



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28, 1977

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NEED TO BROADEN RANGE OF SUBJECTS IN FORM 6 STRESSED
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THERE IS A NEED TO BROADEN THE RANGE OF SUBJECTS OFFERED ON SIXTH FORM COURSES IN HONG KONG'S SECONDARY SCHOOLS. THESE COURSES SHOULD NOT ONLY PREPARE STUDENTS FOR UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE BUT ALSO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND THE PROFESSIONAL AND PARA-PROFESSIONAL BODIES FOR WHICH A UNIVERSITY DEGREE IS NOT NECESSARY.

THIS WAS STRESSED IN THE REPORT OF AN INFORMAL WORKING COMMITTEE SET UP BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY.

THE REPORT, ENTITLED '+SIXTH FORM EDUCATION IN HONG KONG+', WAS ISSUED TODAY BY THE DIRECTOR WHO EMPHASISED THAT IT GAVE THE VIEWS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE AND DID NOT REFLECT ANY GOVERNMENT OR EDUCATION DEPARTMENT POLICY.

COPIES OF THE REPORT HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE TWO UNIVERSITIES, THE POLYTECHNIC AND MAJOR SCHOOLS COUNCILS WHO HAVE BEEN ASKED TO SEND IN THEIR COMMENTS BY MARCH 31.

MR. TOPLEY SAID THAT WHILE IN HIS OPINION THE REPORT WAS NOT A RADICAL ONE, IT RECOMMENDED CHANGES WHICH, IF ACCEPTED, WOULD RESULT IN MAJOR CHANGES IN THE PATTERN OF SIXTH FORM EDUCATION IN HONG KONG.

THE REPORT WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AFTER ALL COMMENTS FROM THE PARTIES CONCERNED HAD BEEN RECEIVED.

IN THE REPORT, THE WORKING COMMITTEE SAID IT DID NOT SEE IT AS ITS FUNCTION TO RECOMMEND DETAILED LISTS OF SPECIFIC SUBJECTS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED FORM 6 COURSE.

IT SAID: '+THIS WOULD REQUIRE CONSULTATION WITH THE UNIVERSITIES, THE POLYTECHNIC, OTHER INSTITUTIONS CONDUCTING TERTIARY TRAINING COURSES AND THE MAJOR EDUCATIONAL BODIES IN HONG KONG.+'

+'WHEN THE SYSTEM HAD BEEN AGREED AND THE SUBJECTS TO BE TAUGHT ON ITS COURSES ESTABLISHED THROUGH CONSULTATION, THE PRODUCTION OF THE NECESSARY SYLLABUSES WOULD BE A MATTER FOR THE CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.+'

THE WORKING COMMITTEE HAS MADE THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:

- * FORM 6 COURSES SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE RUN AS PART OF A NORMAL SECONDARY SCHOOL AND NOT IN SUCH SEPARATE INSTITUTIONS AS SIXTH FORM COLLEGES.
- * FORM 6 COURSES SHOULD FIRST AND FOREMOST BE GEARED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE PUPILS AT THEIR STAGE OF DEVELOPMENT AND SHOULD NOT BE UNDULY INFLUENCED BY THE REQUIREMENTS OF TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS.

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- * THERE SHOULD BE A COMMON TWO-YEAR COURSE FOR ALL FORM 6 PUPILS WITH ONE MATRICULATION EXAMINATION FOR ENTRANCE INTO BOTH THE LOCAL UNIVERSITIES WITH EXAMINATION PAPERS BEING SET IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE.
- * ALL FORM 6 PUPILS SHOULD FOLLOW BROADER COURSES THAN THOSE OBTAINING AT PRESENT, ESPECIALLY IN OUR ANGLO-CHINESE SCHOOLS.
- * THERE SHOULD BE A WIDER, MORE LIBERAL RANGE OF SUBJECTS WHICH CAN BE STUDIED AT FORM 6 LEVEL.
- * WHILE THE REVISED FORM 6 CURRICULA WOULD LEAD TO A PUBLIC EXAMINATION THE STANDARDS OF WHICH WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING, THIS PUBLIC EXAMINATION WOULD ALSO ESTABLISH STANDARDS WHICH COULD BE USED AS ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR OTHER COURSES OF HIGHER LEVEL VOCATIONAL TRAINING.
- * THE PROVISION OF FORM 6 PLACES IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR OF SECONDARY EDUCATION SHOULD AT PRESENT BE AS LAID DOWN IN THE WHITE PAPER ON SECONDARY EDUCATION 1974, THAT IS, THE PROVISION OF SUFFICIENT SUBSIDISED PLACES IN FORM LOWER/MIDDLE 6 TO CATER FOR ONE-THIRD OF THE PUPILS WHO ENTER FORM 4 IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR. IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT AT PRESENT ANY SUGGESTION TO INCREASE THIS PROVISION WOULD BE UNREALISTIC UNTIL ADEQUATE PROVISION TO MEET THE DEMANDS OF THE PUBLIC HAD BEEN MADE AT THE FORMS 1 - 5 LEVELS.
- * WHEREVER POSSIBLE COMMON EXAMINATION PAPERS SHOULD BE SET IN BOTH ENGLISH AND CHINESE.
- * TO ENSURE A BROADER CURRICULUM THE MATRICULATION COURSE SHOULD CONSIST OF A COMBINATION OF MAJOR AND SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS.
- * THE MAJOR SUBJECTS SHOULD EQUATE TO THE PRESENT ADVANCED LEVEL FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG IN THE DEPTH OF STUDY REQUIRED, BUT THERE SHOULD BE A REDUCTION IN THE CONTENT OF MANY OF THE PRESENT SYLLABUSES SO THAT FEWER TEACHING PERIODS PER WEEK NEED TO BE DEVOTED TO THEM. THE COMMITTEE FULLY APPRECIATE THE NEED TO MAINTAIN OVERSEAS RECOGNITION OF THE MAJOR SUBJECTS.
- * SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS SHOULD BE OF A STANDARD WHICH FORM 6 STUDENTS CAN BE EXPECTED TO ACHIEVE IN TWO YEARS OF STUDY WITH HALF THE TIME BEING GIVEN TO THEM AS IS GIVEN TO THE MAJOR SUBJECTS. IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS TO BEGIN STUDYING SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS IN FORM 6.
- * ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO TAKE +USE OF CHINESE+ AND +USE OF ENGLISH+ AS WELL AS THEIR COMBINATION OF MAJOR AND SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS.

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- * STUDENTS SHOULD OFFER A COMBINATION OF MAJOR AND SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS, TWO SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS EQUATING TO ONE MAJOR SUBJECT.
- * THE SUBJECT +GENERAL STUDIES+ SHOULD BE INTRODUCED AS A POSSIBLE SUBSIDIARY SUBJECT TO BE STUDIED IN EITHER CHINESE OR ENGLISH.
- * THE CONSTRAINTS ON CHOICE OF SUBJECTS AND THE NUMBER OF SUBJECTS SHOULD BE MINIMAL. STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE AS WIDE A CHOICE AS POSSIBLE: THE LIMITS OF CHOICE SHOULD BE A MATTER FOR EACH SCHOOL TO DECIDE.
- * TO ENSURE AS WIDE A CHOICE AS POSSIBLE PROVISION SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF MORE SPLIT CLASS TEACHERS FOR FORM 6 CLASSES.
- * THE COMBINATION OF SUBJECTS TAKEN SHOULD INCLUDE ONE ARTS AND ONE SCIENCE SUBJECT.
- * IN SUBSIDIARY SUBJECTS INTERNAL ASSESSMENT SHOULD BE USED WHEREVER POSSIBLE AS PART OF THE FINAL GRADE TOGETHER WITH EITHER AN EXTERNAL EXAMINATION OR AN EXTERNALLY MODERATED SCHOOL EXAMINATION.

THE WORKING COMMITTEE WAS FORMED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AFTER A SPEECH DELIVERED TO THE CONGREGATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG ON NOVEMBER 7, 1975 BY DR. RAYSON HUANG, VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY, WHO SPOKE ON THE SUBJECT THE +BASIC PURPOSE OF OUR SYSTEM OF SECONDARY EDUCATION+.

DR. HUANG CALLED FOR A MORE LIBERAL COURSE, WITH EMPHASIS BEING PLACED ON NUMERACY AND LITERACY AND THE NEED FOR PROFICIENCY IN BOTH CHINESE AND ENGLISH.

IN THEIR REPORT, MEMBERS OF THE WORKING COMMITTEE SAID THAT THEY +REALISE THAT WHILE THEY HAVE ATTEMPTED TO REFLECT THE OPINION OF THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RUNNING OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS, THEIR VIEWS CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO FIND UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT+.

THE 12-MEMBER COMMITTEE MET SIX TIMES, THE FIRST OF WHICH WAS ON FEBRUARY 6, 1976. SIX PRINCIPALS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS SERVED ON THE COMMITTEE UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. ROBERT CAMERON, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

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TRIAL PERIOD FOR GMT PLUS 8 PROPOSED
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+GMT PLUS 8+ WILL BE GIVEN A TRY THIS SUMMER UNDER THE INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE BILL WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

IF ENACTED, THE PRESENT STANDARD TIME AND SUMMER TIME WILL BE REPLACED WITH GMT PLUS 8 FOR A TRIAL PERIOD COMMENCING ON APRIL 17.

HOWEVER, THIS WILL REMAIN SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY RESOLUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE AMENDING BILL WOULD ENABLE THE PUBLIC TO TRY GMT PLUS 8 THIS SUMMER SO THAT THEY COULD EXPERIENCE FOR THEMSELVES THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF THE SYSTEM AS AGAINST GMT PLUS 9.

HE EMPHASISED THAT THE ADOPTION OF GMT PLUS 8 WAS ONLY ON A TRIAL BASIS FOR THIS SUMMER.

HE ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO FOLLOW PUBLIC OPINION AND THE SUBSEQUENT ADOPTION OF WHICHEVER TIME SYSTEM WOULD DEPEND ENTIRELY ON THE REACTION FROM THE PUBLIC.

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PRESS BADGES FOR VISIT OF HRH PRINCESS ALEXANDRA
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NOTE TO EDITORS:

PRESS BADGES FOR THE VISIT OF HRH PRINCESS ALEXANDRA ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR COLLECTION. PLEASE SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO COLLECT THE BADGES IN BULK FROM THE DUTY ENQUIRIES OFFICERS IN THE GIS PRESS ROOM, 6TH FLOOR, BEACONSFIELD HOUSE.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVE IS REQUESTED TO BRING SOME IDENTIFICATION PAPERS AND SIGN TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE RECEIPT.

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CONTROL ON SOFT DRUGS TIGHTENED

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THE GOVERNMENT TOOK A FIRST STEP TODAY TO TIGHTEN THE CONTROL OF PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (COMMONLY KNOWN AS SOFT DRUGS) BY ADDING AMPHETAMINE AND METHAQUALONE TO THE LIST OF DRUGS CONTROLLED UNDER THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE.

THE ADDITION OF THE TWO DRUGS TO THE ORDINANCE WAS ANNOUNCED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY UNDER THE DANGEROUS DRUGS (AMENDMENT OF FIRST SCHEDULE) ORDER 1977.

UNDER THE ORDER, ANYONE COMMITTING A MAJOR OFFENCE (SUCH AS THE MANUFACTURE OR TRAFFICKING OF THESE TWO DRUGS) IS LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM PENALTY OF LIFE IMPRISONMENT AND A FINE OF \$5 MILLION, I.E. THE SAME AS FOR SIMILAR OFFENCES CONNECTED WITH HEROIN AND OPIUM.

THE MEASURE WAS TAKEN ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS TO TIGHTEN THE CONTROL OF CERTAIN TYPES OF PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES WHICH MIGHT BE ILLICITLY MANUFACTURED, ABUSED OR SMUGGLED ABROAD FOR TRAFFICKING PURPOSES.

AT PRESENT MOST PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES ARE CONTROLLED UNDER THE PHARMACY AND POISONS ORDINANCE WHICH IS PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH MALPRACTICES ON THE PART OF DEALERS AND DISPENSARIES, AND DOES NOT, ON THE WHOLE, PROVIDE PARTICULARLY HARSH PUNISHMENT.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID : +ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO SUGGEST THAT THERE IS MUCH ABUSE OF THESE DRUGS AT PRESENT, EXPERIENCE IN OTHER COUNTRIES HAS SHOWN THAT OPIATE (HEROIN AND OPIUM) ABUSERS CAN SWITCH TO PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES IF THE AVAILABILITY OF OPIATES IS RESTRICTED.

+THE REASON FOR THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW IS, THEREFORE, TO IMPOSE CONTROL ON THESE TWO SUBSTANCES AS A PREVENTIVE MEASURE AGAINST BOTH POSSIBLE ABUSE AND POSSIBLE ILLICIT MANUFACTURE.

+TIMELY PREVENTIVE ACTION HAS TO BE TAKEN NOW IN ORDER TO FORESTALL SUCH AN EVENTUALITY, IF IT EVER OCCURS,+ HE ADDED.

AMPHETAMINE IS A STIMULANT AND COULD, IF ABUSED REPEATEDLY, LEAD TO LOSS OF APPETITE, DELUSION AND ORGANIC DAMAGE= AND METHAQUALONE, WHICH WAS ALSO KNOWN AS MANDRAX, IS A TRANQUILIZER THAT COULD CAUSE ADDICTION, CONFUSION, DIZZINESS AND ORGANIC DAMAGE IF TAKEN EXCESSIVELY OVER A PERIOD.

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AIR SERVICES BETWEEN H.K. AND PORT MORESBY
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REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BRITISH AND PAPUA-NEW GUINEA GOVERNMENTS MET IN HONG KONG ON JANUARY 25, 1977, TO NEGOTIATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR AIR SERVICES BETWEEN HONG KONG AND PORT MORESBY.

THE PAPUA-NEW GUINEA TEAM WAS LED BY MR. J.J. TAUVASA, CONTROLLER OF CIVIL AVIATION, AND THE BRITISH SIDE BY MR. C.C. SANSUM, CIVIL AVIATION ADVISER TO THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER TO AUSTRALIA.

THE BRITISH TEAM INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT AND CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS WHILE THE PAPUA-NEW GUINEA TEAM INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES FROM AIR NIUGINI.

THE TALKS WERE HELD IN A FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE THROUGHOUT AND RESULTED IN AGREEMENT FOR THE AIRLINES CONCERNED TO OPERATE ONCE WEEKLY BOEING 707 FLIGHTS. AIR NIUGINI ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE SERVICES IN APRIL 1977, WHILE CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS ARE EXPECTED TO COMMENCE SERVICES IN MARCH 1978.

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JUVENILE OFFENDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL
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A BILL WHICH SEEKS TO EMPOWER THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE TO REQUIRE A JUVENILE OFFENDER, DISCHARGED PRIOR TO THE EXPIRY OF THE MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE DETENTION PERIOD OF SIX MONTHS, TO BE SUBJECTED TO SUPERVISION FOR THE BALANCE OF THE PERIOD, IS PUBLISHED IN THE GAZETTE TODAY.

THE BILL, KNOWN AS THE JUVENILE OFFENDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977, WILL BE INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHORTLY.

IF ENACTED, THE JUVENILE OFFENDER WILL ALSO BE LIABLE TO BE RECALLED IF ANY REQUIREMENTS ATTACHED TO THE SUPERVISION ORDER ARE NOT COMPLIED WITH.

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BILLS ON FAMILY MAINTENANCE PUBLISHED

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FOUR BILLS DESIGNED TO UPDATE AND IMPROVE EXISTING LEGISLATION RELATING TO MATTERS SUCH AS THE CUSTODY OF A CHILD AND PAYMENT MAINTENANCE ARE PUBLISHED IN THE GOVERNMENT GAZETTE TODAY FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION.

THEY ARE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS BILL 1977- MAINTENANCE ORDERS (RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT) BILL 1977- AFFILIATION PROCEEDINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 AND SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977.

THE GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS BILL 1977 SEEKS TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS ORDINANCE (CAP. 13) SO AS TO BRING THE LAW RELATING TO THE GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS INTO LINE WITH THE LAW IN ENGLAND AS AMENDED BY THE GUARDIANSHIP ACT OF 1973.

THE PURPOSE OF THE BILL IS TO MAKE +THE RIGHTS OF A MOTHER EQUAL WITH THOSE OF A FATHER IN THE GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS+.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT UNDER THE PRESENT LAW PARENTAL EQUALITY EXISTED WHERE A DIFFERENCE AROSE IN LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

HOWEVER, HE ADDED, IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH PROCEEDINGS THE RIGHTS OF THE FATHER PREVAILED.

THE MAINTENANCE ORDERS (RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT) BILL 1977 SEEKS TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE MAINTENANCE ORDERS (FACILITIES FOR ENFORCEMENT) ORDINANCE (CAP. 15). IF ENACTED, IT WILL BRING THE PROVISIONS OF BILL IN LINE WITH THOSE OF PART I OF THE U.K. MAINTENANCE ORDERS (RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT) ACT OF 1972.

THE BILL WILL ENABLE ANY COUNTRY AND NOT MERELY A COMMONWEALTH COUNTRY WHICH IS PREPARED TO ENFORCE MAINTENANCE ORDERS MADE IN HONG KONG TO HAVE ITS ORDERS ENFORCED HERE.

THE DEFINITION OF MAINTENANCE ORDER IN THE BILL INCLUDES AN AFFILIATION ORDER AND WILL THUS ENABLE ENFORCEMENT OF SUCH ORDERS IN A RECIPROCATING COUNTRY.

THE AIMS OF THE AFFILIATION PROCEEDINGS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 AND THE SEPARATION AND MAINTENANCE ORDERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 ARE :

- * TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF MAINTENANCE WHICH THE DISTRICT COURT MAY AWARD IN RESPECT OF A CHILD FROM \$120 TO \$500 PER WEEK, AND
- * TO EMPOWER THE DISTRICT COURT TO REVOKE, REVIVE OR VARY AN ORDER FOR THE PERIODICAL PAYMENT OF MONEY MADE UNDER EITHER OF THE ABOVE PRINCIPAL ORDINANCES EVEN THOUGH ONE OF THE PARTIES RESIDES OUTSIDE HONG KONG.

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FIRING PRACTICE

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FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE ON CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON FOUR DAYS NEXT MONTH.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN THE RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF THE FIRING PRACTICE.

THE PRACTICE TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
FEBRUARY 11 (FRIDAY)	9.30 A.M. -- 4 P.M.
FEBRUARY 15 (TUESDAY)	8.00 A.M. -- 10 P.M.
FEBRUARY 16 (WEDNESDAY)	8.00 A.M. -- 6 P.M.
FEBRUARY 28 (MONDAY)	8.30 A.M. -- 4 P.M.

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ROAD CLOSURE IN SHA TIN

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THE SLIP ROAD FROM TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD TO TAI PO ROAD, SHA TIN WILL BE CLOSED TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC FOR TWO WEEKS FROM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO ENABLE TWO LARGE FRESH-WATER MAINS TO BE LAID FROM SHA TIN (NORTH) SERVICE RESERVOIR.

DURING THIS PERIOD THE ACCESS ROAD FROM TAI PO ROAD TO TUNG LO WAN HILL ROAD WILL BE TEMPORARILY REROUTED TWO-WAY.

APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE PLACED IN THE AREA FOR THE GUIDANCE OF MOTORISTS.

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