



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1992

CONTENTS

PAGE NO.

PULSE OF RESIDENTS WILL BE CONSTANTLY MONITORED: SHA	1
DECEMBER SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STARTS .	4
STUDY ON FO TAN COMMERCIAL FACILITIES COMMISSIONED	5
WELFARE STAFF BID FAREWELL TO DIRECTOR	5
206 VIETNAMESE SENT HOME	6
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND TENDER RESULTS	6
HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS ..	7

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1992

- 1 -

PULSE OF RESIDENTS WILL BE CONSTANTLY MONITORED: SHA
* * * * *

THE CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION (CNTA) HAS CONTINUED TO ACT AS AN IMPORTANT LINK BETWEEN THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE MANY SERVICES IT PROVIDED UP TO THE YEAR JUST ENDING, THE SECRETARY FOR HOME AFFAIRS, MR MICHAEL SUEN, SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

REVIEWING THE WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATION AT A MEET-THE-MEDIA SESSION, MR SUEN ALSO GAVE HIS ASSURANCE THAT CNTA'S OTHER MAIN ROLE TO CONSTANTLY MONITOR THE "PULSE OF THE PEOPLE" WILL BE ANOTHER PRIORITY.

"THIS IS SO THAT WHATEVER VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED OR GATHERED CAN BE IMMEDIATELY ACTED UPON BY THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS," HE SAID.

COUPLED WITH THE IMPENDING PERFORMANCE PLEDGE EARLY NEXT YEAR, MR SUEN PROMISED THAT SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY WILL BE EVEN MORE EFFICIENT AND FASTER, CERTAINLY MORE ACCOUNTABLE.

"WE WILL ACHIEVE THESE GOALS BY FIRST REQUIRING GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS TO BECOME MORE SENSITIVE AND RESPONSIVE TO DISTRICT NEEDS.

"DEPARTMENTS WILL ALSO HAVE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH EACH OTHER AND THE DISTRICT BOARDS ON A CO-ORDINATED BASIS."

AND MR SUEN EMPHASISED THAT DEPARTMENTS WILL BECOME MORE ACCOUNTABLE TO DISTRICT BOARDS ON ANY ACTION PLANS.

AFTER ALL, HE STRESSED, THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF AN INCREASINGLY VOCAL AND AFFLUENT POPULATION.

RECOUNTING 1992'S WORKLOAD, MR SUEN FIRST TURNED TO THE 20 PUBLIC ENQUIRY CENTRES AND REVEALED ANOTHER IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE.

UP TO NOVEMBER THIS YEAR, MORE THAN 3 MILLION ENQUIRIES WERE HANDLED BY STAFF AT THESE CENTRES AND OVER 5.5 MILLION FORMS AND INFORMATION PAMPHLETS DISTRIBUTED AT THE SAME TIME.

SOME 422,000 STATUTORY DECLARATIONS WERE ADMINISTERED FOR PRIVATE USE, AND 2,300 CASES OF LEGAL CONSULTATION ARRANGED UNDER THE FREE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME AS WELL AS 14,000 PEOPLE RECEIVING ADVICE ON RENT AND TENANCY PROBLEMS UNDER THE RENT OFFICER SCHEME.

THE CENTRES ALSO PROVIDED A VALUABLE INTERFACE BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THEIR DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS THROUGH THE MEET-THE-PUBLIC SCHEME.

IN ADDITION, A CENTRAL TELEPHONE ENQUIRY CENTRE SET UP SINCE APRIL LAST YEAR HANDLED 140,000 ENQUIRIES DURING THE PERIOD UNDER REVIEW.

/MR SUEN

MR SUEN SAID AS AN IMPORTANT CONDUIT BETWEEN THE PUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT, STAFF OF THE PUBLIC ENQUIRIES CENTRES WERE COMMITTED TO FURTHER IMPROVING THEIR SERVICES.

ANOTHER AREA IN WHICH CNTA PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IS THE CONSULTING OF THE PUBLIC ON MAJOR POLICY ISSUES THROUGH DISCUSSIONS IN THE DISTRICT BOARDS. THE MARK SIX LOTTERY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION SCHEME ARE JUST TWO EXAMPLES.

CLOSE LIAISON IS ALSO MAINTAINED WITH THE HEUNG YEE KUK - THE GOVERNMENT'S STATUTORY ADVISORY BODY ON NEW TERRITORIES MATTERS. ADVICE OF THE KUK HAS BEEN SOUGHT DURING THE YEAR ON A NUMBER OF POLICY ISSUES AFFECTING THE RURAL POPULATION.

"FOR INSTANCE, THROUGH CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION WITH THE KUK, WE HAVE RATIONALISED THE RATES EXEMPTION POLICY IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, RESULTING IN AN ADDITIONAL REVENUE OF \$36 MILLION PER YEAR FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

CO-ORDINATION BY DISTRICT OFFICERS IN CLEARANCE EXERCISES PAVING THE WAY FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT AREA OF THE LINK ROLE, HE POINTED OUT.

IN AUGUST THIS YEAR, CLEARANCE OF THE POOR MEN'S NIGHT CLUB SITE IN CENTRAL WAS CARRIED OUT SMOOTHLY WITH THE STALL OPERATORS GIVEN SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION OF THEIR REQUESTS FOR COMPENSATION.

THE OPERATORS ACCEPTED THE NEED FOR VACATING THE SITE AFTER A SERIES OF JOINT MEETINGS WITH THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED CHAIRED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER.

IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR, A DISTRICT OFFICER HELPED DEFUSE A POTENTIALLY UGLY SITUATION IN THE HAWKER CLEARANCE AND RE-ORDERING EXERCISE IN CONNECTION WITH THE REDEVELOPMENT OF THE SHAM SHUI PO MARKET.

OVER 630 HAWKERS WERE SUBSEQUENTLY RESITED TO TWO TEMPORARY MARKETS, AND AN EQUAL NUMBER OF UNLICENSED HAWKERS WERE EFFECTIVELY CLEARED.

IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, THE DISTRICT OFFICERS OF TSUEN WAN AND ISLANDS HAVE ALSO BEEN CO-ORDINATING THE CLEARANCE OF LOG PONDS AND PROJECTS IN TUNG CHUNG, MA WAN AND NORTH LANTAU.

"AND SPEAKING OF CLEARANCES, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE A GLARING OMISSION IF KOWLOON WALLED CITY WAS NOT MENTIONED," MR SUEN SAID.

CLEARANCE OF THE WALLED CITY WAS COMPLETED IN JULY THIS YEAR AND THE SITE WAS HANDED OVER TO THE DEMOLITION CONTRACTOR IN NOVEMBER. DEMOLITION IS EXPECTED TO START EARLY NEXT YEAR AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN MAY 1994.

A TOTAL OF \$3.23 BILLION WILL BE PAID OUT AS COMPENSATION TO THOSE DISPLACED AND AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF HOUSEHOLDS AFFECTED HAVE REACHED SETTLEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT OVER PAYMENTS AND REHOUSING CLAIMS.

CNTA'S HUMANITARIAN FACE IS ALSO CLEARLY OBVIOUS IN CASES OF FIRES AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS. IN SUCH SITUATIONS, IT IS INCUMBENT UPON THE CNTA TO ENSURE THAT VICTIMS ARE PROVIDED WITH EMERGENCY RELIEF AND TEMPORARY SHELTERS. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS MIGHT ALSO BE NECESSARY WHEN VICTIMS REQUIRE REHOUSING.

THE TRAGIC BAGUIO VILLA LANDSLIDE WHICH OCCURRED AFTER THE TORRENTIAL DOWNPOUR IN MAY SERVES AS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE IN WHICH THE DISTRICT OFFICER ACTED AS THE MEDIATOR BETWEEN THE AFFECTED RESIDENTS AND THE GOVERNMENT.

IN OTHER CALAMITIES, SOME 700 VICTIMS OF THE SEVEN FIRES OF DIFFERENT SCALES THAT BROKE OUT IN WONG TAI SIN BETWEEN MARCH AND OCTOBER WERE INITIALLY OFFERED TEMPORARY SHELTER IN THE CHUK YUEN AND CHOI WAN ESTATE COMMUNITY CENTRES. ALL OF THEM HAVE NOW BEEN REHOUSED OR GIVEN REHOUSING OFFERS.

LOOKING AHEAD, MR SUEN SAID THE DEPARTMENTALISATION OF THE LIAISON OFFICER GRADE WOULD BEGIN EARLY NEXT YEAR.

"UNDER THIS SCHEME, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS PERFORMING LIAISON DUTIES IN THE URBAN REGION WILL BE REPLACED BY SPECIALLY TRAINED LIAISON OFFICERS, ENSURING CONTINUITY WHILE RETAINING EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE IN THE DEPARTMENT.

"IT WILL PROVIDE GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN STAFF DEPLOYMENT AND IMPROVE UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN LIAISON STAFF IN BOTH REGIONS, ENHANCE STAFF MOTIVATION AND MORALE, WHICH COULD ONLY RESULT IN BETTER SERVICES TO THE COMMUNITY," HE SAID.

IN ORDER TO MINIMISE DISRUPTION IN THE URBAN REGION AND TO ALLOW TIME FOR RECRUITMENT OF SUFFICIENT LIAISON OFFICERS, THE PROCESS WILL TAKE SOME TIME TO COMPLETE.

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, MR SUEN SAID HE HAD COMPLETED A ROUND OF CONSULTATION WITH THE 19 DISTRICT BOARDS ON THE PROPOSALS OUTLINED BY THE GOVERNOR AND WAS NOW COLLATING THEIR VIEWS COLLECTED.

"IN COMPILING THE REPORT FOR THE GOVERNOR, I WILL BALANCE THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE CHAIRMEN AND MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT BOARDS AND OTHER SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY SO THAT A DECISION CAN BE MADE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMUNITY," HE CONCLUDED.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1992

- 4 -

DECEMBER SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL STARTS
* * * * *

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT HAS STARTED TO CONDUCT THE DECEMBER ROUND OF THE SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, VACANCIES AND PAYROLL IN MAJOR SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY IN RESPECT OF THE FOURTH QUARTER OF THIS YEAR.

THE QUARTERLY SURVEY RESULTS ARE USEFUL IN PROVIDING SHORT-TERM ECONOMIC INDICATORS AND INFORMATION ON THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN THE LABOUR MARKET.

THIS ROUND OF THE SURVEY COVERS ABOUT 40,000 ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH ARE DRAWN FROM VARIOUS SECTORS INCLUDING THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR (MINING AND QUARRYING; MANUFACTURING; ELECTRICITY AND GAS), THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES SECTOR (WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS) AND THE SERVICE SECTOR (TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATION; FINANCING, INSURANCE, REAL ESTATE AND BUSINESS SERVICES; COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICES).

INFORMATION ON NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES ON DECEMBER 31 THIS YEAR WILL BE SOUGHT FROM EACH SELECTED ESTABLISHMENT.

A RANDOM SUB-SAMPLE OF ABOUT 10,000 ESTABLISHMENTS IS SELECTED FROM THE MAIN SAMPLE TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PAYROLL IN EACH OF THE THREE MONTHS DURING THE REFERENCE PERIOD OF OCTOBER-DECEMBER.

QUESTIONNAIRES ARE BEING MAILED TO THE SAMPLED ESTABLISHMENTS.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS ORDER 1982, ESTABLISHMENTS RECEIVING QUESTIONNAIRES ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE AND RETURN THEM TO THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WITHIN THE SPECIFIED PERIOD.

SHOULD RESPONDENTS FIND DIFFICULTIES IN COMPLETING THE FORMS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT FOR HELP ON TEL 582 5076.

AS FOR THOSE ESTABLISHMENTS NEWLY INCLUDED INTO THE REGISTER OF ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT DURING OCTOBER-DECEMBER, THEY WILL ALSO BE ENUMERATED IN ORDER TO MAKE THE SURVEY RESULTS COMPLETE.

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT, EACH BEARING A GOVERNMENT IDENTITY CARD, WILL CALL ON THESE ESTABLISHMENTS TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ON NATURE OF BUSINESS, TYPE OF OWNERSHIP, DATE ON WHICH BUSINESS STARTED, NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED AND EXISTING VACANCIES.

IN CASE OF ANY ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE FIELD VISITS, PLEASE CONTACT THE DEPARTMENT ON TEL 582 4782.

- - - - 0 - - - -

/5

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1992

- 5 -

STUDY ON FO TAN COMMERCIAL FACILITIES COMMISSIONED

* * * * *

THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) SIGNED A \$400,000 AGREEMENT WITH A CONSULTANCY FIRM TO CARRY OUT A PLANNING STUDY ON COMMERCIAL FACILITIES IN THE FO TAN INDUSTRIAL AREA, SHA TIN.

"THIS IS A COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING STUDY REQUIRING MULTI-DISCIPLINARY INPUTS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"IT AIMS AT ANALYSING THE DEMAND, SUPPLY AND PROBLEMS OF THE EXISTING PROVISION OF COMMERCIAL FACILITIES IN THE FO TAN INDUSTRIAL AREA," HE ADDED.

THE STUDY, WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO COMPLETE IN ABOUT SIX MONTHS, WILL PROVIDE USEFUL REFERENCE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE PLANNING CONCEPT FOR FO TAN AND OTHER SIMILAR INDUSTRIAL AREAS IN THE TERRITORY.

PRINCIPAL GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNER/DISTRICT, MR EDMUND LO, SIGNED THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE DIRECTOR OF YUE CHENG & ASSOCIATES LIMITED, MS CHRISTINA LO.

- - - - 0 - - - -

WELFARE STAFF BID FAREWELL TO DIRECTOR

* * * * *

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT STAFF TODAY (TUESDAY) HELD A LUNCH TO BID FAREWELL TO THEIR DIRECTOR, MR MICHAEL CARTLAND, AND TO WELCOME THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE (DESIGNATE), MR IAN STRACHAN.

SPEAKING AT THE LUNCH, MR CARTLAND SAID HE WAS DEEPLY IMPRESSED BY THE GOOD QUALITY OF WORK THE STAFF WERE DOING, AND THEIR DEVOTION TO DUTY.

"HAVING WORKED WITH A TEAM OF CAPABLE STAFF FOR THREE YEARS, I AM A BIT SAD THAT I AM NOW LEAVING.

"NEVERTHELESS, I AM HAPPY TO SEE THAT WE HAVE DEVELOPED THE POLICIES IN LAST YEAR'S SOCIAL WELFARE WHITE PAPER AND THIS YEAR'S REHABILITATION GREEN PAPER AND THAT FUNDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE TO MEET ALL OUR KEY TARGETS," HE SAID.

"I HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE THAT MR IAN STRACHAN, MY SUCCESSOR, WILL BENEFIT FROM THE IN-DEPTH KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE OF THE STAFF IN THE WELFARE FIELD IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL MAJOR PROJECTS," HE ADDED.

MR STRACHAN WILL SUCCEED MR CARTLAND AS DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE ON DECEMBER 28 (MONDAY).

- - - - 0 - - - -

- 6 -

206 VIETNAMESE SENT HOME

* * * * *

A GROUP OF 206 VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS TODAY (TUESDAY) RETURNED TO VIETNAM UNDER THE UNHCR'S VOLUNTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAMME.

COMPRISING 99 MEN, 47 WOMEN, 35 BOYS AND 25 GIRLS, THEY WERE THE 139TH BATCH TO GO BACK UNDER THE PROGRAMME.

THE GROUP BROUGHT TO 12,072 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE MIGRANTS WHO HAVE RETURNED VOLUNTARILY THIS YEAR, AND TO 26,052 THE TOTAL NUMBER OF RETURNEES SINCE THE PROGRAMME STARTED IN MARCH 1989.

- - - - 0 - - - -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
TENDER RESULTS

* * * * *

TENDER DATE	22 DECEMBER 92	22 DECEMBER 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q252	H280
AMOUNT APPLIED	HKD 1,905MN	HKD 690MN
AMOUNT ALLOTTED	HKD 800MN	HKD 300MN
AVERAGE YIELD ACCEPTED	4.02 PCT	4.19 PCT
HIGHEST YIELD ACCEPTED	4.05 PCT	4.20 PCT
PRO RATA RATIO	ABOUT 100 PCT	ABOUT 66 PCT
AVERAGE TENDER YIELD	4.06 PCT	4.22 PCT

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

TENDERS TO BE HELD IN THE WEEK BEGINNING 28 DECEMBER 1992 -

TENDER DATE	29 DECEMBER 92	29 DECEMBER 92
PAPER ON OFFER	EF BILLS	EF BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER	Q253	Y298
ISSUE DATE	30 DECEMBER 92	30 DECEMBER 92
MATURITY DATE	31 MARCH 93	29 DECEMBER 93
TENOR	91 DAYS	364 DAYS
AMOUNT ON OFFER	HK\$800 + 160 MN	HK\$200 + 60 MN

- - - - 0 - - - -

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1992

- 7 -

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND
MONEY MARKET OPERATIONS

* * * * *

	\$ MILLION -----
OPENING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,800
REVERSAL OF LAF	-300
BALANCE AFTER REVERSL OF LAF	1,500
NET INJECTION/WITHDRAWAL TODAY	NIL
EFFECT OF LAF TODAY	+300
CLOSING BALANCE IN THE ACCOUNT	1,800

LAF RATE 2.00 BID/4.00 OFFER TWI 113.7 *-0.1* 22.12.1992

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT EXCHANGE FUND

EF BILLS			HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BONDS			
TERMS	YIELD	TERM	ISSUE	COUPON	PRICE	YIELD
1 WEEK	3.16 PCT	15 MONTHS	2402	5.50	100.68	4.94
1 MONTH	3.80 PCT	18 MONTHS	2405	5.50	100.56	5.14
3 MONTHS	3.99 PCT	21 MONTHS	2408	4.375	98.58	5.35
6 MONTHS	4.14 PCT	24 MONTHS	2411	4.625	98.56	5.50
12 MONTHS	4.63 PCT					

TOTAL TURNOVER OF BILLS AND BONDS - 2,903 MN

CLOSED 22 DECEMBER 1992

- - - - 0 - - - -