



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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PARTICIPATION AND CO-OPERATION OF MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS
ESSENTIAL TO INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

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THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN DOING ITS BEST TO REDUCE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS BUT THE BATTLE CANNOT BE WON WITHOUT THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND CO-OPERATION OF THE MANAGEMENT AND WORKERS.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT'S CHIEF FACTORY INSPECTOR, MR. CHAN SIU-LAP, IN A TALK TO THE HONG KONG INSURERS CLUB TODAY (MONDAY).

HE SAID THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING A SAFE WORKING ENVIRONMENT RESTED SQUARELY ON EMPLOYERS, AND IT WAS A MISCONCEPTION TO BLAME THE DEPARTMENT'S FACTORY INSPECTORATE FOR EVERY INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT THAT OCCURRED IN HONG KONG.

MR. CHAN STRESSED THAT IT WAS NECESSARY FOR EVERYONE -- FROM WORKERS ON THE SHOP FLOOR TO THE DIRECTORS IN THE BOARDROOM -- TO MAKE SAFETY A WAY OF LIFE.

+IF THE MANAGEMENT WOULD EXERCISE THE SAME DEGREE OF CONTROL ON SAFETY PERFORMANCE, AS THEY WOULD IN RESPECT OF QUALITY OR BUDGETARY CONTROL, THEN HALF OF THE BATTLE IS WON. BUT ALL TOO OFTEN, SAFETY IS SLACKENED UNDER PRESSURE OF OTHER CONSIDERATIONS,+ HE ADDED.

MR. CHAN CALLED ON MEMBERS OF THE CLUB TO PLAY A PROMINENT PART IN PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY BY, AS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, OFFERING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES IN THE FORM OF REDUCTION IN INSURANCE PREMIUMS FOR ESTABLISHMENTS WITH GOOD SAFETY PERFORMANCE.

THEY COULD ALSO ASSIST THE DEPARTMENT BY MAKING SAFETY INSPECTIONS BEFORE ACCEPTING AN INSURANCE COVER.

EARLIER, MR. CHAN POINTED OUT THAT THE NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS HAD BEEN ON THE INCREASE SINCE 1974, AND SOMETHING HAD TO BE DONE TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION.

LAST YEAR ALONE, THERE WERE 39,242 INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS INVOLVING 141 FATALITIES.

THE TOTAL LOSS FROM INDUSTRIAL AND OCCUPATIONAL ACCIDENTS LAST YEAR ACCOUNTED FOR 624,792 LOST MAN-DAYS AND \$26,160,673 WAS PAID OUT AS COMPENSATION UNDER THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ORDINANCE. THIS DID NOT INCLUDE THE HIDDEN COSTS WHICH COULD BE AS MUCH AS FOUR TIMES MORE THAN THE COMPENSATION, MR. CHAN SAID.

IN PROMOTING INDUSTRIAL SAFETY AND PREVENTING ACCIDENTS, MR. CHAN SAID, THE INSPECTORATE HAD BEEN PURSUING A POLICY WHICH EMPHASISED ADVICE AND EDUCATION.

PROSECUTION WAS RESORTED TO IN CASES OF SERIOUS HAZARD OR DISREGARD TO WARNINGS. LAST YEAR, A TOTAL OF 3,741 PROSECUTIONS WERE TAKEN OUT AND 2,581 (77 PER CENT) OF THE CASES WERE CONNECTED WITH UNGUARDED MACHINERY.

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OTHER MEASURES BEING TAKEN BY THE INSPECTORATE WERE:

- * ENFORCING 18 SETS OF STATUTORY REGULATIONS DESIGNED TO PROTECT WORKERS' SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE-
- * INSPECTING LARGE AND SMALL INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS-
- * CONDUCTING IN-SERVICE TRAINING COURSES FOR FACTORY INSPECTORS AND SAFETY COURSES FOR INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYEES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOL STUDENTS-
- * MAINTAINING CLOSE LIAISON WITH INTERESTED BODIES, SUCH AS THE HONG KONG BUILDING CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION, THE MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY CORPORATION, THE PLASTIC INDUSTRY, PORT HANDLING UNDERTAKINGS AND THE LABOUR ADVISORY BOARD-
- * DISTRIBUTING GUIDES TO RELEVANT INDUSTRIAL SAFETY LEGISLATION AS WELL AS BOOKLETS AND POSTERS ON SAFE WORKING PRACTICES- AND
- * MOUNTING MAJOR PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS.

THE INSPECTORATE HAD AN APPROVED ESTABLISHMENT OF 140 OFFICERS (NOT INCLUDING CLERICAL SUPPORTING STAFF) AND OPERATED 20 DIVISIONAL OFFICE THROUGHOUT HONG KONG.

IT WAS AT PRESENT 20 PER CENT UNDERSTRENGTH BECAUSE IT HAD LOST MANY TRAINED INSPECTORS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR. HOWEVER 19 RECRUITS WOULD BE TAKEN ON IN DECEMBER, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT WAS EXPECTED TO BE DOUBLED IN FOUR YEARS' TIME.

LAST YEAR, THE INSPECTORATE MADE 39,015 INSPECTIONS AND CARRIED OUT 3,478 ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE PROPER PRIORITY OF INSPECTION, THE INSPECTORATE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION AND METHOD UNIT, HAVE DEVISED A SYSTEM WHEREBY FREQUENCY OF INSPECTION OF A FACTORY IS RATED ACCORDING TO ITS SAFETY PERFORMANCE, SIZE OF WORKFORCE, COMPLEXITY OF PLANT AND ACCIDENT RECORD.

APART FROM THIS, THE INSPECTORATE'S INDUSTRIAL SAFETY TRAINING CENTRE LAST YEAR CONDUCTED 195 SAFETY TRAINING COURSES FOR 5,719 EMPLOYEES AND APPRENTICES AND GAVE 112 TALKS TO 7,815 STUDENTS.

IN CONCLUSION, MR. CHAN STRESSED THAT THE INSPECTORATE WOULD CONTINUE TO DO ITS BEST TO REDUCE INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS AND MAKE INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS SAFER AND HEALTHIER.

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APPOINTMENT OF POSTMASTER GENERAL
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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS HAS APPROVED THE PROMOTION OF MR. A.C. HEATHCOTE, O.B.E., J.P. TO POSTMASTER GENERAL TO SUCCEED MR. D.J.K. BAMFORD, O.B.E., J.P. WHO WILL COMMENCE HIS TERMINAL LEAVE IN JANUARY 1980 ON COMPLETION OF AGREEMENT.

MR. HEATHCOTE, AGED 57, STARTED HIS POST OFFICE CAREER IN THE UNITED KINGDOM IN 1939 WHERE HE SERVED FOR NINE YEARS BEFORE JOINING THE COLONIAL SERVICE. HE RETIRED AS HEAD OF THE POSTAL SERVICES BRANCH IN NIGERIA IN 1962, AND THEN SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS IN LESOTHO FROM 1964 TO 1972.

HE CAME TO HONG KONG AND WAS APPOINTED CHIEF CONTROLLER OF POSTS IN 1973. HE WAS PROMOTED TO DEPUTY POSTMASTER GENERAL IN MARCH 1977. MR. HEATHCOTE WAS AWARDED THE O.B.E. IN 1969.

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CENSUS RESULTS ON WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND
IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES
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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (MONDAY) RELEASED RESULTS OF A LARGE-SCALE ECONOMIC CENSUS IN 1978 ON THE WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT TRADES, COLLECTING DATA RELATING TO 1977.

+ONE OF THE MAIN PURPOSES OF THIS CENSUS IS TO EVALUATE THE ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION OF THESE TRADE SECTORS TO HONG KONG'S GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT (GDP) IN TERMS OF CENSUS VALUE-ADDED,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT SAID.

+CENSUS VALUE-ADDED IS OBTAINED BY SUBTRACTING FROM SALES, THE TOTAL VALUE OF PURCHASES OF GOODS, MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES, AND PAYMENTS FOR WATER, ENERGY, COMMISSIONS AND CONTRACT WORK,+ THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS RESULTS, IMPORT/EXPORT BUSINESS WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT SECTOR IN THE DISTRIBUTIVE TRADE, WITH TOTAL ESTIMATED SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS IN 1977 AMOUNTING TO \$67,788 MILLION AND CENSUS VALUE-ADDED, TO \$7,623 MILLION.

PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR SALE BY IMPORT/EXPORT ESTABLISHMENTS WERE ESTIMATED AT \$59,962 MILLION.

LABOUR COST INCURRED BY THESE ESTABLISHMENTS WAS \$1,942 MILLION, INCLUDING PAYROLL AND OTHER BENEFITS TO EMPLOYEES, BUT EXCLUDING WITHDRAWALS BY PROPRIETORS OR PARTNERS OF UNINCORPORATED BUSINESSES. OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES TOTALLED \$3,960 MILLION.

THE CENSUS ALSO SHOWED THAT FOR RETAIL TRADE, TOTAL SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS WERE ESTIMATED TO BE \$17,492 MILLION IN 1977, AND CENSUS VALUE-ADDED, \$3,486 MILLION.

/PURCHASES

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PURCHASES OF GOODS FOR RETAIL SALE WERE WORTH \$14,262 MILLION WHILE \$1,074 MILLION WERE SPENT ON LABOUR COST, AND \$1,519 MILLION ON OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES.

WHOLESALE TRADE HAD A TOTAL SALES AND OTHER RECEIPTS OF \$17,067 MILLION, ABOUT THE SAME LEVEL AS RETAIL TRADE. ITS CENSUS VALUE-ADDED, HOWEVER, AT \$1,451 MILLION, WAS SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER THAN THAT OF RETAIL TRADE, DUE MAINLY TO A RELATIVELY LOWER GROSS MARGIN.

PURCHASES OF GOODS IN 1977 AMOUNTED TO \$15,611 MILLION WHILE LABOUR COST AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES INCURRED WERE \$504 MILLION AND \$630 MILLION RESPECTIVELY.

THE RESULTS RELEASED TODAY RELATE TO 46,066 WHOLESALE, RETAIL AND IMPORT/EXPORT ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH WERE IN OPERATION DURING THE ENUMERATION PERIOD.

THE RESULTS WERE DERIVED FROM DATA COLLECTED FROM ALL ESTABLISHMENTS ENGAGING 20 OR MORE PERSONS PLUS A SAMPLE SELECTION OF SMALLER ESTABLISHMENTS.

+THE CENSUS COVERED ALL ESTABLISHMENTS REGISTERED WITH THE BUSINESS REGISTRATION OFFICE AND MARKET STALLS REGISTERED WITH THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT OR HOUSING DEPARTMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE CENSUS DID NOT, HOWEVER, INCLUDE UNREGISTERED ESTABLISHMENTS, HAWKERS AND OTHER MOBILE VENDORS. ALSO EXCLUDED FROM THE CENSUS RESULTS ARE 9,840 ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH WERE KNOWN TO HAVE OPERATED DURING 1977 BUT WERE EITHER CLOSED, OR BECAME UNTRACEABLE DURING THE CENSUS ENUMERATION PERIOD,+ HE ADDED.

THEIR STATISTICS WILL BE ESTIMATED AND INCLUDED IN A FORTHCOMING CENSUS REPORT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT IS IN THE PROCESS OF COMPILING A REPORT CONTAINING DETAILED CENSUS RESULTS, THE SAMPLE DESIGN AND METHODS OF DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING.

OTHER INFORMATION TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE CENSUS REPORT INCLUDES THE TYPE OF OWNERSHIP AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF ESTABLISHMENTS, STOCKS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE CENSUS RESULTS MAY BE MADE WITH THE WHOLESALE/RETAIL TRADE STATISTICS SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT BY TELEPHONING 5-444584.

/COMPARISON OF

Results of economic census on wholesale, retail and import/export trades for 1977 :
summary statistics for reporting establishments

Nature of business	Number of establishments	Number of persons engaged	Labour cost	Operating cost	Purchases of goods for sale	Increase in stocks	Sales and other receipts	Census value added
			\$ million					
Wholesale trade	7,175	43,280	504	630	15,611	203	17,067	1,451
Retail trade	28,417	113,618	1,074	1,519	14,262	651	17,492	3,486
Import/export trade	10,474	87,955	1,942	3,960	59,962	901	67,788	7,623
<u>Total</u>	46,066	244,853	3,520	6,109	89,835	1,755	102,347	12,560

Note : 1. Operating cost includes rent and rates, water and energy, and other operating expenses.

2. Increase in stocks refers to the increase in stocks of goods for sale during the reporting year.

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CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AN IMPORTANT AIM IN BIOLOGY TEACHING

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ONE IMPORTANT AIM OF BIOLOGY EDUCATION IS AN APPRECIATION OF THE BEAUTY OF THE LIVING WORLD AND A RESPECT FOR ALL LIVING THINGS, MR. ARTHUR BROWN, SENIOR ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT) SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

HE WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A SIX-DAY SUMMER COURSE FOR BIOLOGY TEACHERS JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG-KONG.

EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RELATIONSHIPS AMONG VARIOUS ORGANISMS AND THEIR CO-EXISTENCE WITH THE ENVIRONMENT, MR. BROWN NOTED IT HAD BEEN PROVED THAT MANY OF MAN'S ACTIVITIES, FOR EXAMPLE URBANIZATION AND POLLUTION, HAD DESTROYED THE HARMONIOUS INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF ORGANISMS AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

+ALL THESE UNCONTROLLED ACTIVITIES WILL DESTROY OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND KILL LIVING ORGANISMS,+ HE SAID.

BIOLOGY TEACHERS SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THE IMPORTANCE OF CONSERVING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND RESPECT FOR LIVING ORGANISMS, MR. BROWN SAID.

+REMEMBER, CHILDREN SHOULD BE TAUGHT, OR RATHER, BE INFLUENCED BY YOUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS LIVING ORGANISMS AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT IN ORDER TO APPRECIATE THE BEAUTY OF THE LIVING WORLD AND DEVELOP A RESPECT FOR ALL LIVING THINGS.

+AS A RESULT, THROUGH SUCCESS IN TEACHING BIOLOGY AS SUCH, WE MAY LOOK FORWARD TO A CLEANER AND HEALTHIER WORLD,+ HE SAID.

A TOTAL OF 105 TEACHERS HAD APPLIED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SUMMER COURSE, BUT ONLY 40 WERE SELECTED BECAUSE OF LIMITED FACILITIES.

+THIS SHOWS THAT THE COURSE IS VERY POPULAR AMONG OUR BIOLOGY TEACHERS WHO ARE VERY KEEN TO KEEP ABREAST OF MODERN APPROACHES AND CONCEPTS IN BIOLOGY TEACHING,+ MR. BROWN SAID.

THE COURSE, THE THIRD OF ITS KIND, IS BEING HELD AT THE SCIENCE CENTRE OF THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG IN SHA TIN.

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D.H.A. TO VISIT CENTRE FOR MENTALLY RETARDED GIRLS

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THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. MICHAEL LEUNG MAN-KIN WILL VISIT THE KO CHIU ROAD CENTRE RUN BY PO LEUNG KUK FOR MENTALLY RETARDED GIRLS TOMORROW (TUESDAY).

MR. LEUNG, ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. KITTY SIU HON-SUM, CHAIRMAN OF PO LEUNG KUK- AND MR. WILFRED WONG, CITY DISTRICT OFFICER (KWUN TONG), WILL TOUR THE CENTRE AND INSPECT THE HOSTEL AND THE SHELTERED WORKSHOP.

THE HOSTEL PROVIDES ACCOMMODATION FOR 60 MENTALLY RETARDED GIRLS WHILE THE SHELTERED WORKSHOP OFFERS JOB TO THOSE WHO ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT IN THE COMMUNITY. THE PRESENT CAPACITY OF THE WORKSHOP IS 160.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COVER THE VISIT BY THE DIRECTOR OF HOME AFFAIRS, MR. MICHAEL LEUNG MAN-KIN TO THE KO CHIU ROAD CENTRE FOR MENTALLY RETARDED GIRLS AT 2.30 P.M. TOMORROW AT BLOCK 4, KO CHIU ROAD ESTATE, KWUN TONG.

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NT FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN KICKS OFF IN TSUEN WAN

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FOOD HYGIENE, PARTICULARLY FOOD HANDLING AND FOOD STORAGE, PLAYS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF FOOD POISONING AND DISEASES SUCH AS DYSENTERIES, TYPHOID FEVERS AND CHOLERA IN THE LONG, HOT AND WET SUMMER MONTHS IN HONG KONG.

THIS WAS STATED BY MR. PETER YEUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE OF TSUEN WAN DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD AT THE START OF THE NEW TERRITORIES FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN IN TSUEN WAN TODAY (MONDAY).

THE FOOD HYGIENE CAMPAIGN, ORGANISED BY THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT, AIMS TO PROMOTE AMONG FOOD HANDLERS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPER STORAGE METHODS FOR FOOD.

THE CAMPAIGN, WHICH CONTINUES UNTIL SEPTEMBER 14, WILL BE HELD AT EIGHT DIFFERENT CENTRES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

MR. YEUNG TOLD THE FOOD OPERATORS WHO ATTENDED THE OPENING CEREMONY THAT OUR LONG, HOT AND HUMID SUMMERS FAVOUR THE PROPAGATION OF INSECTS AND THE MULTIPLICATION OF GERMS WHICH LEAD TO FOOD SPOILAGE.

HE SAID: +ALL THESE FACTORS HAVE STRONG BEARINGS ON THE TRANSMISSION OF FOOD POISONING, DYSENTERIES, TYPHOID FEVERS AND CHOLERA WHICH ARE GENERALLY ASSOCIATED WITH UNHYGIENIC FOOD AND DRINKS.

/+FOOD HYGIENE,

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+FOOD HYGIENE, PARTICULARLY FOOD HANDLING AND FOOD STORAGE, THEREFORE PLAY A MOST SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN THE PREVENTION OF THESE DISEASES AND THE PROMOTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH.+

HE ALSO REMINDED FOOD OPERATORS THAT THEY ARE NOW PLAYING A MORE IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH AS MORE AND MORE PEOPLE NOW RELY ON THE SERVICE OF RESTAURANTS, OR BUY READY-MADE FOOD FROM FOOD FACTORIES AND UNCOOKED RAW MEAT FROM BUTCHER SHOPS.

+AS SUCH SUPPLY AND CATERING OF FOOD MAY DIRECTLY AFFECT THE HEALTH OF THE CONSUMERS, AND INDIRECTLY THE PUBLIC AT LARGE, YOU MAY REALISE HOW IMPORTANT THE ROLE YOU ARE PLAYING IN PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH,+ MR. YEUNG TOLD THE FOOD OPERATORS.

FOLLOWING THE OPENING SPEECH BY MR. YEUNG, SENIOR STAFF OF THE NEW TERRITORIES SERVICES DEPARTMENT EXPLAINED TO THE PARTICIPANTS PRACTICAL METHODS OF HYGIENIC FOOD STORAGE, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF SLIDES AND FILMS.

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RESTRICTED ZONE IN CENTRAL
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ON LAN STREET IN CENTRAL WILL BE DESIGNATED A RESTRICTED ZONE FOR ALL MOTOR VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES FROM 10 A.M. ON THURSDAY (AUGUST 23).

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, ALL PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN OF PASSENGERS AND LOADING OR UNLOADING OF GOODS ARE PROHIBITED BETWEEN 7 A.M. TO 10 A.M. AND 4 P.M. TO 7 P.M. DAILY.

THE LIMITS OF THE RESTRICTED ZONE WILL BE INDICATED BY TRAFFIC SIGNS.

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YAN FUNG STREET RE-OPENS ON WEDNESDAY
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (MONDAY) THAT YAN FUNG STREET IN HUNG HOM WILL BE RE-OPENED TO TRAFFIC ON WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF RE-CONSTRUCTION OF THE STREET.

WITH ITS RE-OPENING ALL TRAFFIC TO AND FROM THIS STREET WILL BE CONTROLLED BY TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND ALL VEHICLES COMING OUT OF THE STREET WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED TO TURN LEFT INTO FAT KWONG STREET.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO GUIDE MOTORISTS.

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