



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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

Monday, April 24, 1995

<u>Contents</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Chief Secretary meets top European Union leaders	1
Consumer Price Indices for March 1995	2
Governor's monthly anti-drugs visit	9
HKMA appoints new Executive Director (Banking Supervision)	10
S for H visits public housing estates	11
Closure of illegal rooftop structures on Kingland Apartments	11
Hong Kong remains a magnet for multi-nationals	12
Beach, marine and inland water quality reports published	14
Household Expenditure Survey 1994-95	16
Supply of particulars in Central Register of Establishments	17
Royal Navy sailor decorated	18
Water storage figure	19
Fresh water cuts in Sham Shui Po and Sai Kung	20
Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results	20
Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations	21

Chief Secretary meets top European Union leaders

* * * * *

The Chief Secretary, Mrs Anson Chan, held top level meetings in Brussels today (Monday) at the start of her week-long official visit to three European countries - Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany.

In Brussels, Mrs Chan met the President of the European Commission, Mr Jacques Santer, and the Vice-President, Sir Leon Brittan.

The talks covered Hong Kong/EU relations in general and a range of transitional issues. Both Mr Santer and Sir Leon stressed the EU's interest in seeing a continuation of Hong Kong's present systems beyond 1997.

Mrs Chan briefed them on what was happening in Hong Kong and also raised the issue of visa-free travel arrangements for Hong Kong citizens visiting EU countries.

Mrs Chan was also briefed by Sir Leon on his visit to China last week where he met the Director of the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office, Mr Lu Ping. Sir Leon said he had told Mr Lu that the early setting up of the Court of Final Appeal would strengthen European confidence in the future of Hong Kong.

The Chief Secretary's visit to Europe is aimed at strengthening ties with the European Union, which forms the third largest market for Hong Kong's worldwide trade. It also comes on the heels of an initiative by the European Commission which last year produced a policy paper calling for a more pro-active economic strategy towards Asia.

Earlier in the day Mrs Chan had a breakfast meeting with a group of business leaders, including the Chairman of the Federation of Belgian Industries, Mr G Jacobs.

The industrialists mentioned that they were doing good business with and through Hong Kong at present but they expressed concern that they would be able to continue to do so after 1997.

Mrs Chan said in view of the EU's growing interest in the Asian region it was necessary to update European leaders, both in the private sector and government, on the latest developments in Hong Kong, not only as a gateway to China, but the region as a whole.

She pointed out that European companies already had a significant stake in most sectors of Hong Kong's economy - manufacturing, trade, finance, insurance, retailing and others.

"We need to assure investors that Hong Kong will continue to be an ideal place to do business, not only in the lead up to 1997, but well into the future," Mrs Chan said.

The Chief Secretary also explained during her meetings how Hong Kong was preparing to resolve the transitional issues in co-operation with the Chinese authorities.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Consumer Price Indices for March 1995

* * * * *

The Consumer Price Index (A) in March 1995 was 9.5% higher than in March 1994, according to figures released today (Monday) by the Census and Statistics Department. This was higher than the corresponding increase of 8.9% in February this year.

Commenting on the CPI figures for March, a Government spokesman said: "The pick-up in consumer price inflation was attributable to both continuing inflationary pressures from domestic sources as well as a greater amount of imported inflation.

"On domestically generated inflation, continuing rapid increases were recorded for rentals of private housing and prices of consumer services, and electricity charges were also raised," the spokesman said.

"As to imported inflation, there were faster price increases in recent months for foodstuffs, including fresh produce as well as processed food items. This may be due in part to the effect of inflation in China filtering through into Hong Kong via higher prices of such imported food items.

"Also showing considerable price increases since the early part of last year were clothing and footwear. This may be due to higher import prices in local currency terms brought about by the weakening of the Hong Kong dollar in line with the US dollar," the spokesman added.

The rate of increase in the Consumer Price Index (B) and the Hang Seng CPI were 10.0% and 9.9% respectively, compared with the corresponding increases of 9.6% and 9.7% in February.

The Composite CPI, which is compiled based on the combined expenditure pattern of households covered by the three CPIs, showed an increase of 9.8% in March 1995 over the same month in 1994. This was also higher than the corresponding increase of 9.4% in February.

Comparing March 1995 with March 1994, relatively faster price increases than the overall average increase were recorded for housing (13.2% in the CPI(A) and 14.5% in the CPI(B)); clothing and footwear (12.2% and 13.5%); miscellaneous services (11.8% and 11.1%); and fuel and light (10.2% and 10.3%).

On the other hand, relatively slower price increases than the overall average increase were recorded for durable goods (3.9% in the CPI(A) and 4.4% in the CPI(B)); meals bought away from home (6.9% and 6.7%); alcoholic drinks and tobacco (7.1% and 6.4%); food (excluding meals bought away from home) (8.2% and 8.0%); transport (8.6% and 8.5%); and miscellaneous goods (8.4% and 7.2%).

Comparing March 1995 with February 1995, the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Composite CPI all increased by 0.5%.

For the first quarter of 1995, the CPI(A) and CPI(B) were, on average, higher by 9.5% and 10.0% respectively over a year earlier. The corresponding increase for the Composite CPI was 9.8%.

For the 12 months ended March 1995, the CPI(A) and CPI(B) were, on average, higher by 8.7% and 9.2% respectively than in the preceding 12-month period. The corresponding increase for the Composite CPI was 9.2%.

Seasonally adjusted series are also available for the CPIs. The deseasonalised CPI(A) and CPI(B) increased at an average rate of 0.7% and 0.8% per month during the three months ended March 1995. The corresponding increase for the Composite CPI was 0.6%.

Further details are shown in Tables 1-2 and Charts 1-4.

The Consumer Price Index Report

More details are given in the "Consumer Price Index Report" for March 1995, which is available at \$23 per copy from the Government Publications Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong; or from the Publications Section of the Census and Statistics Department, 19th floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

For local and overseas mailings, contact should be made with the Information Services Department, 28th floor, Siu On Centre, 188 Lockhart Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

For enquiries about the indices, please telephone the Consumer Price Index Section of the Census and Statistics Department at 2805 6403.

Details regarding the Hang Seng CPI are contained in the Hang Seng CPI Report issued by the Economic Research Department of Hang Seng Bank Ltd.

Table 1 Consumer Price Indices and Rates of Increase for March 1995
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

Component	CPI(A)		CPI(B)		Hang Seng CPI		Composite CPI	
	Index for Mar 95	% change over Mar 94	Index for Mar 95	% change over Mar 94	Index for Mar 95	% change over Mar 94	Index for Mar 95	% change over Mar 94
Food	149.4	+7.5	151.2	+7.2	153.1	+7.5	150.8	+7.4
Meals bought away from home	160.6	+6.9	160.0	+6.7	160.4	+7.2	160.3	+6.9
Food, excluding meals bought away from home	138.3	+8.2	139.0	+8.0	140.6	+8.1	138.9	+8.1
Housing	179.1	+13.2	183.5	+14.5	187.2	+13.5	183.3	+13.7
Fuel and light	134.4	+10.2	133.9	+10.3	132.5	+8.4	133.9	+9.9
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	197.0	+7.1	185.8	+6.4	180.2	+5.9	190.7	+6.7
Clothing and footwear	140.4	+12.2	142.1	+13.5	149.7	+12.2	144.2	+12.7
Durable goods	115.7	+3.9	115.9	+4.4	119.3	+3.2	116.8	+3.9
Miscellaneous goods	140.1	+8.4	135.6	+7.2	133.5	+6.9	136.7	+7.6
Transport	153.7	+8.6	153.7	+8.5	153.7	+8.1	153.7	+8.4
Miscellaneous services	171.2	+11.8	165.0	+11.1	153.0	+8.9	163.3	+10.7
All items	156.1	+9.5	157.4	+10.0	159.7	+9.9	157.5	+9.8

Monthly consumer price indices are compiled on the basis of (a) expenditure patterns of relevant households and (b) prices collected currently in the month. The expenditure patterns underlying the 1989/90-based consumer price indices are based on those patterns derived from the 1989/90 Household Expenditure Survey. The CPI(A) is based on the expenditure pattern of about 50% of households in Hong Kong, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$2,500-\$9,999 in 1989/90 (broadly equivalent to \$3,600-\$14,600 at 1994 prices). The CPI(B) is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 30% of households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$10,000-\$17,499 in 1989/90 (broadly equivalent to \$14,600-\$26,000 at 1994 prices). The Hang Seng CPI is based on the expenditure pattern of the next 10% of households, which had an average monthly expenditure of \$17,500-\$37,499 in 1989/90 (broadly equivalent to \$26,000-\$56,000 at 1994 prices).

Whereas the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI are based on the expenditure patterns of groups of households with different magnitudes of household expenditure, the Composite CPI is compiled based on the expenditure pattern of all these households taken together. Thus, while the CPI(A), CPI(B) and Hang Seng CPI show the impact of consumer price changes on different groups of households, the Composite CPI shows the impact of consumer price changes on the household sector generally.

Table 2 Consumer Price Indices for January 1992 - March 1995
(Oct. 89 - Sep. 90 = 100)

<u>Year/month</u>	<u>CPI(A)</u>	<u>CPI(B)</u>	<u>Hang Seng CPI</u>	<u>Composite CPI</u>	
1992	January	119.7	119.3	119.4	119.5
	February	121.8	121.2	121.0	121.4
	March	122.5	121.9	121.8	122.1
	April	124.0	123.4	122.9	123.5
	May	124.0	123.8	124.2	124.0
	June	125.3	125.1	125.2	125.2
	July	125.5	125.4	125.4	125.4
	August	125.6	125.9	125.8	125.8
	September	128.3	127.9	127.5	128.0
	October	128.4	128.4	128.6	128.5
	November	128.5	129.0	129.9	129.0
	December	129.3	129.8	130.0	129.7
1993	January	131.8	131.6	131.5	131.7
	February	132.4	132.2	132.0	132.2
	March	132.0	132.2	133.1	132.4
	April	133.5	133.9	134.5	133.9
	May	134.5	134.8	136.3	135.1
	June	136.0	135.9	137.1	136.3
	July	135.8	136.1	136.9	136.2
	August	136.3	136.6	137.4	136.7
	September	138.4	138.3	139.2	138.6
	October	140.0	139.6	140.7	140.0
	November	139.4	139.9	142.2	140.3
	December	140.4	140.9	143.3	141.3
1994	January	140.0	140.7	143.4	141.1
	February	142.7	142.9	144.9	143.3
	March	142.5	143.0	145.3	143.4
	April	143.8	144.8	147.9	145.2
	May	145.0	146.1	150.0	146.7
	June	146.2	146.9	151.0	147.7
	July	147.3	147.9	150.5	148.3
	August	149.6	149.6	151.7	150.1
	September	150.3	150.8	153.4	151.3
	October	151.1	152.2	155.3	152.6
	November	151.4	153.1	157.3	153.5
	December	153.0	154.3	158.1	154.8
1995	January	154.1	155.3	158.2	155.6
	February	155.4	156.6	159.0	156.7
	March	156.1	157.4	159.7	157.5

Chart 1 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in CPI(A)

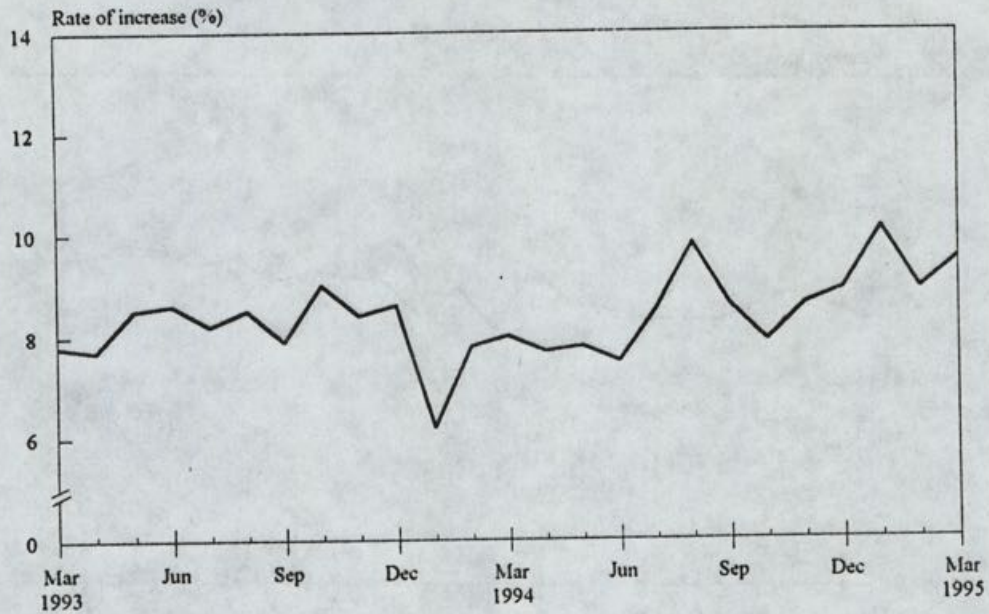


Chart 2 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in CPI(B)

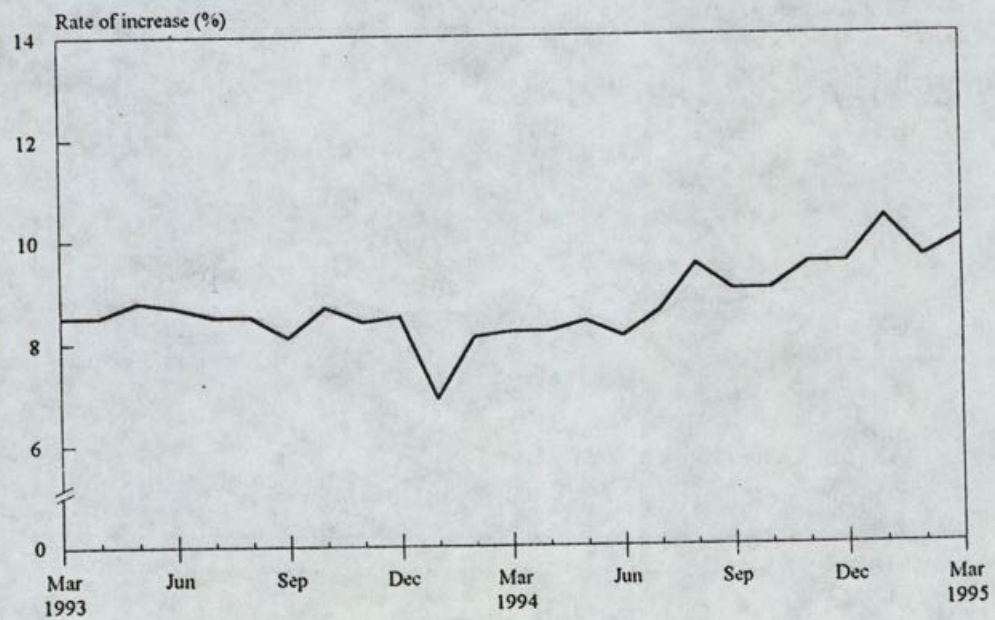


Chart 3 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in Hang Seng CPI

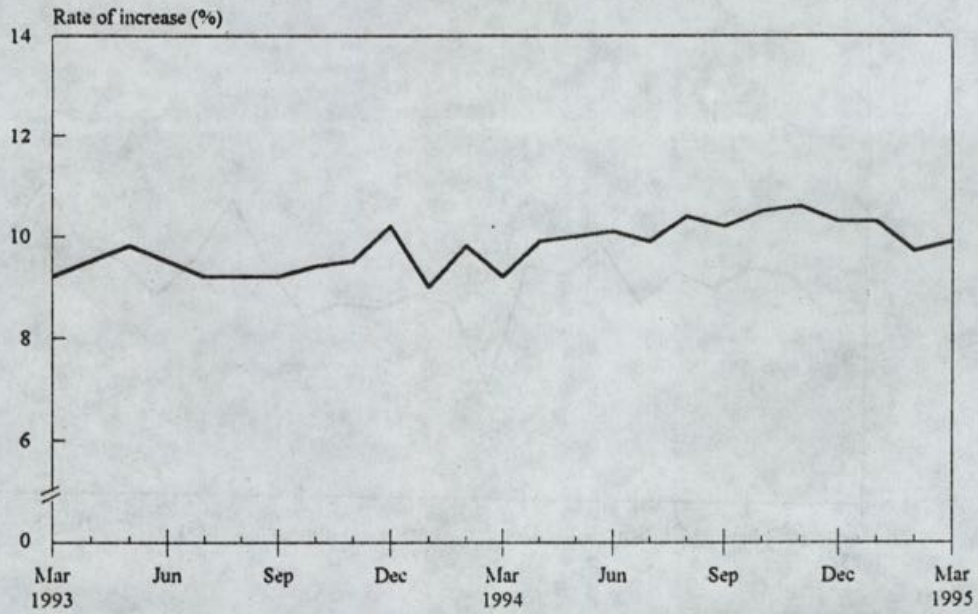
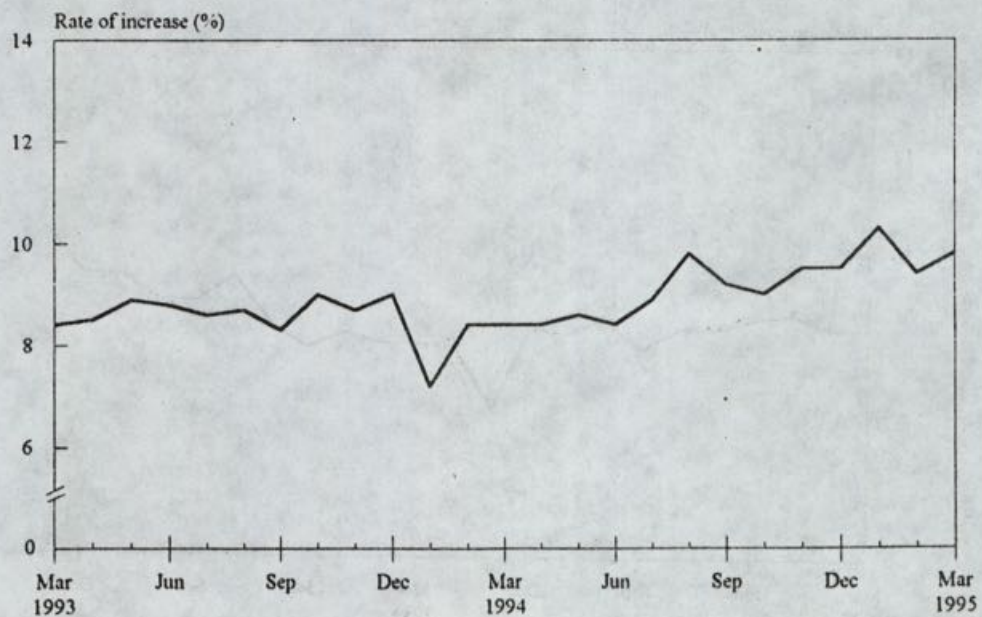


Chart 4 Year-on-year Rates of Increase
in Composite CPI



Governor's monthly anti-drugs visit

* * * * *

The Governor, the Rt Hon Christopher Patten, will visit the Wu Oi Long Ke Detoxification and Rehabilitation Centre in Sai Kung tomorrow (Tuesday) afternoon.

This is the second in a series of visits following the anti-drug summit to keep the Governor abreast of the community involvement in the fight against drug abuse.

Wu Oi Christian Centre, founded in 1973, offers religious detoxification and rehabilitation programmes to drug abusers and helps them reintegrate into society.

Many of the Wu Oi staff are former drug abusers who have stayed on after recovery to look after new comers and help them face their problems.

The Long Ke Centre caters for up to 70 drug abusers. The detoxification and rehabilitation programme comprises a twelve month treatment and a six month follow-up programme.

The Long Ke site is provided by the Government at nominal rent.

Attention News Editors :

You are invited to cover the Governor's visit to the Wu Oi Long Ke Centre tomorrow. A press coach will leave the CGO car park at 1.30 pm sharp for Sai Kung and return to CGO at around 7.30 pm. Private cars will not be admitted at the High Island Reservoir.

Please note that there is a 25-minute walk on a rough hill path from the reservoir east dam to the Centre. It is therefore advisable to travel light and wear shoes suitable for walking.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

HKMA appoints new Executive Director (Banking Supervision)

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) announced today (Monday) the appointment of Mr Yiu-kwan Choi as the new Executive Director (Banking Supervision) effective from May 1, 1995.

Mr Choi, aged 40, will bring to the new job abundant experience in banking supervision and banking policy.

He joined the former Office of the Commissioner of Banking in 1974 and in 1990 became an Assistant Commissioner of Banking shortly after he completed a secondment to the Bank of England.

In 1990 Mr Choi was seconded to the former Office of the Exchange Fund. After three years' experience in market intervention and monetary policy formulation, he rejoined the Office of the Commissioner of Banking to take charge of the Banking Policy Division. In that position, which he also filled after the establishment of the HKMA in April 1993, Mr Choi worked closely with the banking community and addressed a number of supervisory issues including the new liquidity supervisory regime, the loan classification system and the regulation of interest rate risk and market risks.

Mr Choi became Head of the Administration Division of the HKMA in early 1994, a job he has held until now.

"Mr Choi's wide experience in banking supervision and policy formulation and other aspects of the HKMA's work will be very valuable in continuing the important task of building up the supervisory capacity of the HKMA," the Chief Executive of the HKMA, Mr Joseph Yam, said.

Mr Choi replaces Mr Albert Cheok, who as previously announced is leaving the HKMA to pursue family business interests in Malaysia.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

S for H visits public housing estates

* * * * *

The Secretary for Housing, Mr Dominic Wong, today (Monday) took a close look at the day-to-day activities of the Housing Department in managing and producing public housing and in clearing and rehousing squatters.

Accompanied by senior Housing Department officials, Mr Wong visited a squatter area at Diamond Hill under clearance to make way for the construction of home ownership and public rental flats.

Mr Wong next called on the Kai Lok Temporary Housing Area in Kowloon Bay to see for himself the conditions of a conventional THA.

The full-day programme also took him to Tse Wan Shan where an extensive public housing redevelopment programme is underway. Mr Wong also took time out to visit a family at Tsz Man Estate and sample flats of the new harmony block at Tsz On Court.

He concluded the visit with a tour of the Lok Fu Shopping Centre.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Closure of illegal rooftop structures on Kingland Apartments

* * * * *

The District Court today (Monday) issued a closure order for the illegal rooftop structures on Kingland Apartments in Mong Kok.

Upon execution by the Police, Buildings Department staff and the Government contractor started preparations for the demolition of the illegal structures.

"Our prime concern is building safety," Assistant Director of Buildings Mr Lok Che-leung said. "The Building Authority has a duty to safeguard public interest.

"These illegal structures pose a threat to safety. Many of them are in an advanced state of dilapidation. Some are two storeys high. Some sit on water tanks. Some are erected on the cantilevered rook canopy which was not designed for this purpose," Mr Lok said.

"Cracking is evident, also spalling on concrete and rusting of reinforced concrete. These illegal structures pose a threat to the safety of the parent building.

"They also present a health hazard to the residents below. Severe water seepage at various locations creates serious sanitation and health problems.

"In the interest of building safety and public health, we have to require the demolition of these illegal structure," he said.

Notice of demolition was first given in August 1994 and again in December last year to the owners and occupants of the illegal rooftop structures.

"All the affected rooftop occupants have been offered rehousing. staff from Housing Department, Social Welfare Department, the Yau Tsim Mong district Office and Buildings Department are on site to offer whatever further assistance to the occupants as may be necessary," Mr Lok added.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Hong Kong remains a magnet for multi-nationals

* * * * *

Hong Kong continues to grow as the regional hub for multi-national companies.

That was the clear message given by the Secretary of Hong Kong's Port Development Board, Mr Tony Clark, today (Monday) at the Terminal Operations Conference Asia '95 in Singapore.

He was commenting on a view to the contrary that Singapore was likely to grow at Hong Kong's expense in advance of the British colony's 1997 handover to China.

Mr Clark told delegates: "In the 17 months up to the middle of 1994, eight multi-nationals had indeed relocated their regional headquarters from Hong Kong. But in the same period, 86 overseas companies had established new regional headquarters in Hong Kong. This took the total based there to 714.

"Why did they choose Hong Kong - rather than, say, Singapore? Well, don't rely on me; look at what Fortune Magazine said in November last year. It said:

'Hong Kong is regarded as the best city for business in the world, followed in descending ranking by New York, London, Atlanta, Chicago, Singapore, Toronto, San Francisco, Frankfurt and Miami;

Hong Kong is at the vortex of an economic boom that will transform not only China but all of Asia and, indeed, the entire global economy. It is the crowded entryway to the Asia-Pacific region, and offers unique access to China, the fastest-growing economy and biggest potential market in the world;

Hong Kong is an ideal base from which to manage businesses spread across Asia. It has arguably the most pro-business government in the region. It has low income tax rates. Most importantly, Hong Kong residents are well equipped to seize the many opportunities unfolding before them."

Mr Clark added: "In fact, the closer we get to the transfer of sovereignty, the greater has been the rate of establishment of regional headquarters in Hong Kong. Clearly there are concerns in Hong Kong about our future - the same can be said of many cities - but don't expect the lights all to go out in Hong Kong in 1997.

He said Hong Kong had one very significant additional advantage: "We are geographically in the right place - on the doorstep of potentially the world's biggest economy - China; an economy which is expanding incredibly rapidly; not only that, we sit in deep water at the mouth of one of the world's great river-trading systems.

"The economies of Hong Kong and China are already very much interwoven with Hong Kong being the port and service centre for industrial development across a major portion of southern China. The great majority of those industries are Hong Kong financed, Hong Kong owned and Hong Kong managed.

"Some four million people in neighbouring Guangdong Province alone are employed in businesses wholly or partly owned from Hong Kong. That's not going to change after 1997. Nor, is our geographic position."

As far as Hong Kong's port is concerned, Mr Clark continued: "We are making sure that we can face the future and maintain our place among the world's leading container ports and remain the hub port for southern China.

"Not because of any warm feelings we get from being the world's number one container port. You can't bank warm feelings. But you can bank the significant economic gain you get from handling cargo.

"Our policies are to match the demands of cargo with the supply of port infrastructure - if that makes us number one - OK. Equally OK if it makes us number 101. But just to match forecast demand on our port - and remember our demand forecasts take into account the growth of a whole host of ports in the south China region - just to match demand, Hong Kong will have to treble its container capacity by 2011. A daunting task.

"All these port facilities will be built and operated by private enterprise. It's probably the biggest port development programme in the world including the most impressive plans here in Singapore.

"Unlike Singapore, we in Hong Kong build to match forecast demand rather than in advance of demand. That system, which is supported by an extensive cargo forecasting process, maintains the opportunity for private sector investment, whilst minimising the risks," said Mr Clark.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Beach, marine and inland water quality reports published

The Environmental Protection Department (EPD) has published three reports to give a comprehensive account of the results of its marine and river water quality monitoring programmes in 1993 and beach water quality monitoring programme in 1994.

The "River Water Quality in Hong Kong for 1993" reviews the state of 12 priority rivers and 21 minor streams or nullahs in the territory while the "Marine Water Quality in Hong Kong for 1993" reports the state of marine water and bottom sediment quality of Hong Kong's territorial waters during that year.

The "Bacteriological Water Quality of Bathing Beaches in Hong Kong" summarises the water quality at 42 gazetted and 14 ungazetted beaches in Hong Kong during 1994.

Principal Environmental Protection Officer Dr Malcolm Broom said: "The department has been conducting water quality surveys since 1986 to provide a basis for planning and assessing progress in achieving and maintaining water quality objectives.

"Under the monitoring programmes, information is collected each year from about 90 river, 100 marine and 115 beach sampling stations and a wide range of physico-chemical and biological parameters are measured at each location for detailed analyses."

He said: "The river report shows that the water quality of some rivers, where legislative controls have been successful, has improved, continuing an overall improving trend which has been apparent for some time."

"For the first time, two rivers showed full compliance with all the stipulated water quality objectives in 1993."

"However, for rivers which are still heavily polluted, particularly those in the north and northwest of the territory, there is unlikely to be much improvement until effective control over livestock waste disposal is fully implemented and planned new sewerage works are completed."

He said the marine report highlighted the continued and serious water pollution problems in Victoria Harbour and other areas which received significant inputs of liquid wastes from nearby population centres.

For the bathing beaches, Dr Broom said: "Compliance with the bacteriological water quality objective in 1994 was similar to that in 1993. However, the general momentum towards improvement, built up during the 1980s, has stalled."

"Real and long-lasting improvements in marine and river water quality will only come about with the full implementation of the Sewerage Master Plans and the Strategic Sewage Disposal Scheme, coupled with effective livestock waste control and comprehensive enforcement of the water pollution control legislation in all 10 water control zones in Hong Kong."

"Localised improvements affecting mainly the beaches may be seen as improvements to local sewerage networks are implemented, but in areas where beach water quality is poorest, this will take another four or five years."

The reports contain useful information for professionals such as scientists, engineers and town planners whose work relates to the water and beach environment.

They also serve as a useful reference for researchers, teachers and students as well as the public who are interested in water and beach pollution problems.

The three reports are now available at the Government Publications Centre at the ground floor, Low Block, Queensway Government Offices, 66 Queensway, Hong Kong.

The costs of the river water quality report, the marine water quality report and the beach report are \$56, \$67 and \$28 respectively.

Note to Editors:

Further enquiries can be directed to EPD's Principal Environmental Protection Officer (Waste and Water Services) Dr Malcolm Broom on tel 2835 1234.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Household Expenditure Survey 1994-95

* * * * *

The 1994-95 Household Expenditure Survey which will last one complete year till September to collect up-to-date information on household expenditure patterns for rebasing the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has been half completed since its commencement in October last year.

"In addition to collecting data continuously on the price movements of goods and services, there is a need to establish the household expenditure patterns as basic information for the compilation of the CPI," a spokesman from the Census & Statistics Department said today.

"In the past six months, some 2,700 households have participated in the survey. So far, public response to the survey has been very encouraging. Households invited to take part in the first six months of the survey were generally very co-operative in providing the required information," the spokesman said.

The survey is jointly conducted by the Census and Statistics Department and the Hang Seng Bank. Households participating in the survey will be requested to keep record of all expenses for a specified period of 14 days. Interviewers performing work in this survey will provide assistance to participating households as needed.

"Information provided by households will be kept in the strictest confidence and will not be released to other government departments and external organisations in any identifiable form. It will be used by this Department solely for producing statistics, from which particulars of individual households cannot be identified," the spokesman added.

The spokesman appealed to all households to co-operate fully if they were selected to participate in the 1994-95 Household Expenditure Survey in the coming months.

Anyone who has queries about the survey may call the Department at 2805 6101 or 2805 6102 during office hours.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Supply of particulars in Central Register of Establishments

* * * * *

Updated information kept in the Central Register of Establishments in respect of the fourth quarter of 1994 is now available.

The Census and Statistics Department maintains a comprehensive and up-to-date computerised Central Register of Establishments which contains around 400,000 active business establishments in Hong Kong.

The Register serves mainly as the sampling frame for various economic surveys conducted by the department.

Besides, many other government departments and private organisations also make use of the records kept in the Register in their publicity, business promotion, survey and research work.

Information kept in the Register is updated on a quarterly basis.

A sample listing containing 20 per cent of the records randomly selected from the Register is accessible by prospective users.

Application for the supply of non-confidential particulars such as the name, address, major type of business activity and employment size class of all or part of the listed records can be made to the Central Register of Establishments Section of the department.

The information can be supplied in the form of photocopies or specially-run magnetic tapes. A charge will be levied for this service, at the following rates:-

- * \$5.3 per page of photocopy; or
- * a minimum charge of \$580 for a job requiring computer run time of up to 20 CRUs (Computer Resources Units) plus \$29 for each additional CRU in excess of 20 CRUs, if the information is required on magnetic tapes. The magnetic tape can be provided by the applicant, or by the department at a charge of \$105 per tape.

Further details about the provision of this service can be obtained from the Central Register of Establishments Section of the department on tel 2582 4760.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Royal Navy sailor decorated

A Royal Navy sailor who shot an armed smuggler to save a colleague from a vicious attack has been awarded a Queen's Commendation for Bravery.

Master at Arms Allan Potts, who was serving in HMS Plover as a Regulating Petty officer at the time of the incident, shot the smuggler after Leading Weapon Engineering Mechanic Frazer Manson was attacked with a meat cleaver, bottles and a screwdriver.

The two men had been taking part in anti-smuggling operations in January last year and, after a high-speed chase through Rockey Harbour in one of HMS Plover's fast pursuit craft, they boarded a Chung Fei loaded with television sets. When Potts went to cut the fuel line, the crew set about Manson. He was unable to fight off his attackers and shouted to Potts for help.

As one of the men bore down on Manson with a meat cleaver Potts drew his pistol and, when his challenge was ignored, he fired, wounding the attacker in the stomach. The incident was over in a minute and once the boat had stopped Potts gave first aid to the injured man.

It was not until much later that Potts realised he had also been wounded. His right foot had been sliced through and he was taken to hospital for treatment.

The bravery citation reads: "His calm, fast and effective reaction displayed the highest level of professionalism and bravery throughout a most dangerous operation. His action in opening fire undoubtedly saved Manson from death or, at least, a serious head injury."

Master at Arms Potts is now serving as an Instructor at the Royal Navy School of Leadership and Management at HMS Excellent, Whale Island, in the UK, and still remains modest about the incident.

"Frazer was in trouble and he needed help," he said. "What I did was just automatic. It was something I was trained to do so I just got on and did it."

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Water storage figure

* * * * *

Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Monday) stood at 66.4 per cent of capacity or 389.273 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 388.290 million cubic metres of water, representing 66.3 per cent of capacity.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Fresh water cuts in Sham Shui Po and Sai Kung

* * * * *

Fresh water supply to some premises in Sham Shui Po will be temporarily suspended from 11 pm on Wednesday (April 26) to 6 am the following day to facilitate water mains leakage detection.

The suspension will affect all the premises at Cheung Sha Wan Road, Nam Cheong Street, Tai Po Road, Wong Chuk Street, Fuk Wing Street, Fuk Wa Street and Shek Kip Mei Street.

Meanwhile, fresh water supply to some premises in Sai Kung will also be temporarily suspended from 10 pm on Thursday (April 27) to 6 am the following day to facilitate water mains connection.

All the premises at the section of Clear Water Bay Road between Silver Cape Road and Mang Kung Uk will be affected by the water cut.

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results

* * * * *

Tender date	24 Apr 95
Paper on offer	EF notes
Issue number	3804
Amount applied	HK\$2,850 MN
Amount allotted	HK\$500 MN
Average price (yield) accepted	100.16 (6.96 PCT)
Lowest price (yield) accepted	100.16 (6.96 PCT)
Pro rata ratio	About 38 PCT
Average tender price(yield)	100.12 (6.97 PCT)

End/Monday, April 24, 1995

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

* * * * *

	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	1,493	0930	+1,209
Closing balance in the account	1,799	1000	+1,209
Change attributable to :		1100	+1,210
Money market activity	+1,206	1200	+1,210
LAF today	-900	1500	+1,210
		1600	+1,206

LAF rate 4.25% bid/6.25% offer TWI 118.2 *-0.2* 24.4.95

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes/Hong Kong Government bonds				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	5.18	13 months	2605	6.35	100.48	5.96
1 month	5.19	22 months	2702	7.50	102.06	6.38
3 months	5.38	27 months	3707	6.95	100.93	6.60
6 months	5.58	33 months	3801	8.00	103.15	6.84
12 months	5.91	59 months	5003	7.75	101.70	7.46

Total turnover of bills and bonds - \$ 9,703 million

Closed April 24, 1995

End/Monday, April 24, 1995