assistant Government Chemist) in 1985. He has acted as Government Chemist on a number of occasions previously.

End

Exercise to test responses to combat oil pollution

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The Marine Department will co-ordinate an annual exercise to test various government departments and oil companies' responses to combat oil pollution, a department spokesman said today (Tuesday).

The exercise, code name "Exercise Martha", will begin with a table top exercise tomorrow (Wednesday) and a practical one on Thursday (September 5).

The table top exercise will test the communication and co-ordination between government departments and oil companies while the practical exercise will further test their responses in the deployment of oil pollution equipment and co-operation in combating oil pollution, the spokesman said.

A total of 15 government departments will take part in the exercise on the first day. On the second day, the Civil Aid Services, the Government Flying Service and the Marine Department will be involved.

End

Consultation on student finance scheme extended

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The public consultation period for the consultancy study on local student finance scheme has been extended from August to October, the Student Financial Assistance Agency (SFAA) announced today (Tuesday).

A spokesman for SFAA said in view of the complexity and importance of the recommendations, members of the Joint Committee on Student Finance (JCSF) felt that they needed more time to consider carefully the recommendations and to conduct extensive consultations where necessary.

The deadline was extended to enable students and staff of various institutions to give their views when they returned to school after the summer holidays, the spokesman said.

"Moreover, given the far-reaching impact of the recommendations, members considered it necessary that the new students, who will be enrolled in September/October, should be consulted before the JCSF's next meeting in November.

"The Administration is open-minded on the consultants' recommendations and will consider the way forward in the light of the advice of the JCSF and public feedback," the spokesman said.

End

STI to attend APEC small and medium enterprises meeting

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The Secretary for Trade and Industry, Miss Denise Yue, will leave tomorrow (Wednesday) to attend the third Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC) Ministerial Meeting on Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) to be held in Cebu, the Philippines, on September 5 and 6.

The meeting, with the theme "creating the climate for globalisation of SMEs", will focus on existing and new initiatives in the SME Action Program in the five priority areas: human resources development, information access, technology and technology sharing, finance, and market access.

Ministers from APEC economies will discuss the participation of, and linkage with, other support groups and institutions which address the needs of SMEs. They will also exchange views with representatives from the private sector of the APEC economies on issues related to SMEs.

Mr Denis Lee Wing-kwan and Mrs Rosa Hung Shum Kan-fong, chairman and member respectively of the Small and Medium Enterprises Committee, will attend the meeting as representatives from the private sector of Hong Kong and will participate in the discussion with ministers.

Other government officials including the Director-General of Industry, Mr Francis Ho, and Assistant Director-General of Industry, Mr Wong Hon-ho, will also attend the meeting.

The first APEC SME ministerial meeting was held in Osaka, Japan in October 1994 and the second one in Adelaide, Australia in September last year.

APEC comprises 18 member economies, namely: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand and the United States of America.

End

Consultation on draft reproductive bill to close soon

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The consultation period of the consultation paper on the draft Reproductive Technology Bill published by the Provisional Council on Reproductive Technology (PCRT) on July 17 to seek public views on three major issues arising from the bill will be closed on September 15.

"As the future ordinance has far-reaching implications on the community, the PCRT hopes to receive as many views as possible during the consultation period which will close on September 15, 1996," a spokesman of PCRT said.

"The PCRT will then carefully examine and consider the views received before finalising the recommendations on the provisions for the draft Reproductive Technology Bill.

"So far, we have received some written submissions from individuals/organisations concerned, and various views expressed through the media. The LegCo Panel on Health Services will discuss the Paper at its coming meeting on September 9, 1996.

"The paper contains the major arguments for and against sex selection achieved by means of Reproductive Technology procedures and the use of fetal ovarian/testicular tissue. These issues had not been examined by the former Committee on Scientifically Assisted Human Reproduction.

"In addition, the paper outlines the proposed licensing mechanism and the relevant provisions will have significant implications on the existing and potential Reproductive Technology service providers."

The paper can be obtained at the public enquiry counters of district offices or at the Secretariat of PCRT at second floor, Shun Feng International Centre, 182 Queen's Road East, Wan Chai, Hong Kong. Views should be sent to PCRT on or before September 15.

End

Nomination for conduct council by-election closed

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Three nominations were accepted for five vacant seats in the by-election to the Council on Professional Conduct in Education as the nomination deadline expired at noon today (Tuesday), the Education Department announced.

The nominees are Mr Au Yeung Chi of Hong Kong Teachers' Association for the teachers' unions category; Mr Ho Kwok-suen of North Point Government Primary AM School for the government primary schools category; and Ms Ho Yun-ling of Hong Kong Shu Yan School for the private primary schools category.

A spokesman for the department said as the seat being sought by Mr Au Yeung was in the organisation-nominated categories, he would be elected uncontested.

However, the seats being sought by Mr Ho and Ms Ho are in the teacher-nominated categories and they will each need at least 500 votes on voting day in order to be elected.

The spokesman said the seats for the kindergartens and the government secondary schools categories, for which no nominations were accepted in the by-election, will be left vacant through the end of the present term on April 30, 1998.

There was in fact a nomination for the government secondary schools category but as it was received at 12.25 pm today after the close of nominations, it was therefore declared null and void, he added.

"The reason for not accepting the nomination has been explained to the school concerned," the spokesman said.

On the schedule of the by-election, the spokesman said circulars on voting arrangements would be issued to schools on September 18, after which the department would consider holding an election forum for candidates.

Schools will collect ballot papers from district education offices on October 1. Voting will be conducted in all primary schools on October 3.

"Schools will be required to return the voting results return forms to district education offices by noon on October 4, 1996," the spokesman said.

The election results will be announced on October 7.

End

Stormwater drainage master plan study commissioned

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The Drainage Services Department has commissioned a feasibility study on the stormwater drainage master plan scheme for Tsuen Wan, Kwai Chung and Tsing Yi with a view to reduce flooding.

The \$5.88 million contract was signed today (Tuesday) by the Assistant Director of Drainage Services (Operations and Maintenance), Mr Victor Bradley, and a representative of Montgomery Watson Hong Kong Limited.

Speaking after signing the agreement, Mr Bradley said the study would examine the existing drainage system and recommend short and long term improvement measures to reduce flooding.

"Some of the drains, which were built some 30 years ago, were under-capacity and cannot meet current flood protection standard.

"The study will also develop a computerised asset management system to facilitate future planning, management and operation of the drainage system," Mr Bradley said.

The study, expecting to take 20 months to complete, is the third in the seven drainage master plan schemes undertaken by the department.

The first study covering Yuen Long, Kam Tin and Tin Shui Wai started in January, while the second for northern Hong Kong Island began in May.

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results

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Tender date	3 Sept 1996	3 Sept 1996
Paper on offer	EF bills	EF bills
Issue number	Q636	Y693
Issue date	4 Sept 1996	4 Sept 1996
Maturity date	4 Dec 1996	3 Sept 1997
Coupon	-	-
Amount applied	HK\$4,870 MN	HK\$3,370 MN
Amount allotted	HK\$1,500 MN	HK\$500 MN
Average yield accepted	5.20 PCT	5.77 PCT
Highest yield accepted	5.20 PCT	5.77 PCT
Pro rata ratio	About 74 PCT	About 90 PCT
Average tender yield	5.21 PCT	5.79 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

Tenders to be held in the week beginning 9 Sept 1996

Tender date	10 Sept 1996	10 Sept 1996
Paper on offer	EF bills	EF bills
Issue number	Q637	H673
Issue date	11 Sept 1996	11 Sept 1996
Maturity date	11 Dec 1996	12 Mar 1997
Tenor	91 days	182 days
Amount on offer	HK\$1,500+300MN	HK\$800+160MN

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	1,898	0930	+61
Closing balance in the account	1,689	1000	+61
Change attributable to:		1100	+61
Money market activity	+66	1200	+66
LAF today	-275	1500	+66
		1600	+66

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 124.1 *+0.1* 3.9.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/MTRC				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.08	2 years	2808	6.00	99.40	6.43
1 month	5.08	3 years	3907	6.80	100.20	6.83
3 months	5.19	5 years	5106	7.23	99.71	7.43
6 months	5.37	7 years	7308	7.24	97.78	7.80
12 months	5.74	5 years	M503	7.35	98.80	7.79

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$5,444 million

Closed September 3, 1996

End