



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
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Friday, August 9, 1996

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Government to set up special fund for athletic development

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The acting Governor, Mrs Anson Chan, announced today (Friday) the setting up of a special fund for athletic development in recognition of Hong Kong's Olympic success.

Speaking at a reception in honour of the 1996 Hong Kong Olympic Team, Mrs Chan said the purpose of the fund was to provide for the training and educational needs of individual athletes, allowing them to concentrate on the pursuit of excellence in their chosen sport.

Mrs Chan said Hong Kong's first medal success in 44 years of participation at the Olympics was richly deserved, both by Ms Lee Lai-shan, the gold medallist, and the whole team.

"You will all go down in history as Hong Kong's first ever Olympic medal-winning team," she said.

She said the hard work of the coaches, the managers, and above all, the Hong Kong's Olympic Committee have contributed hugely to Hong Kong's athletes' achievements.

The fund will tentatively be known as the Hong Kong Athlete's Fund and the details of its scope, purpose and procedures will be drawn up by the Secretary for Broadcasting, Culture and Sport.

Mrs Chan said to encourage the community to contribute generously to the fund, the government has decided to match, dollar for dollar, donations to the fund.

"Government's own commitment would be capped initially at \$8 million, although we do not propose to limit the eventual size of the fund itself," Mrs Chan said.

She urged private sector sponsors to support generously Hong Kong's athletes, in the light of the Olympic success.

"As we have seen clearly over the past few days, the positive effect of international sporting success on the morale of our athletes and on our whole community is a repayment many times over of the money that we invest in nurturing the sports environment," she said.

Donations to the fund can initially be made directly to the Broadcasting, Culture and Sport Branch.

"With the support of the sporting fraternity and the Hong Kong community as a whole, I am confident that our athletes will again bring pride and honour to Hong Kong in Sydney in the year 2000," Mrs Chan said.

About 60 guests attended the reception, including athletes of the Hong Kong Olympic Team, Olympic delegation officials and coaches, members of the Sports Development Board and Management Committee of the Hong Kong sports Institute.

End

Public urged to donate to athletes fund

* * * * *

Following the announcement and appeal by the acting Governor, Mrs Anson Chan, for contributions to the special fund set up for Hong Kong athletes, the Broadcasting, Culture and Sport Branch has immediately put in motion the arrangements for the collection of community donations.

The Government has pledged a commitment of up to \$8 million on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

"But this does not mean that we will stop when we reach \$16 million," the Deputy Secretary for Broadcasting, Culture and Sport, Mr Benjamin Tang, said today (Friday).

"The more the community contributes, the more resources will be available in enabling our athletes to pursue their chosen sport and educational development."

Mr Tang noted that the broad aim of the fund was to provide money to help support athletes pursue their career goals, while allowing them to concentrate on achieving a high standard of athletic achievement.

The Broadcasting, Culture and Sport Branch will announce as soon as possible further details of the fund's scope and administrative procedures.

"In the meantime, I would echo the acting Governor's call to the community to give generously to the fund," Mr Tang said.

Members of the public wishing to donate money to the athletes' fund should send a cheque, payable to Broadcasting, Culture and Sport Branch (athletes fund), to the following address:

BCSB (athletes fund),
40th floor, Revenue Tower,
5 Gloucester Road,
Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Donations can also be paid directly into the following bank accounts:

Hang Seng Bank account number: 267-393999-668
Hong Kong Bank account number: 002-6-375741

Enquiries related to donations to the fund should be directed to Ms Connie Wong on 2594 5658.

End

Consultation on draft codes of practice on employment starts

* * * * *

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) today (Friday) issued draft codes of practice on employment under the Sex Discrimination Ordinance (SDO) and the Disability Discrimination Ordinance (DDO) respectively for a month-long consultation with the employment sector, women's and rehabilitation groups.

Comments received will be carefully analysed. A revised draft of the codes, incorporating comments as appropriate, will then be published for general consultation with members of the public in late September. Thereafter, the codes of practice will be finalised for introduction to the Legislative Council for approval in November.

"The primary objective of the draft codes is to provide practical guidance to employers, employees and the general public to facilitate understanding and compliance with the employment provisions of the SDO and the DDO," said the Chairperson of EOC, Dr Fanny Cheung Mui-ching.

The two draft codes of practice on employment contain various sections for the purpose of:

- * explaining the meaning of the relevant provisions of the ordinances in the context of employment;
- * laying down practical guidelines for employers in various areas including recruitment, terms of employment, promotion, transfer and training, dismissal, grievances and victimisation; and
- * encouraging employers to formulate their own equal employment opportunities policies and highlighting the role to be played by employees in eradicating discrimination and harassment on the grounds of sex and disability in employment.

For instance, in the area of recruitment, the draft codes set out what amounts to genuine occupational qualifications (GOQs) which include the type and length of experience required for a specific job.

Job advertising and the shortlisting of applicants should be based on GOQs of a job. Following job interviews, employers or personnel staff are advised to record the assessment of each candidate's ability to match GOQs.

Employers are also recommended to avoid questions, which could lead to discrimination under the two ordinances, to be printed on application forms or asked during interviews. Information essential for personnel records could be collected after a job offer has been made.

Furthermore, in determining the terms of employment, employers are advised to maintain the principle of equal pay for equal work and equal pay for work of equal value. For example, one should look at what job-holders actually do in determining pay rather than simply look at job titles which may sometimes be discriminatory.

Besides the above recommendations, each of the draft codes of practice also addresses issues specific to the respective ordinance. In the one under SDO, a section explains the meaning of sexual harassment in employment and provides guidance on preventing and dealing with such unlawful acts.

Similarly, the draft code of practice under DDO contains relevant factors for assessing inherent requirements of a job, and reasonable accommodation that could be provided to facilitate the work of an employee with a disability. Unjustifiable hardship which may result from the provision of such adjustment is also included.

"Complying with the two ordinances in the employment field is a complex task. Thus the Commission believes that this consultation exercise provides a good opportunity for people in the employment field to familiarise themselves with the ordinances, and adhere to fair and lawful employment practices.

"Employers and employees alike will then be much better placed to follow the employment provisions of the two ordinances when they are brought into force by the end of this year," said Dr Cheung.

"The Commission welcomes comments from employees, employers, and concern groups on the two draft codes. The Commission looks forward to meeting these organisations during the consultation period to facilitate the exchange of views in relation to the draft codes of practice."

Employees, employers and concern groups are invited to give their comments in writing on the draft codes to EOC by September 7 to EOC office at Unit 2002, 20th floor, Office Tower, Convention Plaza, 1 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong. The telephone number and fax number of the EOC office is 2511 8165 and 2511 8142 respectively.

Additional copies of the draft codes of practice may be obtained from the EOC office.

End

Government to monitor IV solutions investigation

* * * * *

In response to an announcement by B Braun Medical (HK) Ltd today (Friday) that it would temporarily stop supplying a number of intravenous (IV) solutions and one item of metronidazole produced by its Malaysian plant and to collect these products from all hospitals and users, a spokesman for the Department of Health said:

"The department has been in close contact with the company in the investigation of recent reports on contamination of IV solutions.

"We consider that the decision announced by the company today a reasonable and appropriate step to take in the interest of patients and to facilitate thorough investigation.

"While the supplier has agreed to immediately notify all hospitals and users of its decision, private hospitals and users are advised to check their stock and co-operate with the company in the collection.

"Products to be collected include 26 items of intravenous solutions in plastic bottles which contain 100 ml, 250 ml, 500 ml and 1000 ml and one item of Metronidazole INJ 500 mg/100ml Plasc, all produced in Malaysia. Enquiries can be made direct to the B Braun (HK) Ltd.

"The Department of Health will continue to monitor the collection and investigation processes conducted by the B Braun Medical (HK) Ltd."

End

Government secondary school tuition fee revised

* * * * *

The tuition fee for government secondary grammar and technical schools for S4 to S5 and S6 to S7 will be revised to \$4,450 and \$7,800 per annum respectively in the 1996-97 school year.

No tuition fee will be charged to S1 to S3 students in those schools.

The revision is published in the government gazette today (Friday).

Tuition fee should be paid in 10 equal instalments each to be paid on the first day of the months from September to June in the following year.

A student admitted during any of these calendar months will be required to pay the full instalment for that month.

The Education Department reminded students that if their fees remain unpaid 15 days after due date, their name will be deleted from the register.

End

Majority confident of HK's continuous prosperity: HAB poll

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A public opinion survey conducted in July by the Home Affairs Branch (HAB) has shown that 61 per cent of the respondents are confident that Hong Kong will continue to be prosperous and stable.

The figure represented an increase of six percentage points from 55 per cent in May, an HAB spokesman said today (Friday) when releasing the latest findings of the bimonthly survey.

There was also a slight improvement in the general positive perception of the present situation with 72 per cent of the respondents expressing satisfaction, up from 70 per cent.

On the future, 45 per cent of the respondents expected the situation to stay about the same in the next 12 months, representing an increase of one percentage point, and 14 per cent believed it would improve, up by three percentage points.

As for the performance of the Government, the civil service impressed 47 per cent of the respondents as an efficient force, a rise from 45 per cent recorded in the last survey.

Of the three most often mentioned problems facing the territory, housing issues had replaced labour problems to top the list with 34 per cent, which represented an increase of two percentage points.

Among this group of respondents, 42 per cent were worried about the price of private housing of being too high. The corresponding figure in the last survey was 36 per cent.

The percentage of respondents concerned about labour-related problems continued to drop from 35 per cent to 32 per cent while Hong Kong's future, at 27 per cent, was the third most often mentioned issue, compared with 26 per cent previously.

The survey was the 65th in the series to gauge the trend of public opinion on perceived problems in Hong Kong, Government's overall performance and the community's views of the general situation.

Through a random sampling of residential telephone numbers, 1,526 persons aged between 15 and 64 were surveyed.

End

Water Supplies handles complaints fairly

* * * * *

In response to a recent newspaper editorial remarking that it was unfair for the public utilities to require the consumers to settle their bills first when lodging complaints about electricity, water or gas bills and that the Water Supplies Department (WSD) would disconnect the water supply of complainants if they did not settle the water bills first, a department spokesman said today (Friday):

"Under the Waterworks Ordinance, registered consumers are responsible for the maintenance of their inside services and pay for the water consumption recorded by their water meters.

"If the water bills are, in their opinion, unreasonable, they may enquire or raise queries at any of the WSD's Consumer Enquiry Centres in person, in writing or by telephone.

"On receiving customer complaints, the water bills will be frozen. Under certain circumstances, the department will request the consumers to pay an "interim charge" which is equivalent to their normal amount of water charges while the remaining amount will be frozen temporarily until investigations are completed.

"During investigation, no action will be taken to disconnect the water supply of the complainants.

"Enquiries on water bills should be made, as far as possible, seven days before the deadline of payment, otherwise if results of investigation showed that the customers are required to pay the charges, they might have to pay an extra five per cent of the overdue surcharges.

"This measure is designed to avoid the abuse of complaint procedures by individual customer to delay the payment of water charge.

"There are many reasons for high water charges. The most common ones are leakage of water, illegal connection which leads to high water consumption and negligence such as failing to turn faucet tight and misrecording of meter readings. Malfunction of meters will also cause improper readings.

"On receiving customers' complaints, staff members will be sent to record the meter readings again. If the readings are found to be correct, consumer services inspectors will be deployed to the premises concerned to investigate the inside services and meters so as to find out the cause of high water consumption. If the meters are suspected to be damaged, new meters will be replaced.

"If result of the investigation indicates that the consumer should be held responsible for all or part of the frozen water bill, the consumer concerned will be informed in writing.

"In case the consumer is not satisfied with the department's reply, he may write to the Director of Water Supplies to lodge an appeal. The case will then be reviewed and the information and explanation given by the consumer will be considered.

"The department will attach importance to every complaints made by consumers concerning water bills and are determined to treat all complaints in a fair and impartial manner."

End

Economic co-operation committee to hold meeting

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The 18th meeting of the Hong Kong Committee for Pacific Economic Co-operation (HKCPEC) will be held on August 14 (Wednesday) at 3 pm in the Trade Department Conference Room, 18th floor, Trade Department Tower, 700 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

HKCPEC Chairman and group Managing Director of Li and Fung Ltd, Mr William Fung, will chair the meeting.

The meeting is open to members of the public. However, in view of limited seating capacity in the meeting venue, admission to the meeting is on a first-come-first-served basis.

Enrolment with HKCPEC Secretariat in advance, latest by August 13, is required. For enquiries, please contact the HKCPEC Secretariat on 2398 5447.

The agenda and papers of the meeting, unless classified as restricted or confidential, can be provided on request.

HKCPEC was established in March 1990 to co-ordinate Hong Kong's participation in the Pacific Economic Co-operation Council (PECC).

The Committee, in line with the nature of PECC, is tripartite, comprising members from academic, business and government sectors. Currently, HKCPEC has 24 members, eight from each of the three sectors.

PECC was founded in 1980 to promote regional economic co-operation. At present, it has a membership of 22 member committees representing the economies of Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, the Philippines, Russia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Thailand, the United States, Vietnam and the Pacific Island Nations.

End

Stage IV of S6 admission procedure begins next Monday

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Stage III of the S6 Admission Procedure ended at 3.30 pm today (Friday) with 4,392 S6 places left vacant for S5 students meeting the minimum A-Level entry requirements to apply on Monday (August 12).

Up to now, more than 19,000 S6 places have been filled.

A list of schools with vacancies will be published in some newspapers and displayed at all district education offices tomorrow to allow students more time to choose among them.

Students should not apply tomorrow and neither should schools accept applications.

Students satisfying the minimum A-Level entry requirements, including those from prevocational schools, evening schools and private candidates, may apply to one or more of these schools before 1 pm on Monday.

Schools may offer admission to students instantly or notify the applicants of the results by 2.30 pm.

Successful applicants should accept only one offer and register with the school before 4.30 pm.

The Education Department has received five complaints today about schools not following the admission procedure.

Meanwhile, the department's central hotline (2782 7037-9 and 2782 7340) and the 19 district education offices handled about 256 and 712 enquiries respectively on the Admission Procedure today.

The hotline will continue to operate from 9 am to 1 pm and from 2 pm to 5 pm on weekdays and 9 am to noon on Saturdays.

Up to 5.30 pm today, the department's Careers Education Centre had received 667 visitors and handled 317 telephone enquiries on matters relating to the release of the HKCEE results.

The centre at Room 206 of the Mongkok Government Offices at 30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok, provides students with materials on opportunities for further studies and training and information on various professions.

Students are reminded that the centre will extend its opening hours without a break from 8.45 am to 5.30 pm until August 12 and that an educational counsellor can be reached on 2712 7958 during the period.

End

Third issue of MTRC notes tender to be held

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Tender for the third issue of Mass Transit Railway Corporation (MTRC) notes will be held on August 15 (Thursday), the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced today (Friday).

An amount of \$500 million in MTRC notes will be offered for settlement on August 16. The 5-year notes, which mature on August 16, 2001, will carry interest at the fixed rate of 7.35% per annum payable semi-annually in arrears. Terms and conditions of the issue are described fully in the information memorandum.

The \$500 million MTRC notes issue is the third tranche of the MTRC Note Issuance Programme in which HKMA acts as the arranger, custodian, agent and operator.

The MTRC notes, which are denominated in \$50,000, will be cleared through the Central Money Markets Unit and will qualify as eligible securities for repo under the liquidity adjustment facility operated by HKMA.

MTRC will use the proceeds for general working capital, debt refinancing and other corporate requirements.

Members of the public who wish to tender for the notes may do so through any of the market makers or recognised dealers on the published list which can be obtained from HKMA at 30th floor, 3 Garden Road, Hong Kong, or telephone 2878 8150. Each tender must be for an amount of \$50,000 or integral multiple thereof.

End

Youth talents exhibition to be held

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A two-day exhibition of the winning entries of the Hong Kong Youth Cultural and Arts Competitions will be held at the Exhibition Hall, Lower Block, City Hall, from tomorrow (Saturday).

On display are winning entries by local young people in various contests, including calligraphy, writing, painting, photography and paper clay modelling.

Video tapes showing some of the outstanding performances by contestants in the inter-school quiz and speech contests will also be screened at the venue. Renowned artists will be invited to demonstrate their talents and their work will be given to visitors.

The exhibition will open from 2.30 pm to 6 pm on Saturday and from 11 am to 6 pm on Sunday. Admission is free.

End

Taxpayer fined for making incorrect tax returns

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A woman who pleaded guilty in Eastern Magistracy to making incorrect statements in her tax returns without reasonable excuse, contrary to Section 80(2)(b) of the Inland Revenue Ordinance, was fined a total of \$31,432 today (Friday).

The defendant, Lai Yim-fong, was charged with making incorrect claims for dependent parent allowance in her tax returns for the years of assessment 1993-94 and 1994-95.

Despite the fact that her father had died on August 31, 1992, Lai still put his name down on her tax returns and claimed allowance.

A spokesman of the Inland Revenue Department reminded taxpayers that they must file correct tax returns.

Under the Inland Revenue Ordinance, on conviction, a tax evader is liable to a maximum sentence of three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$50,000 on each charge, in addition to a further fine equivalent to three times the amount of tax undercharged.

End

Tenders invited for Yuen Long to Tuen Mun trunk sewer

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The Drainage Services Department is inviting tenders for the construction of a trunk sewer along the Yuen Long to Tuen Mun Corridor.

A spokesman for the department said works would involve construction of a trunk sewer of about 1,200 metres in length with diameters ranging from 600 mm to 900 mm, together with ancillary works.

"The trunk sewer, which will collect the sewage generated in the region for proper treatment and disposal, will help to improve the water quality of Tuen Mun River Channel," he said.

Work will start in November for completion in 18 months.

Details of the tender are contained in the Government Gazette published today (Friday).

Tender forms and further particulars may be obtained from the office of the Chief Engineer, Sewerage Projects Division, Drainage Services Department, 44th floor, Revenue Tower, 5 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Tenders must be clearly marked and addressed to the Chairman of the Central Tender Board. They must be placed in the Government Secretariat tender box at the lift lobby on the lower ground floor, Central Government Offices (East Wing), Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, before noon on August 30.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

End

Construction of bridge over Siu Lek Yuen nullah

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The Territory Development Department is inviting tenders for the construction of On Ming Street bridge over Siu Lek Yuen nullah and pedestrian subway across Siu Lek Yuen Road.

Works will involve construction of a dual carriageway with five lanes bridge over Siu Lek Yuen nullah and a pedestrian subway across Siu Lek Yuen Road together with associated footpaths, stairs, cycletracks and amenity area.

Construction will start in November for completion in two years.

Details of the tender are contained in the Government Gazette published today (Friday).

Tender forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Consulting Engineers, Messrs Maunsell Consultants Asia Limited, 4 Fung Wo Lane, Wo Che, Sha Tin, New Territories.

Tenders must be clearly marked and addressed to the Chairman of the Central Tender Board. They must be placed in the Government Secretariat tender box at the lift lobby, lower ground floor, Central Government Offices (East Wing), Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, before noon on September 6.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

End

Tenders for roads and drains for Ma On Shan invited

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The Territory Development Department is inviting tenders for formation, roads, and drains in areas 77 and 86 in Ma On Shan as part of the continuing programme for its development.

Works will involve construction of peripheral roads, road bridge, pedestrian subway and drainage systems for the development of planning areas 77 and 86 in Ma On Shan together with associated engineering works.

Construction will start in November for completion in about 30 months.

Details of the tender are contained in the Government Gazette published today (Friday).

Tender forms and further particulars may be obtained from the Consulting Engineers, Messrs Maunsell Consultants Asia Limited, 4 Fung Wo Lane, Wo Che, Sha Tin, New Territories.

Tenders must be clearly marked and addressed to the Chairman of the Central Tender Board. They must be placed in the Government Secretariat tender box at the lift lobby, lower ground floor, Central Government Offices, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, not later than noon on Friday, August 30, 1996.

Late tenders will not be accepted.

End

Ho Man Tin Recreation Ground site formation tenders invited

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The Architectural Services Department is inviting tenders for site formation works for the construction of a recreation ground in Ho Man Tin.

The recreation ground will include a leisure centre, a basement plant room and a basement car park.

Works will commence in November for completion in April 1997.

Tender forms and further particulars can be obtained from the Architectural Services Department, 34th floor, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong.

Tender offers will close at noon on August 30.

End

Construction of slipway at Sha Tau Kok Hoi

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The Government intends to construct a slipway at Sha Tau Kok Hoi within an area of about 89 square metres of foreshore and seabed at Sha Tau Kok.

This will improve the loading and unloading facilities for fishermen.

Work will commence in October for completion in December this year.

The extent of the area affected is contained in a notice in the Government Gazette published today (Friday).

Any person who considers that he has an interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and seabed involved may submit a written objection to the Director of Lands on or before October 9.

The notice of such objection should describe the interest, right or easement of the objector and the manner in which he alleges he will be affected.

The notice together with related plans can be seen at the Lands Department, Survey and Mapping Office, 14th floor, Murray Building, Garden Road, Hong Kong (where copies can be purchased on order), and at the North District Office, third floor, North District Government Offices, 3 Pik Fuk Road, Fanling, New Territories.

End

Shenzhen River improvement works

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The Government proposes improvement works at Shenzhen River to reduce the risk of flooding in the area.

Works will involve construction of river channel and to transform part of the existing river into wetland affecting an area of about 107.5 hectares of foreshore and seabed at the Shenzhen River.

The project will also implement environmental mitigation measures as recommended in an Environmental Impact Assessment Study.

Work will start in the first half of 1997 for completion by the end of 2000.

The extent of the area affected is contained in a notice published in the Government Gazette today (Friday).

Any person who considers that his interest, right or easement in or over the foreshore and seabed involved will be injuriously affected may deliver a written claim for compensation to the Director of Lands on or before August 9, 1997.

He should state in his submission the sum of money he is willing to accept in full and final settlement of his claim and should submit such particulars which he possesses to substantiate his claim.

The notice with related plans can be seen at the Lands Department, Survey and Mapping Office, 14th floor, Murray Building, Garden Road, Hong Kong (where copies can be purchased on order); the North District Office and North District Lands Office at North District Government Offices, 3 Pik Fung Road, Fanling, New Territories; the Yuen Long District Office, ground floor, Yuen Long District Office Building, 269 Castle Peak Road, Yuen Long, New Territories; and the Yuen Long District Lands Office 9th-11th floors, Yuen Long Government Offices and Tai Kiu Market, 2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long New Territories.

End

Tenders to operate new ferry routes invited

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The Transport Department is inviting interested parties to apply for licences to operate one or both of the two new ferry services to Central.

The new routes offered for tender included ferry services between Tsuen Wan (Tsing Lung Tau) and Central (Queen's Pier) and between Lamma Island (Pak Kok Tsuen) and Central (Queen's Pier).

A notice on the invitation was published in the Government Gazette today (Friday).

Tender documents and further particulars can be obtained during office hours from the following offices of the department:

- * Ferry and Paratransit Branch, 40th Floor, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Hong Kong; and
- * New Territories Regional Office, seventh Floor, Mongkok Government Offices, 30 Luen Wan Street, Mong Kok, Kowloon.

Sealed tenders should be submitted in duplicate and addressed to the Chairman of the Central Tender Board.

All applications should be placed in the Government Secretariat tender box at the lift lobby of the lower ground floor of Central Government Offices, East Wing, Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong, on or before noon on August 30.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

End

Dangerous roof-top structures to be removed

* * * * *

The Buildings Department announced today (Friday) that the unauthorised roof-top structures at No 69-71 Chung On Street, Tsuen Wan, will be closed for demolition early next year.

A notice of intention was issued to the owners of the building this morning informing them that a Closure Order would be applied from the Hong Kong District Court on February 26 next year.

The department's Chief Building Surveyor (Control and Enforcement), Mr Tong Kam-man, said the illegal structures, constructed of timber, metal sheets or bricks, were in a dilapidated condition.

"It is necessary to remove the structures because they pose a potential danger to the occupants. The government Contractor will carry out the demolition work once the closure order is obtained.

"In line with the government's intention that no person will be rendered homeless by its actions, arrangements have been made with Housing Department, Social Welfare Department and Home Affairs Department to offer rehousing and social assistance to the affected occupants.

"A total of 18 households will be affected by the demolition. We have met them on three occasions and explained to them our enforcement action and the rehousing criteria," Mr Tong said.

End

Fresh water cut in Aberdeen

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The fresh water supply to some premises in Aberdeen will be temporarily suspended from 11 pm on August 12 (Monday) to 6 am the following day for waste detection work on watermains.

The suspension will affect:

- * all even number premises between Nos 2 and 232 and odd number premises between Nos 153-201, Aberdeen Main Road;
- * all even number premises between Nos 2 and 28 Chengtu Road;
- * Wu Nam Street;
- * Wu Pak Street;
- * Tung Sing Road;
- * Sai On Street;
- * Lok Yeung Street;
- * Tsung Man Street;
- * Nos 10 and 11 Aberdeen Reservoir Road; and
- * Old Main Street Aberdeen.

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 | 1,956 | 0930 | +3 |
| Closing balance in the account | 1,959 | 1000 | +3 |
| Change attributable to : | | 1100 | +3 |
| Money market activity | +3 | 1200 | +3 |
| LAF today | Nil | 1500 | +3 |
| | | 1600 | +3 |

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 123.8 *-0.1* 9.8.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

| EF bills | | EF notes | | | | |
|-----------|-------|----------|-------|--------|--------|-------|
| Terms | Yield | Term | Issue | Coupon | Price | Yield |
| 1 week | 5.00 | 2 years | 2805 | 6.30 | 100.49 | 6.09 |
| 1 month | 5.05 | 3 years | 3907 | 6.80 | 101.01 | 6.52 |
| 3 months | 5.17 | 5 years | 5106 | 7.23 | 101.07 | 7.08 |
| 6 months | 5.30 | 7 years | 7305 | 7.60 | 101.71 | 7.41 |
| 12 months | 5.64 | 5 years | M502 | 7.30 | 100.64 | 7.25 |

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$11,327 million

Closed August 9, 1996

End