



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Governor to present 1995 Policy Address

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The Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, will present his 1995 Policy Address to the Legislative Council on Wednesday (October 11) when he opens the 1995-96 session of the council.

Mr Patten will begin his address at 2.30 pm. The proceedings will be broadcast live on five television channels, as well as Radio Television Hong Kong channels 1,3 and 5, Commercial Radio and Metro Plus.

The full text of his speech will be available on the Internet's World Wide Web at <http://www.hongkong.org>.

Copies of his speech in English and Chinese will be available to members of the public from 4 pm that day at all District Offices, the Government Publications Centre, Ground Floor, Low Block, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, and the Marketing Office of Government Information Services on the 17th floor, Siu On Centre, 188 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai.

A Policy Address leaflet will also be available between 4 pm and 7 pm at seven Mass Transit Railway Stations at Admiralty, Tai Koo, Tsim Sha Tsui, Prince Edward, Tsuen Wan, Wong Tai Sin and Kwun Tong, and Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation's Kowloon Terminus and Kowloon Tong Station.

Members of the public can also collect the leaflet from temporary counters at Star Ferry Concourse in Central, footbridge behind General Post Office and Tsim Sha Tsui Bus Terminus. In the evening, Mr Patten will give a broadcast on radio and television on the main areas of his Policy Address.

On Thursday (October 12), the Governor will take questions from callers phoning in Radio 1 and 5's "Talkabout" and Radio 3's "Hong Kong Today" programmes from 7.45 am to 9 am. Phone-in numbers are 1872311 for the Chinese language and 2338 8266 for the English.

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Attention News Editors:

A special closed-door working session will be arranged on Wednesday (October 11) in the GIS press conference room on the fifth floor of Beaconsfield House to enable media members to work on advance copies of the Policy Address. The session will start at noon until the Governor finishes his speech.

Media representatives working on the advance copies will not be allowed to leave GIS press conference room during this period.

You are reminded that contents of the Policy Address are embargoed until after delivery in the Legislative Council.

Later in the afternoon, the Governor will hold a press conference at the Conference Hall, first floor, Central Government Offices New Annex, Lower Albert Road after he has finished his speech.

Your representatives are invited to attend the press conference. Media members should arrive by 4 pm. Representatives of television and radio stations should arrive even earlier to set up equipment.

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#### CS launches the 1995 Progress Report

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The Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, said today (Monday) that a 94 per cent success rate achieved by the Administration in implementing the policy commitments in the 1992-1994 Policy Addresses reflected an impressive performance on the part of the civil service.

"One of the highest priorities of the Hong Kong Government is to ensure that it is directly and genuinely accountable to the community.

"Accountability means setting targets and reporting on whether we have been able to achieve them. The centrepiece to these arrangements is the annual Progress Report," Mrs Chan said.

The Progress Report is a list of the policy commitments from earlier policy addresses together with a report on progress with each of these commitments.

The 1995 Progress Report covers 146 policy commitments from the 1992 and 1993 Policy Addresses and 325 policy commitments announced by the Governor in his 1994 Policy Address.

"I am pleased to be able to say that 442 - 94 per cent - of these 471 policy commitments are on target," Mrs Chan said.

"We have completed 166 commitments in full and are ahead of schedule on six of them. Fifty-five of them are on-going commitments. We are on schedule on 203 commitments, which we expect will be able to complete in full by their target dates," she said.

"Whilst we are at present behind schedule on 12 of the commitments, I am confident that we shall be able to make up the lost ground and complete the work on target."

She noted that the Administration was behind schedule on 29 items, representing six per cent of the total.

"We are taking all possible measures to speed up progress on these items," she said.

"The policy commitments were ambitious targets, and to have achieved a success rate of 94 per cent says a great deal about the professionalism and high morale of the civil service. We will strive to do even better next year," she said.

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Transcript of the CS's media session

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The following is the transcript of the media session by the Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, at the launching of the Progress Report 95 today (Monday):

CS: I am very happy to be able today to present to you and to the Hong Kong community the 1995 Progress Report, both in English and Chinese.

As you know, one of our highest priorities is to ensure that the Hong Kong Administration is directly and genuinely accountable to the community. Accountability means setting out our targets and reporting on whether we have been able to achieve these targets. The Progress Report which I have just shown you is a list of the policy commitments from earlier policy addresses, together with a report on progress with each of these commitments. The 1995 report covers 146 policy commitments from the 1992 and 1993 Policy Addresses and 325 policy commitments announced by the Governor in his 1994 Address. So today, I am reporting on a total of 471 commitments. Of these, I am very happy to be able to say: 442 or 94 per cent of the total are on target. Let me explain. This total comprises, first of all, 166 commitments which have been completed in full; 55 commitments which are on-going; 6 commitments on which we are ahead of schedule; 203 commitments which are on schedule and which we expect to be able to complete in full by their target dates; 12 commitments which are at present behind schedule, but we are confident that we shall be able to make up the lost ground and complete the work on target; and finally, 29 commitments or 6 per cent of the total, and I stress, it's only 6 per cent of the total which are behind schedule. The Progress Report identifies these undertakings and explains the reasons for the slippage. I hope that you will all agree that this is a very impressive performance on the part of the civil service. The policy commitments were ambitious targets and I think that to have achieved a 94 per cent success rate says a great deal about the professionalism and the high morale of the civil service. Of course, we will strive to do even better next year.

Question: In terms of helping the transition, what level of assistance is the Government willing and able to give the future Chief Executive, for example, how much access will he or she have to confidential information of the Government?

CS: Could we stick to the purpose of today's presentation which is the Progress Report.

Question: Sorry, that is one of the aims of the Government, isn't it, to give assistance to the future Chief Executive?

CS: I think the Governor has already said that we will co-operate fully with the Chief Executive Officer designate and his team when they are known. I am sure that the Governor will be saying a bit more on this front in his Policy Address this Wednesday.

Question: My question is really follow up on what is already in the Progress Report - how willing and able is the Government ... to assist the Chief Executive?

CS: We are able and willing to achieve to the fullest extent possible.

Question: In the light of this Progress Report, can you comment on what Sir Percy Cradock said this morning that it would have been much better for Hong Kong if Governor Patten had never come here and things are going to be worse than ...?

CS: Sir Percy is a retired official. He has been out of the scene for some time. I think Hong Kong people including within the Administration, Legislative Councillors and the community at large are in the best position to judge what is in their best interest. I should also point out we have had a record turnout of voters and people participating in the recent elections. Clearly, that demonstrates that Hong Kong people are ready and willing and wish to have a greater say in the way in which they are governed.

Question: One area that is behind schedule is the closure of Vietnamese camps. Given the Chinese insistence that there should be no boat people left in the territory when they take over and the UNHCR saying : that's unlikely...

CS: It remains our aim to resolve the Vietnamese boat people question before 1997. We are of course disappointed that we have not achieved greater progress in repatriating the boat people back to Vietnam as we would have liked. I have to say that part of the reason was because hopes have been unnecessarily raised by recent initiatives on the part of the United States. But I repeat: it remains our objective to resolve the boat people question before 1997.

Question: I think it remains your objective but how likely is it going to happen?

CS: I think that I have just stated that it is our aim and clearly we will do everything possible, everything within our power to resolve this problem. I know that the community is concerned about this. The Government is equally concerned. We hope with the co-operation of everybody including of course very importantly the Vietnamese authorities that we will be able to resolve this question before 1997.

Question: Where the issue of permanent residency now stands, you anticipate ...

CS: We are continuing our discussions with the Chinese. I do know that the Chinese authorities and the Hong Kong Administration, the British Government are very concerned about this issue. It is an issue that the whole community is concerned about, including not only the people of Hong Kong and also members of the investing community. I do know that all parties wish to be able to seek an early resolution of the problem so that the position is made clear to everybody in Hong Kong.

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### Working hours of retirement schemes office extended

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The Registrar of Occupational Retirement Schemes, Mr Ros Lam, today (Monday) reminded employers who have set up private occupational retirement schemes to register their schemes on or before October 15.

"There are only a few days left before expiry of the deadline for registration of existing schemes and there will not be an extension," Mr Lam said.

"The main purpose of the Occupational Retirement Schemes Ordinance is to protect the interests of scheme members so that retirement benefits promised them will be paid when they fall due."

To assist and facilitate employers who have not yet registered their schemes, the Office of the Registrar of Occupational Retirement Schemes at the Queensway Government Offices will extend its normal working hours throughout the lunch hours and until 7 pm daily from today (Monday) to Saturday (October 14) to answer enquiries and to receive applications.

The Registrar's Office will also be opened from 9 am to 7 pm on October 15 (Sunday).

"Employers operating such schemes after October 15, 1995, may be prosecuted and shall be liable to a fine of up to \$500,000 and imprisonment for two years," said Mr Lam.

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### Fourth quarter rates due on October 31

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Rates for the fourth quarter of this year are payable on or before October 31, a spokesman for the Rating and Valuation Department said today (Monday).

Payment can be made using the Payment by Phone Service or by post addressed to the Director of Accounting Services, P O Box 8000, GPO, Hong Kong, or in person at any of the following offices:

- \* The Treasury Headquarters Collection and Payment Office, Immigration Tower, first floor, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong;
- \* The Central Sub-Treasury, Central Government Offices (West Wing), 11 Ice House Street, Hong Kong;
- \* The North Point Sub-Treasury, Max Share Centre, first floor, 373 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong;
- \* The Sai Wan Ho Sub-Treasury, Eastern Law Courts Building, ground floor, 29 Tai On Street, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong;
- \* The Yau Ma Tei Sub-Treasury, Kowloon Government Offices, fourth Floor, 405 Nathan Road, Kowloon;
- \* The Kowloon City Sub-Treasury, Man Sang Commercial Building, first floor, 348-352 Prince Edward Road West, Kowloon;
- \* The District Office at Sai Kung, Sha Tin, Tai Po, North, Yuen Long, Tuen Mun, Tsuen Wan or Kwai Tsing.

The spokesman said ratepayers who had not received their demand notes should bring along those for any previous quarter to any of the Treasury collection offices.

Duplicate demand notes will be issued to them, he said.

If they cannot produce demand notes for any previous quarter, they should enquire at the Rates Accounts Section, Rating and Valuation Department, Hennessy Centre, 17th floor, 500 Hennessy Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong, or call 2881 1033.

Non-receipt of the demand notes does not alter the requirement that the rates must be paid by October 31 and unless so paid, ratepayers may be subject to a surcharge of five per cent under Section 22 of the Rating Ordinance.

A further surcharge of 10 per cent may be levied on the outstanding amount (including the five per cent surcharge) which remains unpaid six months after the due date.

Ratepayers who have submitted a valid direct debit authorisation should note that if the wording "Payment To Be Made By Autopay" is shown, payment will be made by direct debit to their bank accounts on October 31.

They should then ensure that their bank accounts contain the necessary funds on that date.

If the above wording is not shown, they should pay according to the instructions as set out in the demand notes.

To save queuing time, the spokesman urged ratepayers to use the Payment by Phone Service, or pay by post using cheques or cashier orders, or by early personal attendance at any of the collection offices.

"However, the most convenient payment method is autopay," said the spokesman.

Application forms for autopay are obtainable from Treasury collection offices, District Offices and all major banks in Hong Kong or by telephoning 2881 1033.

For additional information regarding the Payment by Phone Service, please call 170 222 329.

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#### Highway structures properly maintained

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In response to press reports on highway structures of Hong Kong, a spokesman for the Highways Department today (Monday) said:

"The highway structures of Hong Kong are being regularly inspected by the Highways Department and maintenance works are carried out from time to time if found necessary.

"The structures of Island Eastern Corridor are currently being inspected by the Consultant, with a view to identifying any defects and implementing the repair works if required.

"These structures are structurally sound in carrying the traffic load and the exercise is to ensure that they are in good serviceable conditions at all times.

"All the highway structures in service in Hong Kong have been properly maintained and they are in good conditions."

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Souvenir cover to mark stamp exhibition

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The Postmaster General, Mr Mike Pagliari, announces today (Monday) that a souvenir cover will be issued on October 20 to commemorate the Hong Kong Post Office's participation in the PHILATELIA '95 Stamp Exhibition to be held in Cologne, Germany, between October 20 and 22.

It will be placed on sale at all post offices at \$2 each as from October 13.

On October 20, hand-back service will be provided at all post offices to official and privately-made covers bearing an indication of the events.

A special postmark and a cachet for general cancellation purposes will also be introduced on the same day.

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ACP contract for police station approved

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The Secretary for the Treasury, on the advice of the Central Tender Board, has approved the award of an Airport Core Programme (ACP) contract for the construction of a District Police Station in Tung Chung.

The contract, valued at \$77 million, will be awarded to Woon Lee Construction Co Ltd by the Architectural Services Department.

The contract comprises the construction of a seven-storey police station with single storey ancillary buildings for plant rooms, car washing bay and dog kennels.

Work will start later this month for completion in mid-1997.

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Flushing water cut in Sha Tin and Tai Wai

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Flushing water supply to some premises in Sha Tin (East), Sha Tin (South) and Tai Wai will be suspended from 6 pm on Wednesday (October 11) to 6 pm the following day to allow for conversion to salt water flushing.

The suspension will affect Mei Lam Estate, May Shing Court, Park View Garden, Mui Lee Temporary Housing Area (THA), Glamour Garden, Grandway Garden, Grandeur Garden, Holford Garden, Tai Wai New Village, Fu Shan Crematorium, Tai Wai Industrial Area, Pristine Villa, Tai Wai, Hin Keng Estate, Ka Tin Court, Hin Tin Playground, Hin Tin Public Swimming Pool, Hong Kong School of Motoring, Lung Hang Estate, King Tin Court, Sun Chui Estate, Chun Shek Estate, San Tin Wai Estate, Fung Shing Court, Carado Garden, Golden Lion Garden Phase I and Phase II, Green View Garden, Julimont Garden, Union Hospital, Hin Tai Street, Tin Sum Village, Kak Tin Village, San Tin Village, Lei Uk Village, Yi Shing Square, Kong Pui Street, Yuen Chau Kok Road, Regal Riverside Hotel, Belair Garden, City One, Yue Tin Court, Prince of Wales Hospital, Yuen Chau Kok Clinic, School Child Dental Clinic, SAGE Kwan Fong Nim Chee Home for the Elderly, Chap Wai Kon Street, Yuen Shun Circuit area, Kwong Yuen Estate, Kwong Lam Court, Hong Lam Court, Boat Restaurant, On King Street, On Muk Street, On Lai Street, On Yiu Street, On Ping Street, On Sum Street, On Kwan Street, On Ming Street and Tate's Cairn Tunnel Administration Building.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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	\$ million	Time (hours)	Cumulative change (\$million)
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Opening balance in the account	1,724	0930	+1,454
Closing balance in the account	2,677	1000	+1,454
Change attributable to :		1100	+1,454
Money market activity	+1,406	1200	+1,444
LAF today	-453	1500	+1,444
		1600	+1,406

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 121.8 \*-0.1\* 9.10.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.42	2 years	2708	6.06	100.44	5.88
1 month	5.48	3 years	3807	6.16	100.15	6.19
3 months	5.56	5 years	5009	6.95	100.58	6.92
6 months	5.60	5 years	M501	7.90	102.57	7.36
12 months	5.66					

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$10,133 million

Closed October 9, 1995

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