



# Newsletter

## Contents

- The Last Month in Brief, Shipping Companies..... 1
- GI (HK) Business, World Security: Economics, Nuclear, Europe ..... 2
- The Arab World, Afghanistan & Pakistan, Palestine, Asia ..... 3
- Thailand and Malaysia, The Malacca Straits, Somalia, Africa, The Americas, Myanmar, India ..... 4
- Nepal News..... 5 - 8
- Hong Kong News ..... 8 - 10
- Conclusion ..... 11



We publish this month a photograph of the **Boudicca** of Fred Olsen Lines.

If you have pictures or postcards of your ship, please send them in to us for future Newsletters.

It has been a difficult and violent year in many parts of the world. The New Year of 2016 approaches with the likelihood that the dangers abroad across the globe will continue if not increase through the next 12 months. We must all continue to look after those whose safety is entrusted to us and also take good care of ourselves. We have an important job to do.

It is also, however, time to be grateful for what we have and to reflect that we have done our work well over the year. I want to pay tribute to you all for what you have achieved and for your hard work and dedication to duty. You are a credit to yourselves, your countries our Clients and our Company. Thank you!

## SHIPPING COMPANIES AND SHIPS LINKED TO US

We are working with 21 shipping companies, and have 773 men and 159 women on ships, a total of 932 crew and staff under management.

## We Welcome

Norwegian Cruise Lines  
Poonam Singh Thaiba  
Rupa Gurung  
Naren Bahadur Gurung

Saga Shipping  
Nanda Maya Gurung



## GI (HK) Business

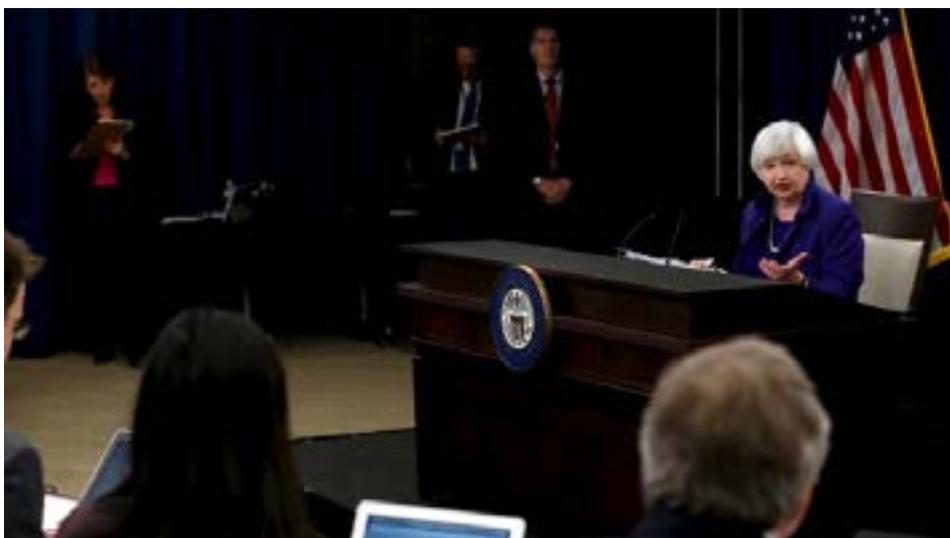
We are providing security services for 32 Hong Kong Clients and have 100 security staff employed.

Our employment agency placement service found 0 Bodyguard/Driver post position over the last month.

# World Security

## Economics

The US Federal Reserve has for the first time since 2006 raised interest rates. This will have an effect in many developing countries which have borrowed money and will make the dollar stronger than before. The price of commodities, especially oil, continues to slide, affecting the countries which produce them. China's slowdown has had a very large effect worldwide. Europe remains in the doldrums, soe countries still at economic levels achieved before the financial crash of 2008 and unemployment high. 2016 is likely to see economic problems grow.



U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Janet Yellen holds a news conference in Washington December 16, 2015.

## Nuclear

There seems to be slow progress in the ratification of the agreement with Iran to curb its nuclear activities. North Korea announced that it had developed a hydrogen fission bomb, though many experts doubt this. Signs of new development of nuclear testing facilities in North Korea have been spotted by satellite.

## Europe

Numbers of Syrian, Iraqi, Libyan and other migrants continue to grow. Free travel between EU states under the Schengen Agreement is now seriously at risk. In Ukraine, tensions with Russia remain high, with Russia ending an economic agreement with the country. NATO took steps to include Montenegro in the alliance, which brought Russian public denunciations.

## The Arab World

Turkey shot down a Russian aircraft that crossed from Syria into its airspace, causing a diplomatic row between the two countries and Russian threats of reprisals. This is the first time in over 50 years in which a NATO country (Turkey) has shot down a Russian plane, so the incident has risks that extend beyond the Middle East. Britain has joined the allies bombing ISIS in Syria. Saudi Arabia announced its leadership of a 34 Muslim nation alliance to fight ISIS with its Headquarters in Riyadh. Iraqi forces are assaulting the ISIS-held town of Ramadi in Anbar province, which they lost last year.

A UN-sponsored peace agreement has been turned down by both factional governments vying for control of Libya. Britain and other western nations are considering attacking ISIS targets in Libya. In Yemen, talks have been held between the Sunni government, Saudi Arabian and some Gulf state forces and Shia Muslim Houthi rebels, but violence continues.

Russia's diesel-electric submarine Rostov-on-Don sets sail in the Bosphorus, on its way to the Black Sea, in Istanbul, Turkey, December 13, 2015.



## Afghanistan and Pakistan

There is no news on the security situation in Pakistan but violence in Afghanistan continues to increase.

## Palestine

There has been no major news in the month, but tensions remain high in Jerusalem and the West Bank.

## Asia

There has been no change in tensions concerning the Spratly and Paracel Islands in the South China Sea, all claimed by China, Vietnam, the Philippines, Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia, or in the dispute over the islands in the Sea of Japan claimed by China, Japan and South Korea. China's insurgency problems in the Muslim areas of far-western Xinjiang province and in Tibet continue. The Black Flag Movement, an ISIS-linked group, continues Muslim terrorism in Mindanao in the southern Philippines.



China has maintained tight security in Xinjiang amid fears of Uighur separatism.

## Thailand and Malaysia

The Muslim insurgency in southern Thailand, near the Malaysian border, continues. The street agitation against Najib Razak, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, who is accused of corruption, has subsided for the time being.



The UK Government says the threat from terrorism in Thailand remains 'high'.

## The Malacca Straits

Small scale piracy continues to be a cause of concern in the Malacca Straits and nearby areas of the South China Sea.

## Somalia

There have been no more reports of piracy in the area of Somalia. Fighting continues in the country between the government and its foreign allies and Islamic militant al-Shabaab fighters.

## Africa

Attacks by Islamic militant Boko Haram terrorists spread into Cameroon this month. Nigerian forces continue to battle Boko Haram in the north of the country. The security situation in the Central African Republic remains disturbed. The civil war in South Sudan continues.



A Cameroonian soldier walks in front of former Nigerian hostages freed by the Cameroonian troops in Maroua on December 5.

## The Americas

There is little news of a security note this month.

## Myanmar

There is little news of a security nature this month.

## India

There is no news of a security nature this month.



In this Nov. 27, 2015 photo, Nepalese people sit on the top of a crowded public bus in Kathmandu, Nepal. An ethnic group's blockade of a key border point with India is leaving Nepal with only about 15 percent of its normal supply of gasoline, diesel and cooking fuel, and creating shortages of other goods including food and medicine.

## Nepal News

### With Lives at Risk, Nepal Struggles to Escape Dysfunction

**5 Dec** - Shiva Parwar has been camping on the pavement for five days, waiting in line for cooking gas. There are 521 gas cylinders ahead of his, and not even the dealer knows when more fuel will arrive, thanks to a two-month-long border blockade that shows no sign of ending.

"I sent my wife and child back to our village home because we don't have the gas to cook," said Parwar, whose roadside candy stall is shuttered while he waits. "I have been eating in restaurants with borrowed money but that too has run out. I have no option but to wait in line."

An ethnic group's blockade of a key border point with India is leaving Nepal with only about 15 percent of its normal supply of gasoline, diesel and cooking fuel, and creating shortages of other goods including food and medicine.

"We are all suffering. Prices of food have gone up and there is shortage of many things here," Parwar said in Kathmandu, the capital. "It is the common people who are suffering. The rich and the leaders are getting the fuel and gas and living comfortably."

A look at Nepal's crisis through the eyes of those close to the dispute, and others who are struggling with its consequences: **THE MADHESIS' COMPLAINT**

Members of the Madhesi ethnic group in south and southeast Nepal are

blockading the border to protest Nepal's new constitution, which was adopted in September after years of infighting. The group wants a larger Madhesi province and more seats in Parliament than they have been given.

Madhesi protesters have clashed with police, attacked public vehicles and shut down highways. At least 50 protesters, police and bystanders have died in the violence.

Upendra Yadav, a leading Madhesi protest leader, blames the government for ignoring their demands and using excessive force to crush peaceful demonstrations.

"Just last week the government sent their goons to disrupt our mass gathering, burning down the stage and chasing our supporters," Yadav said.

The Madhesis have held talks with government negotiators at least nine times but have not reached any agreement.

"We are very clear with our demands," Yadav said, accusing the government of failing to present a clear agenda.

#### THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE

The coalition government led by Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Oli took office after the protests began with promises it would resolve the conflict, but two months later, a solution is nowhere in sight.

The government has said it's ready to

make changes to the constitution but has said little about protesters' demands for a bigger province. The Himalayan country has more than 100 ethnic groups, and while the Madhesi are among the largest, making up about a fifth of Nepal's 30 million people, there are fears that a deal to end the blockade could set off protests elsewhere.

"We fear that giving more land to the Madhesi province and making changes to the state boundaries could trigger new conflicts in the country," said Pradip Gyawali, secretary of the ruling Communist Party of Nepal (United Marxist Leninist). Gyawali said any such changes would require detailed research and agreement among the main political parties.

#### A TENT FOR WINTER

Sundari Lama was forced to live in a tent this spring after her house was destroyed 9,000 people. She eventually moved into in the April earthquake that killed nearly 9,000 people. She eventually moved into an apartment, but now she's back in the tent, this time because of the blockade.

With no gas available, she must cook with wood, but she's not allowed to burn wood in the apartment. So she's bracing for near-freezing winter temperatures in the drafty tent in the outskirts of Kathmandu with her husband and their 5-month-old daughter.

And the fuel shortage is just part of her

family's hardship. Food prices are soaring: A bottle of vegetable oil has tripled in price to 300 rupees (\$2.81). And work has become scarce for her husband, a day laborer.

"First we got hit by the earthquake, losing our homes and then this blockade is causing so much difficulty and pain," Lama said. "We are collecting wood from fallen houses and from wherever we can, but how long can we go on like this?"

**OPPOSITION'S VIEW**

Nepali Congress, the main opposition and largest party, says it is trying to mediate a solution between the government and the protesters. It blames government apathy for the lack of progress, though it shares the government's concern that overly generous concessions to the Madhesi could drive other ethnic groups to protest. "The government is not clear on what they are doing to deal with the situation. They have no idea or any plan and come to talks unprepared," said Ram Hari Khatiwada, a Nepali Congress lawmaker. "But if a solution is not found soon this situation could escalate."

Nepali Congress and Oli's ruling party are traditional rivals, and Khatiwada acknowledged that their rivalry "is one of the reasons for the obstacles in the talks with the Madhesi." He said it's time for that to end.

"The prime minister needs to act as leader of a nation and not chief of a party," he said.

**ONE DAY WITH GAS, SIX WITHOUT**

Since most of Nepal's imported goods flow through India, many businesses are being squeezed by the blockade. They are having a tough time paying rent, utility bills and employee salaries.

Madan Gautam has been able to open his Chakapat Fuel Center in Kathmandu only about once a week, and he's not sure how long he can survive. He gets fuel only from the state-owned Nepal Oil Corp., which distributes its limited supplies to stations on a rotating basis.

"I get about 4,000 liters (1,060 gallons) of fuel one day a week to distribute, but there are hundreds of vehicles lined up outside the pump every day," Gautam said. "I work one day a week and have nothing to do the next six days. ... At this rate we will all go out of business."

**A SMOKY DUMPLING SHOP**

Most people in Nepal blame politicians for their country's troubles. After the end of

an authoritarian monarchy and a bloody communist insurgency nearly a decade ago, a new constitution was supposed to bring positive changes in the new republic. The years since, however, have seen a host of political squabbles and seven different governments.

"Our leaders have failed us again and again. They have done nothing more than work either for themselves, their close supporters and or their own parties. They have done little for the country and the people," said K.C. Raja, who serves buffalo dumplings and noodles at his Top Ten Momo Restaurant near the Boudhanath stupa in Kathmandu. He too lacks cooking gas and must cook by burning wood, which fills his small shop with smoke and has already blackened the walls.

"These leaders don't have to wait in line to fill their fuel tanks," Raja said, "or worry



Nepalese migrant workers returning from the United Arab Emirates.

about how to cook dinner without gas."

**Why thousands of people are leaving Nepal**

7 Dec - Sabin has a dilemma. We are sitting outside the tea shop in his village, chickens pecking around our feet.

"I am supposed to go back to my job in Qatar, building World Cup football stadiums," says Sabin, a wiry looking 25-year-old. "But if I go I worry about how my family will manage through the winter cold - and if I stay, where will the money come from to build a new house?"

Sabin's home was destroyed in the earthquake which hit Nepal earlier this year. Months later, his wife and two-year-old son are still living in a temporary corrugated iron shelter.

At first glance, his village - in the hills about three hours' bus ride along a bumpy road from Kathmandu, the capital - has a pastoral, contented air about it.

A water buffalo lopes past, a bird - like a

jockey - swaying on its back. An elderly man with a young child on his shoulders walks through the bright green stalks of the rice paddy. In the distance, a wind is whipping snow off the tops of the Himalayas, white brushstrokes on a cobalt blue sky.

"It's not only about the money," says Sabin, who is back home from his job in Qatar for the first time in two years. "So many of the men have gone away there's no-one left here now to repair the earthquake damage and build the houses. No-one to do the pipes, the electricity - they're all gone."

More than three-and-a-half million Nepalis - that's well over 10% of the population of this mountainous, underdeveloped country - have left to work abroad over the past 20 years.

Most of them are young men like Sabin. "Look around - do you see what you don't see?" he asks. "No young men - they're

all in Malaysia, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, Dubai - everywhere but here."

Nepalis working abroad have a tough time of it, particularly those who leave the cool air of their mountain villages to labour in the heat of the Gulf states where summer temperatures can top 40C for days on end. We are brought a curry, scooping up rice by hand. The chickens fight over scraps I clumsily drop on the floor.

"Many who go to the Gulf find they can't exist in the conditions there," says Sabin.

"Some die because it's too hot. But some die of cold - after hours working in the heat the labourers take a break. They often go into an air-conditioned place and then fall asleep. And they never wake up. We call it the killing room."

Remittances from workers overseas are vital for Nepal's economy. Most people live on less than \$2 a day. The country's struggle to fight its way out of poverty has been difficult.

The Madhesi people of southern Nepal claim a new constitution discriminates against them - they've mounted a blockade, stopping imports of fuel, medicines and other vital supplies from India. Many in Kathmandu accuse big-brother India of bullying tactics and orchestrating political unrest.

We climb the hill to what remains of Sabin's house. All that's there are two walls held in place by precarious-looking wooden buttresses. The rest is rubble.

"People are nervous" he says. "When they hear a loud sound the children often run out of their shelters. My mother says the gods and the demons deep down in the earth are still fighting."

Inside, the shelter is dark and musty. A large flat-screen TV, brought back as a gift from far-away Qatar, is propped, unconnected to a power supply, against a wall. Goats wander in and out.

Days later, I'm leaving Kathmandu's small airport. Under a "Migrant workers" sign there's a long queue of young men, slowly shuffling towards passport control on their way to jobs abroad.

It's easy to spot the new recruits - they're the ones in the smart clothes, looking more like teenagers going on holiday than labourers bound for building sites in the Gulf. On average, more than 1,500 leave every day.

I look for Sabin among them. Perhaps he's decided to stay after all. But he'll probably go - to sweat in the heat and continue constructing football stadiums - and dream of, sometime, rebuilding his house in the cool air of his mountain village back home.

### **Nepal quake landslides 'could have been far worse'**

**17 Dec** - The impacts stemming from the big earthquakes that struck Nepal earlier this year could have been much, much worse, say scientists.

An international team has just published a review of the events, showing the number of landslides was far lower than people had feared.

And the group could find no evidence of Himalayan glacial lakes suffering significant damage - a key concern.

The assessment has been published in Science magazine.

It has also been presented here in San Francisco at the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union - the world's largest annual gathering of Earth scientists.

"There were a lot of surprises," said study lead Jeffery Kargel from the University of Arizona, Tucson.

"The nature of the earthquakes' influence on the landscape, from the largest scales to the smaller scales, was not really as we would have expected," he told BBC News.

By any measure the Nepal quakes in April and May were devastating: more than eight and a half thousand people lost their lives.

But researchers believe that even this horrific outcome was slight compared with what could have happened.

The main Magnitude 7.8 tremor on 25 April buckled the Earth's surface, making a broad swathe of the high Himalayas slump down while lifting up the adjacent Kathmandu basin. This whole region was also shifted 2m to the south.

Scientists' immediate reaction was to expect many tens of thousands of landslides to be triggered, but a huge volunteer effort to scour satellite images could identify only 4,312.

Similarly, researchers thought that many lakes that had built up behind the rocky deposits of glaciers would be breached by the tremors, sending torrents of water down Nepalese valleys. However, satellite photos and subsequent on-the-ground

inspections could find no serious damage. Quite why this should be is still under study, but scientists think several factors could have contributed.

One concerns the nature of the shaking: although energetic, it was relatively smooth. Another idea is that the rock strength in the region may have been underestimated. Vegetation, like rhododendron forests, could also have played an underappreciated role in holding the landscape together.

None of this diminishes the awfulness of what happened. And the paper published in Science goes into some detail about what happened in the famous trekking village of Langtang, north of Kathmandu.

Here, some two million cubic metres of debris came down the mountainside.

Brian Collins from the US Geological Survey visited the aftermath: "It started off as a snow and ice avalanche somewhere above 5,000m and then slid over 1,000m before going off a cliff and into free-fall for about 500m; and that free-fall was really the damaging aspect of it.

"It had collected a lot of material on the way down and it landed directly on the village."

The scientists have calculated that the



Langtang Valley: A comparison of before and after the landslide.

mass of snow, ice and rock hit the valley floor with the energy equivalent to half a Hiroshima nuclear bomb. That part of Langtang not buried was destroyed in an airblast, says Jeffery Kargel, the assessment's senior author.

"There's another part of the village that was completely blown away by the landslide or avalanche winds, which we estimate were somewhere in the EF-5 Tornado range, strong enough to completely blow away stone-slab hotels." More than 350 people perished

at Langtang.

But, again, even this extraordinary event is put into perspective by a companion paper published in Science magazine.

This details investigations of historic earthquakes in Nepal that occurred around 1,000 years ago. These tremors were likely Magnitude 8 events, or greater, and the landslides and debris movements they triggered completely transformed the landscape around them.

The team found that Pokhara, the

second largest city in Nepal, is actually built on top of all this material.

Co-author Oliver Korup, from the University of Potsdam, Germany, said: "Most of it came from a high-lying mountain basin in the Annapurna Massif, 3,000m above sea level. And the debris spread out over nearly 150 square km, and invaded several river valleys up stream, against the flow direction, for up to 7km. [For comparison], the Downtown San Francisco area would be buried beneath at least 50m of debris."

## Hong Kong News



Carcinogenic chemicals found in five biggest water reservoirs.

### Carcinogenic chemicals found in reservoirs, source may be in China

**1 Dec** - The five biggest drinking water reservoirs in Hong Kong have been found to contain chemicals that could cause cancer and damage the human reproductive and hormone systems, according to new research by Greenpeace, which suggests that the water from the Dongjiang River in China could be a source of the chemicals.

In July, the environmental protection group took ten samples from the five reservoirs, including Plover Cove Reservoir in Tai Po, High Island Reservoir in Sai Kung, Tai Lam Chung Reservoir in Tuen Mun, Shek Pik Reservoir on Lantau Island and Shing Mun Reservoir in Sha Tin.

Plover Cove, High Island and Tai Lam Chung reservoirs, which hold water from

Shenzhen's Dongjiang River, contain a higher concentration of perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) than the other two reservoirs, which collect rainwater and mountain stream water.

Plover Cove contained the highest levels of PFCs, between eight and 15 nanograms per litre. The lowest levels among the samples was in Shek Pik, between 1 and 1.15 nanograms per litre. The group suspects that the Dongjiang River could be one of the sources of PFCs in Hong Kong's drinking water, as there was no direct agricultural, industrial or household pollution near where the samples were collected.

Greenpeace senior campaigner Kate Lin Pui-yi said that PFCs enter the environment mainly through waste water from textile, electronic and outdoor industries' manufacturing sites.

Industrial areas close to the Dongjiang River could have contaminated the water source, and that water filtering facilities in Hong Kong could not completely remove PFCs.

Lin said that the chemicals could remain in the environment for more than 50 years, and they could be retained in human bodies from two to eight years after drinking water or eating seafood containing PFCs.

She added that the government was often slow to realise the threats of new kinds of chemical compounds, and urged it to set up regulatory measures to monitor the amount of PFCs in water, and also ban the use of PFCs.

"In Europe, especially Northern Europe, countries are pushing forward stricter regulations. We hope the government can set the standard as strictly as

possible," Lin said.

PFCs are widely used in outdoor consumer products, such as making weatherproof membranes, as they can repel both water and oil.

Lin urged outdoor product brands to completely abandon the use of PFCs, as substitutes of about the same cost have been used, and large brands should be able to cover the research cost of alternatives.

advised the health minister to rest for at least two weeks.

Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying also visited Ko, who is the most popular top government officials according to opinion poll, at the hospital.

The running race presented by the North District Association for Sports and Culture Development, was funded and co-organised by the North District office of the Home Affairs Department.

of the race did not appear to be problematic.

Chong said, after watching a video that captured the moment when Ko fell, said the incident appeared to be an accident rather than the race's organisational problems.

"To me it looked like an accident. Perhaps Ko is not an athlete and does not exercise on a regular basis, so he was unable to react quickly to unexpected



Dr Ko Wing-man clutches his face in pain following his fall.

## Food and health minister Dr Ko Wing-man sent to hospital after fall at Sheung Shui race

**6 Dec** - Food and health minister Dr Ko Wing-man was admitted to hospital after he had a nasty fall during a running event in Sheung Shui yesterday.

The accident sparked safety concern over running and organisation of marathon races in Hong Kong.

Ko tripped over a child seconds after the race started, and appeared to fall on his face which was covered in blood as people rushed to help him.

He was treated at the first aid station at the scene before he was taken to North District Hospital. Under Secretary for Food and Health Sophia Chan said Ko was in a stable condition after she visited him at the hospital.

She explained that Ko fell on a hard surface and suffered minor fractures to his cheekbone and abrasions on his lips and forehead. He had a few stitches on his forehead, but a CT scan did not indicate any injuries to his brain.

Chan said Ko could be discharged from the hospital soon, but his doctor had

It is understood the race, which started at the Jockey Club Road in Sheung Shui, was divided into six different categories. Participants could choose to take part in 10km, 5km or 2km races. The 2km race is a carnival run that had children and adults running together.

Four training classes opening to public and students were held before the race took place.

Some criticised organisers for inspecting Ko and escorting him away from the scene first before looking after the child who fell, though the child was not injured.

Lobo Louie, associate professor at the Baptist University's physical education department, told the media that at normal competitive races, runners are divided into different categories according to their abilities.

Carnival races, however, runners of different ages are mixed in one group. Participants could be prone to accidents as runners of varied abilities are running at the same time, said Louie.

But Chong Hiu-yeung, an experienced marathon runner, said the organisation

circumstances," said Chong.

Chong said he has witnessed similar accidents in marathons in Hong Kong and overseas. "Some runners stopped suddenly to take selfies in the middle of the race," he said.

He advised runners not to follow the runner in front of them too closely. Born in 1957, Ko is an orthopaedic surgeon and was appointed as Secretary for Food and Health in 2012.

Ko graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Hong Kong in 1981 and began taking up management role in health care sector in 1990s.

In 2003 during the SARS outbreak, Ko was made acting chief executive of the Hospital Authority when the then chief executive William Ho Shiu-wei contacted the deadly virus.

Ko is the most popular top government officials, according to the University of Hong Kong's public opinion poll, with 71 per cent of net approval rate recorded in November.

## Veteran social activist Elsie Tu passes away

**8 Dec** - Outspoken critic of colonial corruption and ardent defender of Hong Kong's underprivileged Elsie Tu passed away Tuesday morning due to pneumonia-related complications.

The outspoken former elected Urban Council member and lawmaker was a regular contributor to China Daily among other media outlets up until her passing, following a sudden deterioration in health last year, passing peacefully at the United Christian Hospital 9:35 am at the age of 102, Mu Kuang English School Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying commended Tu for her lifelong passion for her adopted home town, noting her, "tremendous contributions in taking forward reforms and developments in various aspects of society."

"She adhered to reasoning while respecting the views of the majority. Her noble character earned her wide respect from the community," Leung said of the Grand Bauhinia Medal recipient and Dame Commander of the British Empire. National People's Congress deputy Maria Tam praised her no-nonsense passion in taking on the colonial government as well the sober second thought she injected into local politics.

Secretary for Education Edie Ng lauded Tu for her nurturing of thousands of young people over the decades and her significant contributions to the community, confident people of all walks of life in Hong Kong will remember her

for her selfless accomplishments. Instrumental in setting up one of the city's first English speaking schools for the children of squatters in 1954, the Newcastle-upon-Tyne native rose to prominence for her single-handed battle to improve the lot of Hong Kong's ethnic Chinese population during the height of post-war colonialism through incessant letters to a succession of colonial administrators before entering political life.

Basic Law Consultative Committee and member of the Legislative Council in the run up to the return of sovereignty. Tu also earned the ire of the opposition camp for her support for the city's first Chinese-led administration and policies, advocating for incremental democratic reforms rather than the opposition's crash reforms.

Lawmaker Tam Yiu-chung noted Tu remained concerned and active in Hong Kong's development despite her



In this Jul 2, 1997 file photo, former Chief Executive of the Hong Kong SAR Tung Chee-hwa presents the Grand Bauhinia Medal to The Honourable Mrs Elsie Tu.

Following a 32 year career as an elected representative, Tu's agitations against the colonial government's callous excess served as the seed which germinated into Hong Kong's storied Independent Commission Against Corruption, all the while campaigning for better working and housing conditions during Hong Kong's industrial hey days.

Her expertise and foresight also led to her inclusion as a member of the HKSAR

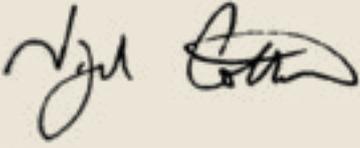
advanced age, hailing her pragmatism and rational approach to cooperation with the Central Government and her continued advice to Hong Kong's youth such as, "It is my dearest wish that young people... see life according to the facts as they are, that they will face these facts, and that they will not be deceived by ideals that are meant to deceive or even control them."



Elsie Tu devoted her energies to fighting for Hong Kong's poor and underprivileged.

# Conclusion

At the close of our last Newsletter for the year of 2015, I send you all, and your families, my greetings at Christmas and my best wishes for the New Year. May the season be a happy one and may 2016 be a good one for you all.



**Nigel Collett**  
**Managing Director**

