



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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More CCTV cameras to enhance traffic surveillance

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The Transport Department today (Tuesday) awarded a \$48-million contract to beef up the Kowloon Area Traffic control closed-circuited television (CCTV) system to improve traffic management.

The contract is for civil, electrical and mechanical works of the enhanced system. It forms a part of the department's programme to further improve on traffic surveillance in Kowloon.

The project calls for the installation of 40 new cameras at various strategic locations in Kowloon and the replacement of the existing 26 cameras to assist in the monitoring of traffic conditions.

Existing monitoring equipment at Transport Department's Kowloon Area Traffic Control Centre in Yau Ma Tei and at the Police's Kowloon Regional Command and Control Centre in Kowloon City will also be renewed.

The contract was signed by the Assistant Commissioner for Transport (Technical Services and Planning), Mr Lee Shu-chee, and a representative of the contractor, Philips Hong Kong Ltd.

A spokesman for the Transport Department said: "With these facilities, our staff and the Police will be able to centrally monitor the traffic conditions, adjust traffic signal timings and respond quickly to traffic incidents to minimise traffic congestion."

The existing cameras and monitoring equipment had been used for 13 years since they were installed.

Works under this contract will start this month for completion in early 1997.

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Good momentum on Airport Core Programme

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Good momentum is being maintained on the Airport Core Programme (ACP) with the seven government projects well on target for completion by mid-1997, the Director of the New Airport Projects Co-ordination Office, Mr Billy Lam, said today (Tuesday).

Speaking at a lunch meeting of the Friends of Hong Kong Association, Mr Lam also said work at the new airport site and on the airport railway was making very good progress towards the target of having both operational in 1998.

"Hong Kong can look forward to having a world-class international airport, with speedy and efficient road and rail links," said Mr Lam.

He said the number of major contracts awarded under the ACP had now reached a total of 147, valued at \$90 billion.

Stringent monitoring of both the progress and the cost of the ACP would ensure the programme was completed within the total cost estimate of \$158.2 billion.

Mr Lam assured his audience that the Government was paying careful attention to labour and environmental matters related to the ACP.

While foreign labour had to be imported for work on the projects, contractors must demonstrate that they had made a genuine effort to recruit local workers before approval for importing workers could be given.

"A number of measures have been put in place by the Government to ensure local workers have priority in getting work in the ACP projects," he said.

Mr Lam also said the Government took various measures to promote a safety culture among contractors and workers engaged on the ACP.

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Analysis of Hong Kong's re-export trade statistics

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Re-exports accounted for 83% of the value of total exports and 39% of the total value of external trade of Hong Kong in the first half of 1995. In the same period of 1994, the corresponding shares were 81% and 39% respectively.

These figures, affirming the growing importance of re-export trade, are among the detailed re-export statistics released by the Census and Statistics Department today (Tuesday).

China remained the largest partner for Hong Kong's re-export trade. Of the total \$515.2 billion of re-exports going through Hong Kong in the first half of 1995, 88% or \$454.4 billion involved China in either direction.

As a source, re-exports originating in China accounted for 56% of Hong Kong's re-export value in the first half of 1995. As a destination, China's share was 36%.

It is noted that much of the re-export trade involving China is related to outward processing, as raw materials and semi-manufactured goods are exported to China for processing, with the final products subsequently returned to Hong Kong, and re-exported to the major overseas markets.

Other main origins of Hong Kong's re-exports in the first half of 1995 included Japan (accounting for 12%), Taiwan (8.0%), the United States (5.1%) and South Korea (3.5%).

The main destinations in the first half of 1995, besides China, included the United States (accounting for 20%), Japan (5.8%), Germany (4.0%) and the United Kingdom (2.6%).

Table 1 shows the changes in the value of re-exports from the ten main origins in the first half of 1995 compared with the same period in 1994.

Comparing the first half of 1995 with the same period in 1994, increases of various magnitudes were recorded in the value of re-exports from most main origins: Malaysia (+65%), Italy (+43%), Singapore (+42%), South Korea (+39%), the United States (+26%), Taiwan (+21%), China (+20%), Japan (+9.4%) and the United Kingdom (+7.0%). However, a decrease of 14% was recorded in the value of re-exports from Germany.

Of the value of re-exports originating in China in the first half of 1995, 34% went to the United States, 8.6% to Japan and 6.8% to Germany.

For goods of Japan origin, 72% of the value of re-exports through Hong Kong in the first half of 1995 went to China, 4.7% to the United States and 3.6% to South Korea. For re-exports originating in Taiwan, an overwhelming proportion (93% of the value in the first half of 1995) went to China.

As regards re-exports originating in the United States, 69% of the value in the first half of 1995 were shipped to China, 4.0% to Taiwan and 3.1% to South Korea.

Table 2 shows the changes in the value of re-exports to the ten main destinations.

Comparing the first half of 1995 with the same period in 1994, increases of various magnitudes were recorded in the value of re-exports to all main destinations: Singapore (+34%), Japan (+28%), Taiwan (+25%), France (+25%), the Netherlands (+23%), China (+22%), the United States (+16%), South Korea (+13%), the United Kingdom (+11%) and Germany (+6.9%).

Analysed by commodity, significant increases in the value of re-exports to China were recorded for textiles (by 6.8 billion or 27%); plastics in primary forms (by \$5.6 billion or 63%); and electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof (by 4.1 billion or 38%).

However, decreases in the value of re-exports to China were recorded for road vehicles (by \$9.3 billion or 66%); and machinery specialised for particular industries (by \$643 million or 10%).

As regards re-exports to the United States, significant increases in value were recorded for miscellaneous manufactured articles consisting mainly of baby carriages, toys, games and sporting goods (by \$3.7 billion or 18%); electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, and electrical parts thereof (by \$2.5 billion or 36%); and office machines and automatic data processing machines (by \$1.7 billion or 42%).

However, decreases in the value of re-exports to the United States were recorded for clothing (by \$171 million or 1.6%); and chemical materials and products (by \$76 million or 27%).

Detailed statistics of Hong Kong's re-export trade are published in the June 1995 issue of the "Hong Kong External Trade" report which will be on sale at \$122 per copy around August 22.

The report can be purchased at either (i) the Government Publications Sales Centre on the ground floor, Low Block, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong; or (ii) the Publications Unit of the Census and Statistics Department on the 19th floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

Enquiries regarding subscription to this report may be directed to the Publications (Sales) Office, 28th Floor, Siu On Centre, 188 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong (Tel 2598 8194) and enquiries on trade statistics to the Census and Statistics Department (Tel 2582 4915).

TABLE 1. REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF PUBLICATIONS

DESTINATION	1992 (H.K. \$'000)	1991 (H.K. \$'000)	YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE (%)
CHINA	168,151	151,177	+11.2
UNITED STATES	120,128	90,104	+33.3
CANADA	10,978	11,363	-3.4
GERMANY	17,007	13,166	+29.2
UNITED KINGDOM	121,827	121,128	+0.6
TAIWAN	11,384	10,412	+9.3
SINGAPORE	11,028	8,488	+29.9
SOUTH KOREA	7,501	6,124	+21.0
FRANCE	7,020	5,121	+37.1
HONGKONG	1,122	2,210	-49.2

TABLE 1 : RE-EXPORTS FROM THE TEN MAIN ORIGINS

ORIGIN	JAN-JUN	JAN-JUN	YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE	
	1995 (HKD Mn.)	1994 (HKD Mn.)	(HKD Mn.)	(% CHANGE)
CHINA	286,902	238,602	+ 48,299	+ 20.2
JAPAN	63,803	58,302	+ 5,501	+ 9.4
TAIWAN	40,930	33,883	+ 7,047	+ 20.8
UNITED STATES	26,155	20,684	+ 5,472	+ 26.5
SOUTH KOREA	17,953	12,920	+ 5,034	+ 39.0
SINGAPORE	10,101	7,124	+ 2,977	+ 41.8
GERMANY	6,891	8,009	- 1,118	- 14.0
MALAYSIA	6,486	3,925	+ 2,561	+ 65.3
ITALY	4,997	3,492	+ 1,505	+ 43.1
UNITED KINGDOM	4,933	4,610	+ 322	+ 7.0

TABLE 2 : RE-EXPORTS TO THE TEN MAIN DESTINATIONS

DESTINATION	JAN-JUN	JAN-JUN	YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE	
	1995 (HKD Mn.)	1994 (HKD Mn.)	(HKD Mn.)	(% CHANGE)
CHINA	184,527	151,283	+ 33,244	+ 22.0
UNITED STATES	104,799	90,104	+ 14,695	+ 16.3
JAPAN	29,918	23,363	+ 6,555	+ 28.1
GERMANY	20,697	19,366	+ 1,331	+ 6.9
UNITED KINGDOM	13,627	12,229	+ 1,398	+ 11.4
TAIWAN	13,384	10,712	+ 2,672	+ 24.9
SINGAPORE	12,058	8,999	+ 3,058	+ 34.0
SOUTH KOREA	9,287	8,194	+ 1,094	+ 13.3
FRANCE	7,880	6,322	+ 1,559	+ 24.7
NETHERLANDS	7,726	6,280	+ 1,446	+ 23.0

Parents support Target Oriented Curriculum

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There is a lot of support from parents for the introduction of the Target Oriented Curriculum (TOC) in Hong Kong as indicated in a recent survey, a spokesman for the Education Department said today (Tuesday).

He said: "In the recent survey among parents, some 80 per cent of the respondents agreed that TOC should be implemented and indicated that they would send their children to primary one (P1) at schools practising TOC in the 1996-7 school year.

"In real number, this represents 5,270 children, in contrast to 4,807 found in the last survey on 1995 Primary One admission. Another 18 per cent have a neutral stand."

The respondents were parents of Lower kindergarten pupils or the four-to-five-age group and who had attended briefing sessions on TOC in the last two months. Their children will enter Primary One in September next year.

The overwhelming support from parents of prospective P1 pupils was gauged through the TOC briefing sessions which were conducted by 142 kindergartens and child care centres at the request of the Education Department.

The spokesman added that as a number of other kindergartens and child care centres had already informed the department that they planned to hold similar briefing sessions early next month, it was believed that demand for P1 places at TOC schools in September 1996 would further increase.

The survey conducted at the end of the TOC Co-operative Scheme in 1994-95 also provided very encouraging data as at the end of the TOC Try-out Scheme in 1993-94. Over 95 per cent of the participating schools said pupils' motivation in learning had improved and were more responsive and active when participating in learning activities.

Furthermore, there was greater co-operation among teachers and their professionalism had been enhanced.

"The positive effects of TOC on both teaching and learning have thus been verified by practising schools over two consecutive years, after implementation of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Implementation of TOC," the spokesman said.

"The positive effects have also been verified by actual observations during school visits. This shows that TOC could be carried out successfully if the principal and the staff of a school have the will," he added.

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Contractors to be tried for unauthorised piling works

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The Buildings Department is to prosecute the contractors and building professionals of a construction project at 127-133 Hollywood Road, Hong Kong, for carrying out works in contravention of the Buildings Ordinance.

They are alleged to have undertaken piling works without the approval and consent of the Building Authority.

The department's Assistant Director (Legal and Management), Mr Cheng Weidart, said it was of general concern that all involved in building works should comply with this legal requirement which aimed at protecting public safety.

The hearing is scheduled for September 15 at the Western Magistracy. The defendants are the authorised person, Mr Bernard Hui Man-bock; the registered structural engineer, Mr Peter Brotherton; the resident engineer, Mr David Oliver Bell; the project manager, Mr Siu Kai-chiu; and Franki Contractors Ltd.

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Considerate Contractors Site Award

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The Government has launched a scheme to encourage public work contractors to work responsibly and to improve their construction environment.

Awards will be presented to contractors who have a considerate attitude towards the public and neighbours by providing a safe and healthy environment on site and the adjoining area.

The pilot phase of the scheme has started in April and awards are expected to be presented in September.

Placards are placed outside 28 constructions sites throughout the territory to indicate that the contractors are participating in the scheme.

Telephone hotlines are shown on the placards for the public to enquire about the scheme and to lodge complaints.

Participants are judged on whether the sites are safe, under good management and are being considerate to neighbours and passers-by.

Attention News Editors:

The Secretary for Works, Mr James Blake, tomorrow (Wednesday) will unveil a placard to launch the Considerate Contractors Site Award Scheme at a construction site of the West Kowloon Corridor Yau Ma Tei Section Phase II.

You are invited to the cover the event at 10 am tomorrow at the site at the junction of Ferry Street and Waterloo Road. Signs showing the way to the site will be put up along Waterloo Road and Ferry Street, Yau Ma Tei, and a map showing the location of the site will be boxed.

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Long Service Insignia awarded to immigration officers

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A total of 57 members of the Immigration Service were awarded the long service insignia. To mark the occasion, a presentation ceremony was held today (Tuesday) at the Immigration Headquarters officiated by the acting Director of Immigration, Mr Christopher Lee Ka-keung.

Chief Immigration Officer, Mr Lam Tung-kan, and five others were awarded the second clasps to their medals for their 30 years of dedicated service.

First clasps, signifying 25 years of service, were presented to Principal Immigration Officer, Mr Wong Tat-po, and 23 others.

Another 27 officers, including one Chief Immigration Officer, six Senior Immigration Officers, 13 Immigration Officers, two Assistant Immigration Officers, four Chief Immigration Assistants and one Senior Immigration Assistant, had received the Hong Kong Disciplined Services Medals.

At the presentation ceremony, Mr Lee said the award of the Hong Kong Disciplined Services Medal was to honour those who had rendered long and meritorious service as members of the Immigration Service in Hong Kong. He also congratulated all recipients and thanked them for their many years of loyalty and dedication to the Immigration Service.

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Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results

Tender date	22 AUG 95
Paper on offer	EF bills
Issue number	Q534
Amount applied	HK\$4,820 MN
Amount allotted	HK\$1,500 MN
Average yield accepted	5.76 PCT
Highest yield accepted	5.76 PCT
Pro rata ratio	About 58 PCT
Average tender yield	5.77 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

Tenders to be held in the week beginning 29 AUG, 1995

Tender date	29 AUG 95	29 AUG 95
Paper on offer	EF bills	EF bills
Issue number	Q535	H572
Issue date	30 AUG 95	30 AUG 95
Maturity date	29 NOV 95	28 FEB 96
Tenor	91 days	182 days
Amount on offer	HK\$1,500+300 MN	HK\$800+160 MN

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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	1,078	0930	+128
Closing balance in the account	851	1000	+128
Change attributable to :		1100	+130
Money market activity	+118	1200	+130
LAF today	-345	1500	+130
		1600	+118

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 121.9 **+0.0* 22.8.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.74	2 years	2708	6.06	99.80	6.26
1 month	5.76	3 years	3807	6.16	98.99	6.65
3 months	5.77	5 years	5006	6.60	97.71	7.30
6 months	5.82	5 years	M501	7.90	100.99	7.79
12 months	5.90					

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$7,482 million

Closed August 22, 1995

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