



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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Monday, September 4, 1995

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Tuen Mun special traffic arrangements continue

The Transport Department announces today (Monday) that the modified traffic and transport arrangements for Tuen Mun and Yuen Long will continue tomorrow (Tuesday).

The main features of the scheme are:

- (1) the fast lane of Tuen Mun Road New Territories-bound carriageway between Siu Lam and a point outside Hong Kong Garden is converted to Kowloon-bound traffic while the middle lane of this section serves as a buffer;
- (2) Tuen Mun Road Kowloon-bound between Wong Chu Road and Sham Tseng Interchange is designated a prohibited zone for all vehicles except buses and light buses from 6 am to 9 pm daily except Sundays and public holidays;
- (3) Castle Peak Road is re-opened for all traffic in both directions; and
- (4) the Siu Lam and Sham Tseng interchanges remain open to all vehicles on Tuen Mun Road New Territories-bound en route to Castle Peak Road.

All public and private light buses, including red minibuses and nanny vans, may use the bus-only Kowloon-bound carriageway on Tuen Mun road during the prohibited period from 6 am to 9 pm daily. Outside this period, all vehicles, except red minibuses, may use the Kowloon-bound carriageway of Tuen Mun Road.

Private motorists may choose to use route Twisk to and from New Territories west while container vehicles are advised to use Tolo Highway and Shing Mun Tunnel to and from the Container Port.

Buses and ferries between Tuen Mun and the urban areas will have adequate capacities to meet public demand with detailed arrangements as follows:

Ferry Services:

- (a) Tuen Mun-Central catamaran service will be provided at 12-minute frequency in the morning peak. The first departure will leave Tuen Mun at 6.30 am.

- (b) Tuen Mun-Central hoverferry service will be strengthened to provide 5-minute frequency during the morning peak. Service hours are from 6.30 am to 8.30 pm. To improve the queuing situation at Tuen Mun Pier, the hoverferry service will be operated from a new pontoon outside Miami Gardens.
- (c) The special Tuen Mun-Tsuen Wan ferry service will continue to operate at 10-15 minutes frequency between 6.15 am and 9 pm.
- (d) To provide additional vessels for strengthening of services from Tuen Mun to Central/Tsuen Wan, the following services will continue to be suspended:
 - * Tuen Mun-Wan Chai hoverferry service;
 - * Tuen Mun-Central-Wan Chai ordinary service;
 - * Tsuen Wan-Tsing Yi-Central ferry service; and
 - * Central-Cheung Chau/Mui Wo/Peng Chau hoverferry service.

Bus services:

- (a) The following special bus routes will be provided:
 - * Route 60P between Tuen Mun Town Centre and Sheung Shui KCR Station with first departure from Tuen Mun at 6.15 am; and
 - * Route 39S between Tsuen Wan Ferry and Tsuen Wan MTR Station with first departure from Tsuen Wan Ferry at 6.45 am.
- (b) Existing routes are strengthened:
 - * Route 276 between Tin Shui Wai and Sheung Shui Railway Station at a frequency of four minutes;
 - * Route 64K between Yuen Long and Tai Po Railway Station at a frequency of five minutes; and
 - * Other routes between Tuen Mun and Tsuen Wan/Kwai Tsing as necessary.

(c) Routes diversion in Tuen Mun:

On leaving Tuen Mun :

KMB Routes 60M, 60X, 61X, 62X, 260B, 261B and 261M will travel via Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road, Hoi Chu Road, Hoi Wong Road, Wong Chu Road and Tuen Mun Road.

On reaching Tuen Mun:

KMB Routes 60M, 60X, 61X and 62X will travel via Tuen Mun Road, Tuen Hi Road and Tuen Wui Road in lieu of Tuen Mun Road, Wong Chu Road, Hoi Wong Road, Hoi Chu Road, Tuen Mun Heung Sze Wui Road, Tuen Hing Road, Tuen Hi Road and Tuen Wui Street.

KMB will operate an additional 60 or more departures for Tuen Mun and Yuen Long routes subjected to traffic conditions. LRT will run a feeder bus service between Tuen Mun Town Centre and Tuen Mun Ferry Pier while MTR and KCR services will be enhanced as necessary.

In response to views recently expressed by district board members, improvements have been made on Yuen Long traffic as follows:

- * Temporary straightening of Sha Po Roundabout to facilitate traffic heading for NT Circular Road;
- * LRT Routes 507 and 614 have been strengthened to carry 8,000 more passengers in the morning peak hours this morning;
- * About 20 additional signs had been placed around Tuen Mun Pier to facilitate passengers queuing. More directional signs could be installed if needed;
- * KMB had introduced a special service 39S between Tsuen Wan Ferry and Tsuen Wan MTR Station. The service was operated at a frequency of about seven minutes and had carried 3,600 passengers in the morning peak hours. The service period was observed to be adequate.

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Passengers situation of NT West during evening peak hours

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The Transport Department announces that 56,700 bus and ferry passengers were carried from the urban areas to NT West during today's evening peak hours (between 5 pm and 8 pm). The breakdowns are as follows:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|--------------|
| (1) | Ferries from Central | about 4,000 |
| (2) | Ferries from Tsuen Wan | about 2,700 |
| (3) | Buses | about 50,000 |

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Insider dealing found taken place in investment company

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The Insider Dealing Tribunal which has been appointed to inquire into possible insider dealings in the shares of Public International Investments Limited (PIIL) has completed its task and has submitted its report to the Financial Secretary.

The Tribunal has concluded that insider dealing in PIIL shares has taken place in December 1992, and has identified three individuals as insider dealers in those shares. It is found that their dealings took place with the benefit of inside information about a proposed take-over of PIIL.

The Tribunal also ordered each insider dealer to pay to the Government the full amount of profit gained by the insider dealing, plus financial penalties and also contributions to the expenses of the Inquiry.

In addition, the Tribunal has ordered that the insider dealers shall not be a director or take part in the management of any listed company for three or four years.

The Tribunal's report is now being printed and a separate announcement will be made in due course when the it is available for public sale.

Following is a brief summary of the Tribunal's report:

Introduction

By notices dated February 7, 1994, and September 1, 1994, respectively, the Financial Secretary required the Insider Dealing Tribunal to institute an inquiry in relation to the listed securities of Public International Investments Ltd (PIIL) to determine:

- (a) whether insider dealing has taken place in relation to the listed securities of PIIL during November and December 1992;
- (b) the identity of every insider dealer, if any, in those securities; and
- (c) the amount of any profit gained or loss avoided as a result of such insider dealing.

The Tribunal has completed its inquiry and submitted a report to the Financial Secretary on August 8.

The Company

PIIL was originally incorporated as Wai Woo Company Limited in July 1964. In August 1972, the company's name was changed to Wai Woo Estates and Investments Limited when it was listed. In 1973, the company's name was further changed to PIIL. In July 1993, after the events with which the Tribunal was concerned, its name was changed to First Shanghai Investments Limited.

PIIL was an investment holding company and its activities covered sharemarket investments, stockbroking, insurance, deposit taking and other financial services.

In the course of 1992, PIIL was the subject of a number of take-over approaches. Save for the approach by CEF Capital Ltd which took place during the material times of this inquiry (i.e. in December 1992), none came to fruition.

The Allegations

The allegations involved suspected insider dealing in the listed securities of PIIL by the following individuals:

- (a) Mr Don Lau Yuen-leung, who represented the company which acted as adviser to PIIL minority shareholders in relation to the take-over bid; and

- (b) Mr Leong Kwok-nyem, who from time to time played a direct role in the affairs of PIIL, and who was part of the team that advised and assisted the major shareholder of PIIL in relation to the take-over bid; Mr Leong's wife, Madam Amy Foong Swee-heng, and her office colleague, Miss Chan Kwan-hop.

The allegations were directed at certain transactions of PIIL shares in late 1992.

Findings

The Tribunal also examined transactions in PIIL shares in late 1992 by Mr Goh Chak-wong and Mr Lai Kim-leong, the latter being the General Manager and director of PIIL. The Tribunal concluded that Mr Lai had deliberately misled the Securities and Futures Commission about his interest in PIIL shares, and that he and Mr Goh had sought to mislead the Tribunal about their transactions in those shares, but that on the evidence before the Tribunal, no case of insider dealing had been established against them.

The Tribunal has decided that insider dealing did take place in the listed securities of PIIL in December 1992. It has identified three individuals as insider dealers. They are Mr Leong Kwok-nyem, Madam Amy Foong Swee-heng and Mr Don Lau Yuen-leung.

Orders

The Tribunal has made orders against the insider dealers to pay the following amounts:

	<u>Mr Don Lau</u>	<u>Mr Leong Kwok-nyem</u>	<u>Madam Amy Foong</u>
(a) profit gained as a result of insider dealing	\$389,550	\$193,670	\$193,670
(b) Financial penalty	\$839,036	\$728,445	\$242,815
(c) Expenses of the inquiry	\$700,000	\$300,000	\$300,000

Total	\$1,928,586	\$1,222,115	\$736,485

Other Penalties

In addition to imposing the financial penalties, the Tribunal has issued orders prohibiting the insider dealers from being a director of a listed company or being involved in the management of any listed company, as follows:

- (a) Mr Don Lau: for a period of three years from September 1, 1995.
- (b) Mr Leong Kwok-nyem: for a period of four years from September 1, 1995.
- (c) Madam Amy Foong: for a period of four years from September 1, 1995.

The Tribunal is to send a copy of its report to the professional accounting bodies of which Mr Leong and Madam Foong are members.

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Showing of videos to inmates

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In response to press enquiries this (Monday) morning on a number of inmates of Stanley Prison protesting against not being allowed to see videos provided by distributors, a spokesman for the Correctional Services Department (CSD) made the following statement:

"The showing of videos to inmates has never been a specific policy of the department. The Prison Rules, which govern the treatment of prisoners, provide only that CSD should organise recreation activities and provide necessary facilities for inmates.

"At present, outdoor activities for inmates include various ball games. As for indoor activities, they include the playing of chess and Chinese billiards, watching television and listening to the radio. The department also provides newspapers and magazines to inmates and inmates can also borrow books from the library.

"During long public holidays, staff of the department also organise outdoor competitions among inmates and other activities.

"For some years, videos were shown to inmates at Stanley Prison through arrangements made by the institution's welfare officer of his own volition as a means to provide recreational entertainment.

"However, in April this year, when the issue of the protection of intellectual property rights arose, it was noted that the showing of videos in penal institutions might infringe on copyright. CSD has since suspended the practice and is seeking clarification on how to obtain licences for video shows within the terms of copyright laws. In the meantime, arrangements have been made by welfare officers to tape TV programmes to show to inmates.

"However, a few inmates were not satisfied with this arrangement and had through a solicitors' firm sought to re-instate the showing of videos to them. An offer has been made by a video store to provide videos for screening to the group, and this has been rejected.

"It would contravene the principle of equal treatment, under which Hong Kong's penal system operates, if certain prisoners were to be accorded privileges not available to others.

"Even if the offer was extended to all 13,000 inmates, it could not be accepted as the issue of copyright protection still has to be sorted out.

"However, the department would instruct institutional management to resume video screening if they wish, once the licensing issue has been resolved."

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Listing of Mai Po as Ramsar site

Mai Po and Inner Deep Bay has been listed as a Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention (Ramsar site).

The Hong Kong Government is committed to conservation and will contribute to a world-wide effort to conserve wetlands of significant ecological, scientific and recreational value.

The approval to list Mai Po as a Ramsar site by the Governor-in-Council was publicised in March. Upon the Hong Kong Government's request, the British Government has notified the Ramsar Bureau of the decision.

A government spokesman said today (Monday) the listing is another major step forward in conserving the Mai Po Marshes as a nature reserve and in protecting it against incompatible development.

"The 1,500-hectare wetland is a 'refuelling station' for migratory birds including many rare and endangered species which rely on it for feeding and resting in their long flight.

"The area is also significant for its conservation value for the number of local animal species it supports. Also, over a dozen invertebrate species new to science have been discovered in the area," he added.

The government also intends to extend the Mai Po Marshes Restricted Area to cover the Inner Deep Bay inter-tidal mudflats under the Wild Animals Protection Ordinance. This will further protect the ecological system of this important wetland.

A comprehensive management plan for the area will be put in place upon the completion of a consultancy study by wetland ecologists. Preparation for the commissioning of the consultancy, which is expected to begin in 1996, is in hand.

The consultancy study will cover creation and restoration of habitats for waterfowl, ecological survey and monitoring, vegetation and wildlife management as well as the establishment of visitor centres and education facilities.

The Director of Agriculture and Fisheries will be the co-ordinator and future management authority of the Mai Po Ramsar site.

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Commercial Radio's licence review report completed

A report summarising the views expressed and the major issues raised at the two public hearings for the mid-term review of the licence of Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited (CRHK) will be available to the public as from Wednesday (September 6).

The major issues raised at the public hearings concerned the programming strategy of CRHK, performance of programme hosts, allocation of advertising time, reception problems, the role and work of the Broadcasting Authority (BA) and regulation of the licensee.

Both BA and CRHK found the views expressed by members of the public at the hearings useful and valuable in evaluating CRHK's performance against the various statutory requirements and licence conditions.

BA will consolidate all the opinions received and consider them together with all other relevant statistics, information and reports collected and compiled for the purpose of the review before submitting its recommendations to the Governor-in-Council on the conditions for renewal of the licence in September.

The licence of CRHK was renewed in August 1989 for a term of 12 years expiring in August 2001. The licence carries a condition that it is subject to renewal by the Governor-in-Council not before August 26 this year.

As an essential part of the mid-term review of the licence of CRHK, the public hearings were to gather public opinion on the performance of the licensee. They also provided a public forum where the licensee could explain and be questioned as to their past performance and their plans for the future.

Copies of the report in Chinese will be available at all District Offices on Wednesday.

The report in English, as well as the Chinese version, will be available at the office of the Television and Entertainment Licensing Authority at 39th Floor, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

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Forum to seek views on industrial safety

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Representatives from various parties concerned with industrial safety will exchange their views on the Consultation Paper on The Review of Industrial Safety at a forum tomorrow (Tuesday).

The Industrial Safety Review Forum, jointly organised by the Labour Department, the Education and Manpower Branch and the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC), will be held from 9.45 am to 4 pm at the Crystal Ballroom, B3 Holiday Inn Golden Mile, Tsim Sha Tsui.

The forum panel comprise Assistant Commissioner for Labour, Mr Mak Sai-yiu, Principal Assistant Secretary (Education & Manpower), Mr Herman Cho, as well as representatives from employers, employees and OSHC.

Participants include representatives from trade associations, trade unions, professional institutions and members of the public who are concerned with safety and health at work in Hong Kong.

The Consultation Paper, published on July 18, set out the Government's recommendations on a wide range of measures and proposals for improving industrial safety.

Interested parties are invited to send their views on the recommendations in writing to the Secretary for Education and Manpower before September 30.

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Eligibility for secondary teaching post adjusted

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Starting this school year, a non-local degree holder with a postgraduate certificate in education obtained from a local university will be eligible for appointment as Graduate Master/Mistress (GM) in aided secondary, caput and bought-place schools, the Education Department announced today (Monday).

A department spokesman said the eligibility is irrespective of whether the non-local degree is equivalent to a local degree or not.

The change has been made in accordance with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and Qualifications.

The new entry requirement takes effect on September 1 and there will be no retrospective effect, the spokesman said.

On appointment as GM, holders of these qualifications will enter the GM pay scale (Master Pay Scale Points 17-33) at Point 19.

The spokesman said: "The existing stipulation in the Code of Aid for Secondary Schools that the qualification required for appointment as a GM is a Bachelor degree from a local university or equivalent will remain unchanged. However, the new entry requirement will be added to the Code of Aid to reflect the change."

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CSD recruitment centre moved

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The Correctional Services Department's Hong Kong Island Recruitment Centre has moved from 23rd floor, 12 Harbour Road, Wanchai Tower to the ground floor of the same building.

A spokesman for the department said the new location would make it more convenient for applicants interested in joining the department.

"Applicants can obtain information, attend preliminary interviews and carry out application procedures there," the spokesman said.

Applicants can also make their applications to the department's Mong Kok Recruitment Centre which is located at the Mezzanine floor, Mong Kok Government Offices, 30 Luen Wan Street, Kowloon.

Enquiries can be made on tel 2582 5161 (Hong Kong Island centre) or 2399 2560 (Mong Kok centre).

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Leaflet on Sex Discrimination Ordinance now available

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The Home Affairs Branch (HAB) has published a bilingual leaflet to introduce to the public the main features of the Sex Discrimination Ordinance and copies are now available at the District Offices.

An HAB spokesman said today (Monday) that the leaflet provides general information on the objective and scope of the Ordinance and explains the role of the Equal Opportunities Commission.

It also gives general advice as to what a person should do if he or she is sexually discriminated against or harassed.

"The leaflet is written in simple language to make it easier for the public to grasp an outline of the Ordinance and to understand the salient points of the new legislation," the spokesman said.

"It will also enhance public awareness of the meaning of sex discrimination and sexual harassment," he added.

The Sex Discrimination Ordinance, enacted in July, makes it unlawful to sexually harass a person or to discriminate against a person because of his or her sex, marital status and pregnancy.

It specifically covers sexual harassment and sex discrimination in employment, education, provision of goods and services, disposal and management of premises, eligibility to vote for and to be elected or appointed to advisory bodies, activities of clubs and activities of the Government.

Copies of the leaflet are also available at the Marketing Office of the Government Information Services on the 17th floor, Siu On Centre, 176 - 192 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai.

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An extremely wet August

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August 1995 was the wettest August recorded so far.

The total monthly rainfall of 1,091.1 millimetres was the highest for the month of August and the third highest for any month since records began in Hong Kong in 1884.

According to a report released by the Royal Observatory today (Monday), the month was unusually cloudy with total bright sunshine averaging at 4.5 hours per day.

There were seven days with rainfall over 50 millimetres. Torrential rain fell between August 12 and 14 when 448.3 millimetres were recorded at the Royal Observatory.

The total rainfall of 2,186.4 millimetres accumulated since January 1 this year was 28 per cent above normal.

The August rain was brought about by the active southwesterlies in the wake of Severe Tropical Storm Gary which landed near Shantou at the end of July, and by the passages of Severe Tropical Storms Helen and Lois, and Typhoon Kent during August.

August 1995 was also the first August since 1946 when the No. 8 gale or storm signal has to be hoisted twice within a month.

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Souvenir cover for stamp and coin expo

The acting Postmaster General, Miss Nancy Law, announces today (Monday) that a souvenir cover will be issued to commemorate Hong Kong Post Office's participation in the Beijing '95 First International Stamp and Coin Expo to be held in Beijing, China, between September 14 and 18.

The souvenir cover will be placed on sale at all post offices at \$2 each as from September 7.

On September 14, hand-back service will be provided at all post offices to official and privately-made covers bearing indication of the event. A special postmark and a cachet for general cancellation purposes will also be introduced on the same day.

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Water storage figure

Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Monday) stood at 94.8 per cent of capacity or 555.798 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 567.376 million cubic metres of water, representing 96.8 per cent of capacity.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

	<u>\$million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	1,561	0930	-353
Closing balance in the account	1,020	1000	-353
Change attributable to :		1100	-353
Money market activity	-353	1200	-353
LAF today	-188	1500	
		1600	

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 121.9 *-0.2* 4.9.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.71	2 years	2708	6.06	100.17	6.05
1 month	5.72	3 years	3807	6.16	99.60	6.41
3 months	5.74	5 years	5006	6.60	98.79	7.02
6 months	5.77	5 years	M501	7.90	101.97	7.53
12 months	5.80					

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$16,620 million

Closed September 4, 1995

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