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# DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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### Estimated population of Hong Kong

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The estimated population of Hong Kong at the end of December 1995 was 6,307,900, according to figures released by the Census and Statistics Department today (Thursday).

This represents an increase of 158,800 persons or 2.6 per cent as compared with end-1994 when the estimated population was 6,149,100.

In 1995, there were 69,400 births and 31,200 deaths in Hong Kong. The balance of births and deaths thus amounted to 38,200 and accounted for 24 per cent of the population growth.

During the same period, the balance of total arrivals and departures showed a net inflow of some 120,600 persons.

End

### Value of manufacturers' orders-on-hand in December

\* \* \* \* \*

The value of manufacturers' orders-on-hand for local production in December 1995 increased by 4% over a year earlier, according to the provisional results of a monthly survey released today (Thursday) by the Census and Statistics Department.

Comparing December 1995 with December 1994, increases in the value of orders were registered in the electronic products industry (+14%), the printing and publishing industry (+10%), the electrical products industry (+6%) and the fabricated metal products industry (+5%).

The value of orders for the wearing apparel industry and plastic products industry showed little change.

On the other hand, a significant decrease in the value of orders was recorded in the textiles industry (-16%).

Compared with November 1995, and bearing in mind that this comparison may be affected by seasonal factors, the value of manufacturers' orders-on-hand in December 1995 showed little change.

The Monthly Survey of Orders-on-hand covers a sample of some 300 manufacturing firms engaging 50 or more workers.

Manufacturers' orders-on-hand refer to orders and parts of orders received earlier by manufacturers for local production which remain unfilled as at the end of the reference month.

Orders received by traders not engaged in production are included if such orders are further placed to manufacturers for production locally. However, orders placed to manufacturing firms for production in China and other places outside Hong Kong are not included in this series of orders-on-hand statistics.

A spokesman of the department said caution should be exercised in interpreting the manufacturers' orders-on-hand figures in a single month. Instead, the trend movement of the series as displayed over a wider span of time points should be looked at.

The survey report for December 1995, at \$6 a copy, is now on sale at the Government Publications Centre, Queensway Government Offices, Low Block, ground floor, Queensway, and at the Census and Statistics Department Publications Unit, 19th Floor, Wanchai Tower, 12 Harbour Road, Wan Chai.

Enquiries about the survey results may be made to the Industrial Production Statistics Section of the Census and Statistics Department on 2805 6441.

The following table shows the year-on-year percentage changes in the value of orders-on-hand in different manufacturing industries.

	Percentage changes in the value of orders-on-hand in	
	November 1995 <u>over November 1994</u> (Revised)	December 1995 <u>over December 1994</u> (Provisional)
All industries covered in the survey	+ 4	+ 4
- Wearing apparel	- 1	*
- Textiles	- 20	- 16
- Electronic products	+17	+14
- Electrical products	+12	+ 6
- Fabricated metal products	+9	+ 5
- Plastic products	- 1	*
- Printing and publishing	+14	+10

\* Changes within +/-0.5%

End

SWD to distribute blankets to street sleepers

\* \* \* \* \*

The Social Welfare Department (SWD) will distribute blankets to street sleepers in a territory-wide operation tonight (Thursday).

"It is a normal practice for the department to distribute blankets to street sleepers when the temperature drops below or near 10 degrees Celsius," a spokesman for the department said.

It will be the fifth such exercise during the current winter season. The most recent one was conducted last Saturday (February 17).

Meanwhile, SWD will provide blankets through various channels to single elderly people who are in need of extra blankets during the current cold spell.

End

Water storage figure

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Storage in Hong Kong's reservoirs at 9 am today (Thursday) stood at 79.5 per cent of capacity or 465.990 million cubic metres.

This time last year the reservoirs contained 405.650 million cubic metres of water, representing 69.2 per cent of capacity.

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority tender results

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Tender date	22 Feb 1996	22 Feb 1996
Paper on offer	EF bills	EF bills
Issue number	Q608	Y686
Issue date	23 Feb 1996	23 Feb 1996
Maturity date	22 May 1996	19 Feb 1997
Amount applied	HK\$3,460 MN	HK\$1,650 MN
Amount allotted	HK\$1,500 MN	HK\$500 MN
Average yield accepted	4.92 PCT	4.99 PCT
Highest yield accepted	4.93 PCT	5.02 PCT
Pro rata ratio	About 80 PCT	About 40 PCT
Average tender yield	4.94 PCT	5.02 PCT

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

Tenders to be held in the week beginning 26 Feb 1996

Tender date	26 Feb 1996	27 Feb 1996	27 Feb 1996
Paper on offer	EF notes	EF bills	EF bills
Issue number	7302	Q609	H659
Issue date	27 Feb 1996	28 Feb 1996	28 Feb 1996
Maturity date	27 Feb 2003	29 May 1996	28 Aug 1997
Tenor	7 years	91 days	182 days
Amount on offer	HK\$500+100MN	HK\$1,500+300MN	HK\$800+160MN
Coupon	6.02 PCT		

End

Hong Kong Monetary Authority money market operations

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	<u>\$ million</u>	<u>Time (hours)</u>	<u>Cumulative change (\$million)</u>
Opening balance in the account	2,007	0930	+795
Closing balance in the account	2,573	1000	+795
Change attributable to :		1100	+795
Money market activity	+796	1200	+796
LAF today	-230	1500	+796
		1600	+796

LAF rate 4.00% bid/6.00% offer TWI 123.2 \*+0.0\* 22.2.96

Hong Kong Monetary Authority

EF bills		EF notes				
Terms	Yield	Term	Issue	Coupon	Price	Yield
1 week	4.68	2 years	2802	5.16	99.92	5.27
1 month	4.81	3 years	3901	5.57	100.43	5.48
3 months	4.94	5 years	5012	6.38	101.62	6.08
6 months	4.99	7 years	7211	6.82	102.74	6.41
12 months	5.04	5 years	M502	7.30	104.18	6.36

Total turnover of EF bills and notes - \$25,123 million

Closed February 22, 1996

End