



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1989

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JUNE ORDERS-ON-HAND EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL FIGURES RELEASED

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THE ORDERS POSITION IN JUNE 1989 AS REPORTED BY THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES WAS LOWER BY 2 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1989, BUT SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1988, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF A SURVEY RELEASED TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

COMPARING JUNE 1989 WITH MAY 1989, THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND DECREASED MODERATELY IN THE TEXTILES AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, AND SLIGHTLY IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

HOWEVER, A SLIGHT INCREASE IN ORDERS WAS RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1988, THE ORDERS POSITION IN JUNE 1989 INCREASED MODERATELY IN THE TEXTILES AND PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY.

ON THE OTHER HAND, ORDERS DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, AND REMAINED ALMOST UNCHANGED IN THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND IS MEASURED IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF MONTHS AND REFERS TO ORDERS OUTSTANDING AS AT THE END OF THE REFERENCE MONTH.

ON EMPLOYMENT, THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED REPORTED THAT THEIR TOTAL WORKFORCE IN JUNE 1989 INCREASED BY 3 PER CENT OVER MAY 1989, BUT DECREASED BY 9 PER CENT COMPARED WITH JUNE 1988.

COMPARED WITH MAY 1989, EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE 1989 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY AND MODERATELY IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS, FOOD AND DRINKS AND FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES. THESE INCREASES WERE MAINLY DUE TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF SUMMER WORKERS BY SOME MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE WEARING APPAREL AND TEXTILES INDUSTRIES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE OVER THE SAME PERIOD.

COMPARING JUNE 1989 WITH JUNE 1988, EMPLOYMENT DECREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT IN THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS AND THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRIES. SLIGHT DECREASES IN EMPLOYMENT WERE RECORDED IN ALL OTHER INDUSTRIES SURVEYED.

IN JUNE 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED DECREASED, IN MONEY TERMS, BY 3 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1989, BUT INCREASED BY 18 PER CENT WHEN COMPARED WITH JUNE 1988.

/COMPARING JUNE

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COMPARING JUNE 1989 WITH MAY 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS DECREASED IN ALMOST ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH THE LARGEST DECREASE RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRY. THESE DECREASES WERE PARTLY ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE LOWER WAGES OF SUMMER WORKERS EMPLOYED IN JUNE 1989.

OVER THE SAME PERIOD, THE WEARING APPAREL INDUSTRY REPORTED LITTLE CHANGE IN PER CAPITA EARNINGS.

COMPARED WITH JUNE 1988, PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JUNE 1989 INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY IN MOST MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED, WITH THE LARGEST INCREASES RECORDED IN THE PLASTIC PRODUCTS AND THE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE 1989 DROPPED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1989 AND JUNE 1988. PER CAPITA EARNINGS IN JUNE 1989 DECREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1989, BUT INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY OVER JUNE 1988.

IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT FIGURES FOR THIS SECTOR COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

IN THE SERVICE SECTORS SURVEYED, THE OVERALL LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT IN JUNE 1989 INCREASED SLIGHTLY OVER MAY 1989 AND MODERATELY OVER JUNE 1988. IN JUNE 1989, PER CAPITA EARNINGS FOR THE SERVICE SECTORS TAKEN TOGETHER INCREASED SLIGHTLY WHEN COMPARED WITH MAY 1989, AS SOME OF THE BANKS SURVEYED ISSUED SPECIAL BONUSES.

COMPARING JUNE 1989 WITH JUNE 1988, PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY FOR THE SERVICE SECTORS TAKEN TOGETHER.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN ORDERS-ON-HAND, EMPLOYMENT AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS ARE SHOWN IN TABLES 1 TO 3.

THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES AND THE 50 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICE SECTORS, CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZES IN SEPTEMBER 1986.

THE DEPARTMENT CAUTIONED THAT AS THE SURVEY IS NOT BASED ON A SCIENTIFICALLY SELECTED SAMPLE, THE MAGNITUDES OF CHANGE INDICATED BY THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE MERELY A REFLECTION OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE COMPANIES SURVEYED.

HOWEVER, GIVEN THE COMPOSITION OF THE PANEL, IT SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR MAKING A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR JUNE 1989 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GPO BUILDING, CONNAUGHT PLACE, CENTRAL, AND AT THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES COUNTER, 19TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER I, 12 HARBOUR ROAD, WAN CHAI, AT \$2 PER COPY.

/ENQUIRIES ABOUT

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ENQUIRIES ABOUT THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT ON TEL. 5-8234820.

TABLE 1: ORDERS-ON-HAND IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	ORDERS-ON-HAND		
	AS AT THE END OF	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
	JUNE 1989	MAY 89	JUNE 88
	(MONTHS)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4.34	-2	*
WEARING APPAREL	4.73	-1	*
TEXTILES	2.46	-4	+6
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	3.34	+3	+6
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4.71	-4	+3
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	5.03	-1	-1
OTHERS	4.17	-1	*

* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5 PER CENT

TABLE 2: EMPLOYMENT

INDUSTRY/SERVICES	PERSONS ENGAGED AT THE END OF JUNE 1989	
	CHANGE WHEN COMPARED WITH	
	MAY 89	JUNE 88
	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	+3	-9
FOOD AND DRINKS	+3	-3
WEARING APPAREL	*	-10
TEXTILES	*	-1

/PLASTIC PRODUCTS

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PLASTIC PRODUCTS	+17	-21
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	+3	-2
ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	+4	-14
OTHERS	+3	-4
CONSTRUCTION#	-1	-1
-----	--	--
SERVICES	+1	+4
-----	--	--
BANKS	+1	+4
HOTELS	+2	+3
PUBLIC UTILITIES	*	-1
OTHERS	+1	+11

* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5 PER CENT

PERSONS ENGAGED COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

TABLE 3: PER CAPITA EARNINGS

INDUSTRY/ SERVICES	PER CAPITA EARNINGS		
	AVERAGE AS IN JUNE 1989	CHANGE WHEN MAY 89	COMPARED WITH JUNE 88
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	(HK\$)	(%)	(%)
ALL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES	4,922	-3	+18
-----	-----	--	---
FOOD AND DRINKS	5,516	-1	+11
WEARING APPAREL	4,135	*	+17
TEXTILES	4,832	-6	+8
PLASTIC PRODUCTS	4,468	-12	+23
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS	4,680	-1	+15

/ELECTRICAL AND

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ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS	4,788	-2	+23
OTHERS	6,428	-3	+18
CONSTRUCTION#	6,994	-3	+18
-----	-----	---	---
SERVICES	8,512	+2	+21
-----	-----	---	---
BANKS	8,778	+7	+22
HOTELS	5,610	*	+14
PUBLIC UTILITIES	8,136	+1	+22
OTHERS	9,465	-1	+20

* CHANGES WITHIN +/-0.5 PER CENT

PER CAPITA EARNINGS COVER COMPANY EMPLOYEES ONLY; SITE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY LABOUR-ONLY SUB-CONTRACTORS ARE NOT INCLUDED.

NOTES TO TABLES 1-3: UNLIKE "ORDERS-ON-HAND" AND "PER CAPITA EARNINGS", WHICH ARE AVERAGE FIGURES AMONGST THE FIRMS SURVEYED, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ENGAGED BY THE FIRMS SURVEYED IS NOT MEANINGFUL INFORMATION ON ITS OWN (BECAUSE THIS IS A PANEL SURVEY) AND IS THEREFORE NOT SHOWN.

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ACTING GOVERNOR VISITS BORDER

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THE ACTING GOVERNOR, SIR DAVID FORD, VISITED THE BORDER THIS (THURSDAY) AFTERNOON TO SEE ANTI-ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION OPERATIONS AND PROGRESS ON CONSTRUCTION OF THE LOK MA CHAU BORDER CROSSING.

SIR DAVID FIRST WENT TO SHA TAU KOK BY HELICOPTER TO MEET THE DEPUTY COMMANDER OF BRITISH FORCES, BRIGADIER GILES ARNOLD, AND POLICE AND ARMY OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF BORDER DUTIES.

AFTER A BRIEFING ON BORDER SECURITY, SIR DAVID TRAVELLED ALONG THE BORDER ROAD BY CAR TO MAN KAM TO, BEFORE FLYING BY HELICOPTER TO LOK MA CHAU WHERE THE THIRD BORDER CROSSING IS BEING BUILT.

/AT LOK

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AT LOK MA CHAU, SIR DAVID WAS TOLD BY THE DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS, MR HAROLD BEATON, THAT 95 PER CENT OF THE BRIDGE WORKS HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT THE NEW BORDER LINK WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVE THE TRAFFIC SITUATION AT SHA TAU KOK AND MAN KAM TO.

SIR DAVID LEARNT THAT, BASED ON A DAILY OPENING OF TWELVE AND A HALF HOURS, THE OPENING OF LOK MA CHAU WOULD INCREASE THE PROCESSING CAPACITY FROM THE PRESENT 13,000 VEHICLES TO A TOTAL OF 28,750 VEHICLES A DAY.

LATER, HE MADE A TOUR OF THE BRIDGE AND A NEW BORDER CONTROL COMPLEX WHICH WILL HOUSE CUSTOMS, IMMIGRATION AND POLICE FACILITIES.

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REPORT INDICATES VBP HEALTH IS SATISFACTORY
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THE SECURITY BRANCH TODAY (THURSDAY) RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WHICH INDICATED THAT THE HEALTH AND NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF THE VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE ON TAI A CHAU WERE SATISFACTORY AND THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF DETERIORATION IN EITHER.

THE REPORT GAVE THE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS, FOLLOWING A STUDY, ON AN EARLIER REPORT BY THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR) COVERING CONDITIONS OF BOAT PEOPLE IN DETENTION CENTRES.

ON CONDITIONS AT TAI A CHAU, THE DEPARTMENT COMMENTED: "ACCORDING TO THE OBSERVATIONS OF OUR MEDICAL STAFF WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING THERE SINCE ITS OPENING, AND HAVING TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THEIR HEALTH STATUS ON ARRIVAL, THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS AND THEIR RELATIVE SHORT STAY THERE, THE HEALTH AND NUTRITIONAL STATUS OF THE BOAT PEOPLE IS SATISFACTORY AND THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF DETERIORATION OF EITHER.

"AS REGARDS FOOD, ON THE AVERAGE, THE PRESENT DIET SCALE PROVIDING 1,960 KCAL IS SATISFACTORY."

THE DEPARTMENT SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT FURTHER INVESTIGATION BY THE ADMINISTRATION BE CONDUCTED INTO THE SYSTEM OF FOOD ACQUISITION AND DELIVERY, AS WELL AS THE BOAT PEOPLE'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOOD, IN VIEW OF THE UNHCR'S COMMENTS THAT THE BOAT PEOPLE HAD BEEN RECEIVING ONLY HALF OF THE DIET SCALE.

AS REGARDS DETENTION CENTRES, THE DEPARTMENT COMMENTED THAT BY COMPARISON, THE DIET SCALE WHICH THE VBP HAD AT PRESENT, FROM THE NUTRITIONAL POINT OF VIEW, WAS SUPERIOR TO THAT RECOMMENDED BY THE UNHCR, AND SHOULD THEREFORE BE CONTINUED.

/AS TO

AS TO THE FOOD ON THE FERRIES, THE DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PREVENT ANY FOOD-BORNE DISEASE OUTBREAK AND THAT THE DIET SHOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AND ADEQUATE IN CALORIE CONTENT.

AS REGARDS IMMUNISATION, THE DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT A MASS IMMUNISATION CAMPAIGN WOULD BE LAUNCHED SOON, AND THE DEPARTMENT WOULD FURTHER LIAISE WITH THE SECURITY BRANCH ON DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS.

THE DEPARTMENT POINTED OUT THAT HEALTH SCREENING OF ALL VIETNAMESE BOAT PEOPLE WAS DONE ON ARRIVAL.

"A HEALTH SURVEILLANCE ROUND IS ALSO CONDUCTED DAILY BY OUR DOCTORS," IT SAID.

COMMENTING ON THE RECOMMENDATION THERE BE A CHOLERA KIT ON TAI A CHAU, THE DEPARTMENT'S REPORT SAID THIS WAS CONSIDERED UNNECESSARY.

"OUR PRESENT SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM REQUIRES ALL SUSPECTED CASES TO BE TRANSFERRED PROMPTLY TO THE REGIONAL HOSPITALS. ONCE CONFIRMED TO BE SUFFERING FROM CHOLERA, THE PATIENT IS MANAGED IN THE INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNIT IN PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL," THE REPORT SAID.

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SALE OF NT LOTS FETCHES \$430.3 MILLION
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THREE LOTS OF GOVERNMENT LAND IN THE NEW TERRITORIES WERE SOLD FOR A TOTAL OF \$430.3 MILLION IN AN AUCTION HELD TODAY (THURSDAY) BY THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT.

THE LOTS INCLUDED TWO FOR PRIVATE RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES AND ONE FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES.

ONE OF THE RESIDENTIAL LOTS, WITH AN AREA OF 7,778 SQUARE METRES, IS LOCATED AT AREA 29B, FANLING.

BIDDING OPENED AT \$20 MILLION AND THE LOT WAS BOUGHT BY CITY HERO INVESTMENT LTD FOR \$35 MILLION.

THE BUILDING COVENANT OF THIS LOT REQUIRES A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 3,733 SQUARE METRES TO BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1992.

THE SECOND RESIDENTIAL LOT IS AT AREA 44 IN TUEN MUN. IT HAS AN AREA OF ABOUT 21,090 SQUARE METRES.

BIDDING OPENED AT \$220 MILLION AND THE LOT WAS BOUGHT BY LOK CHOY LTD FOR \$380 MILLION.

ACCORDING TO THE BUILDING COVENANT, THE DEVELOPER IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 37,800 SQUARE METRES WITHIN 48 MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF POSSESSION OF THE LOT.

THE THIRD LOT, WHICH IS DESIGNATED FOR INDUSTRIAL AND/OR GODOWN PURPOSES (EXCLUDING OFFENSIVE TRADE), IS LOCATED AT AREA 25, ON LOK TSUEN IN FANLING. THE TOTAL AREA IS 1,295 SQUARE METRES.

BIDDING OPENED AT \$12 MILLION AND THE LOT WAS BOUGHT BY FESTIGOOD CO LTD FOR \$15.3 MILLION.

THE DEVELOPER OF THE LOT HAS TO COMPLETE A GROSS FLOOR AREA OF NOT LESS THAN 3,885 SQUARE METRES ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 1993.

THE AUCTION, HELD AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE, WAS CONDUCTED BY THE ACTING GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT, MR TIM MILLS.

MR MILLS DESCRIBED THE SALE AS AN "ENCOURAGING SIGN". HE SAID THE PRICES WERE EXTREMELY GOOD, PARTICULARLY THE SECOND RESIDENTIAL LOT WHICH IS LOCATED IN TUEN MUN.

"IN VIEW OF THE EVENTS IN CHINA IN JUNE, IT IS A REAL VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, IN MY OPINION," HE ADDED.

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RESTRICTIONS LIFTED ON IMPORTS FROM HK INTO ARGENTINA
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A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRADE DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT RESTRICTIONS ON GOODS IMPORTED FROM HONG KONG INTO ARGENTINA HAD BEEN LIFTED.

THIS FOLLOWS A RECENT DECISION BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT TO LIFT THE RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM AND ITS DEPENDENT TERRITORIES.

THE RESTRICTIONS WERE INTRODUCED BY ARGENTINA FOLLOWING THE EVENTS IN THE FALKLAND ISLANDS IN 1982.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ALSO ENDED RESTRICTIONS ON THE FINANCING OF ARGENTINE EXPORTS DESTINED FOR THE UK AND ITS DEPENDENT TERRITORIES.

"CONSEQUENTLY, WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT, TRADE BETWEEN HONG KONG AND ARGENTINA WILL RECEIVE FROM THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT THE SAME GENERAL TREATMENT AUTHORISED FOR THAT WITH OTHER TRADING PARTNERS," HE SAID.

HONG KONG'S TOTAL TWO-WAY TRADE WITH ARGENTINA WAS VALUED AT \$648 MILLION IN 1988.

"IT IS HOPED THAT THE REMOVAL OF THE RESTRICTIONS BY THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE A POSITIVE EFFECT ON TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO PLACES," THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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APPLICATION OPEN FOR FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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THE SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND COUNCIL ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT ITS FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVERSEAS STUDIES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1990-91 WERE NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATION.

THE FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE BEST STUDENTS TO PURSUE FURTHER EDUCATION IN REPUTABLE INSTITUTIONS OVERSEAS.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES FOR THE AWARDS ARE EXPECTED TO HAVE A STRONG SENSE OF COMMITMENT TO HONG KONG AND BE READY TO CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE COMMUNITY UPON RETURN FROM THEIR OVERSEAS STUDIES. THEY WILL BE REQUIRED TO SERVE IN HONG KONG FOR AT LEAST THREE YEARS UPON GRADUATION.

THE FELLOWSHIPS ARE FOR STUDIES LEADING TO POSTGRADUATE DEGREES EITHER BY RESEARCH OR BY COURSEWORK; THE SCHOLARSHIPS ARE FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES LEADING TO FIRST DEGREES.

THE APPLICANTS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FULFILLING ALL APPLICATION PROCEDURES AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS OF THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS OF THEIR CHOICE, AND BE OFFERED A PLACE SUBSEQUENTLY.

THE VALUE FOR THE FELLOWSHIP IS AT PRESENT \$135,000 PER YEAR FOR UP TO TWO YEARS; THE VALUE FOR THE SCHOLARSHIP IS \$120,000 PER YEAR UP TO THREE YEARS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE FUND SAID THE AMOUNT WOULD BE ADJUSTED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF COST INCREASES AND OTHER AWARDS HELD CONCURRENTLY BY THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES.

APPLICATION FORMS AND INFORMATION NOTES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM MONDAY (AUGUST 21) BY WRITING TO "THE SECRETARY, SIR EDWARD YOUDE MEMORIAL FUND COUNCIL, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, 12TH FLOOR, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG".

THE FORMS WILL ALSO BE HANDED OUT UPON REQUEST AT THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT OFFICES:

- * PUBLIC ENQUIRIES SERVICE CENTRE, CENTRAL AND WESTERN DISTRICT OFFICE, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, WEST WING, GROUND FLOOR, 11 ICE HOUSE STREET, HONG KONG;
- * STUDENT FINANCE SECTION, EDUCATION AND MANPOWER BRANCH, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, LOW BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG; AND
- * OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIP SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR, HYSAN AVENUE, HONG KONG.

CLOSING DATE FOR ALL APPLICATIONS WILL BE OCTOBER 13. SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND AT LEAST ONE SELECTION INTERVIEW IN HONG KONG TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 1990.

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WARM RESPONSE TO VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE IN SHA TIN

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ABOUT 50 "VOTER REGISTRATION AMBASSADORS" IN SHA TIN RECENTLY STARTED A REGISTRATION DRIVE IN THE FAST DEVELOPING MA ON SHAN AREA AND WERE ENCOURAGED BY THE WARM RESPONSE.

THE REGISTRATION TEAM, COMPRISING DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MUTUAL AID COMMITTEE MEMBERS, COMMUNITY ORGANISERS AND HEADED BY DISTRICT OFFICER MR VICTOR YUNG, YESTERDAY VISITED HOUSEHOLDS IN YIU ON ESTATE TO HELP RESIDENTS TO REGISTER AS VOTERS.

MR YUNG SAID RESIDENTS MUST REGISTER AS VOTERS BEFORE THEY CAN VOTE IN THE ELECTIONS FOR THE DISTRICT BOARDS, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

"WITH ABOUT 4,000 PEOPLE MOVING INTO SHA TIN EVERY MONTH, I MUST ALSO REMIND THE NEWCOMERS TO REGISTER THE CHANGE OF ADDRESS SO THAT THEY CAN VOTE IN THE DISTRICT," HE SAID.

MR YUNG SAID THE TARGET AREAS FOR THIS YEAR'S VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE ARE THE NEW PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOUSING ESTATES, BUT OLD AREAS WILL ALSO BE INCLUDED.

REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICE, ITS ENQUIRY CENTRES, COMMUNITY HALLS, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATE OFFICES, AND BANKS.

RESIDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE VERY SIMPLE INFORMATION AND RETURN THE FORMS POSTAGE FREE TO THE REGISTRATION AND ELECTORAL DIVISION.

ABOUT 250 RESIDENTS IN YIU ON ESTATE, MA ON SHAN REGISTERED YESTERDAY -- THE FIRST DAY OF THE DRIVE THERE.

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YAU TSIM DB TO DISCUSS LEGCO COMPOSITION

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THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD WILL DISCUSS THE FUTURE COMPOSITION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

MEMBERS WILL ALSO DECIDE ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE DISTRICT BOARD ORDINANCE TO PROTECT THE USE OF DISTRICT BOARD LOGOS.

/ANOTHER ITEM

ANOTHER ITEM ON THE AGENDA CONCERNS BUILDING MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT PLANS.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT BOARD MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE YAU TSIM DISTRICT OFFICE, SECOND FLOOR, 490 NATHAN ROAD.

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DB COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE REPORTS ON LANDFILL OPERATION
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THE LATEST REPORTS ON THE JORDAN VALLEY LANDFILL OPERATION WILL BE PRESENTED AT THE MEETING OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

THE REPORTS COME FROM THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT AND THE CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

AT THE MEETING, MEMBERS WILL ALSO DISCUSS THE DRAFT WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN FOR HONG KONG, A NUMBER OF PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF THE KEEP HONG KONG CLEAN CAMPAIGN AND A PROPOSAL FOR RESIDENTS IN CHE TANG CHUEN TO TAKE PART IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CHE TANG SITTING-OUT AREA.

OTHER ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INCLUDE PROGRESS REPORTS ON WORKS AND MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN KWUN TONG.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ARE INVITED TO COVER THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT BOARD'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 2.30 PM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE KWUN TONG DISTRICT OFFICE, TUNG YAN STREET.

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DTC REGISTRATION REVOKED
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THE COMMISSIONER OF BANKING ANNOUNCED THAT THE REGISTRATION OF FIRST PACIFIC ASIA LIMITED AS A DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANY HAS BEEN REVOKED AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS TODAY (THURSDAY) AT ITS OWN REQUEST UNDER SECTION 31(2) OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE.

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POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR GENERAL HOLIDAYS

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THE POST OFFICE ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THE POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL HOLIDAYS IN END AUGUST.

THERE WILL BE ONE LETTER DELIVERY ON AUGUST 26, THE SATURDAY PRECEDING THE LAST MONDAY IN AUGUST.

ON AUGUST 27, SUNDAY, AND ON AUGUST 28, THE LIBERATION DAY, THERE WILL BE NO DELIVERY.

THE GENERAL POST OFFICE ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE TSIM SHA TSUI POST OFFICE IN KOWLOON WILL BE OPEN FOR BUSINESS FROM 9 AM TO NOON ON AUGUST 26. OTHER POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED.

ALL POST OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON AUGUST 27 AND 28.

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GRADING OF BEACH WATER QUALITY

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT (EPD) TODAY (THURSDAY) ANNOUNCED GRADES ON THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF ALL BATHING BEACHES IN HONG KONG.

AN EPD SPOKESMAN SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE GRADING SYSTEM IS TO INFORM SWIMMERS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC ABOUT THE STATE OF BACTERIAL POLLUTION AT VARIOUS BEACHES.

THE GRADING WILL BE ANNOUNCED BIWEEKLY DURING THE BATHING SEASON, TO COINCIDE WITH THE FREQUENCY AT WHICH BEACH WATERS ARE USUALLY SAMPLED.

THE GRADING IS BASED ON THE MOST RECENT BACTERIA DATA OBTAINED BY THE EPD IN ITS ROUTINE MONITORING PROGRAMME.

THIS YEAR, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE GRADING ALSO INCLUDES AN ESTIMATE OF THE RISK OF SUFFERING SOME MINOR SKIN OR GASTROINTESTINAL COMPLAINTS AS A RESULT OF SWIMMING AT A BEACH WHICH HAS SOME DEGREE OF POLLUTION.

THE ESTIMATE IS BASED ON A VERY LARGE BODY OF STATISTICAL INFORMATION GATHERED IN HONG KONG DURING RECENT BATHING SEASONS.

THE GRADING OF SOME BEACHES MAY VARY DURING THE SUMMER. THIS REPRESENTS A NATURAL FLUCTUATION IN THE BACTERIAL QUALITY OF BATHING WATERS IN MOST CASES, AS RAIN AND TIDES BRING MORE OR LESS POLLUTION TO THE BEACHES.

/BATHING WATERS

BATHING WATERS COMMONLY BECOME WORSE DUE TO HEAVY USAGE DURING THE SUMMER. HOWEVER, THE GRADES GIVE A GOOD GENERAL PICTURE OF THE WATER QUALITY AT BATHING BEACHES AT THE TIME OF REPORTING AND FORM THE BEST AVAILABLE FORECAST FOR THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

THE SYSTEM FOR GRADING BEACH WATER QUALITY IS AS FOLLOWS:

"A" GRADE INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS GOOD. THE MEAN E. COLI COUNT IS LESS THAN 100 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS LESS THAN SEVEN CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

"B" GRADE INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS ACCEPTABLE. THE MEAN E. COLI COUNT IS LESS THAN 1,000 PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS LESS THAN 18 CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

"C" GRADE INDICATES THAT THE WATER QUALITY IS POOR. THE MEAN E. COLI COUNT IS 1,000 OR MORE PER 100 MILLILITRES AT EACH BEACH SO GRADED, AND THE EXPECTED HEALTH RISK IS 18 OR MORE CASES OF MINOR ILLNESS PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO CLOSE A BEACH TO SWIMMERS IS BASED ON A JUDGEMENT OF WHAT DEGREE OF POLLUTION IS ACCEPTABLE.

NORMALLY, A RECOMMENDATION ON CLOSURE WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED BY THE URBAN OR REGIONAL COUNCIL IF A "C" GRADING OCCURRED REPEATEDLY, SO THAT THE AVERAGE HEALTH RISK OVER THE BATHING SEASON EXCEEDED 15 CASES PER 1,000 SWIMMERS.

SIMILARLY, A RECOMMENDATION TO RE-OPEN A CLOSED BEACH WOULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED IF A "B" GRADE OR BETTER WERE CONSISTENTLY OBTAINED.

AT PRESENT, SIX BATHING BEACHES HAVE BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING PURPOSE, BASED ON THE WATER QUALITY DURING PAST SEASONS.

THESE BEACHES ARE ANGLERS', CASTLE PEAK, SILVERMINE BAY, OLD CAFETERIA, ROCKY BAY AND TING KAU. THEY ARE POLLUTED BY FAECAL WASTES AND FAIL TO ACHIEVE CONSISTENTLY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION AND HONG KONG STANDARDS. THE PUBLIC ARE ADVISED NOT TO SWIM IN THESE SIX BEACHES. THEY ARE IDENTIFIED BY AN "X" IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE.

THE GRADES ON THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF VARIOUS BEACHES IN HONG KONG AS AT TODAY AND TWO WEEKS AGO ARE LISTED BELOW:

/BEACH LAST

BEACH	LAST GRADING (AS AT 3.8.89)	PRESENT GRADING (AS AT 17.8.89)
HONG KONG SOUTH		
BIG WAVE BAY	A	A
CHUNG HOM KOK	A	A
DEEP WATER BAY	A	A
HAIKPIN	A	A
MIDDLE BAY	A	A
REPULSE BAY	B	B
SHEK O	A	A
SOUTH BAY	A	A
ST STEPHEN'S	A	A
TURTLE COVE	A	A
STANLEY MAIN	A	B
ROCKY BAY	X	X
TO TEI WAN*	A	A
ISLANDS DISTRICT		
CHEUNG SHA UPPER	A	A
CHEUNG SHA LOWER	B	B
DISCOVERY BAY*	A	A
HUNG SHING YEH	A	A
KWUN YAM WAN	A	A
TONG FUK	A	A
LO SO SHING	A	A
PUI O	A	A
SILVERMINE BAY	X	X
TUNG WAN, CHEUNG CHAU	A	A
TUNG O*	A	A
SAI KUNG DISTRICT		
CAMPERS	A	A
CLEAR WATER BAY 1ST BEACH	B	B
CLEAR WATER BAY 2ND BEACH	A	A
HAP MUN BAY	A	A
KIU TSUI	A	A
PAK SHA CHAU	A	A
SILVERSTRAND	B	B
TRIO (HEBEHAVEN)	A	A
TSUEN WAN DISTRICT		
ANGLERS'	X	X
APPROACH	B	A
CASAM	B	A
GEMINI	A	A
HOI MEI WAN	B	B
LIDO	A	A
TING KAU	X	X
TUNG WAN, MA WAN	A	A

TUEN MUN DISTRICT

OLD CAFETERIA	X	X
NEW CAFETERIA	B	A
CASTLE PEAK	X	X
KADOORIE	B	B
BUTTERFLY	B	B

NOTE: "X" THE BEACH HAS BEEN DECLARED UNSUITABLE FOR SWIMMING.
* NON-GAZETTED BEACHES.

THE FOLLOWING BEACHES HAVE CHANGED GRADING ON THIS OCCASION:

APPROACH, CASAM, AND NEW CAFETERIA, FROM "B" TO "A"; AND STANLEY MAIN, FROM "A" TO "B".

THE CHANGES ARE WITHIN THE NORMAL RANGE OF FLUCTUATION OF THE BACTERIAL WATER QUALITY OF THESE BEACHES.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT DR CATHERINE LAM, ACTING PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OFFICER (WATER POLICY) OF THE EPD, ON TEL. 5-8351234.

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WATER CUT IN KWAI CHUNG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN KWAI CHUNG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 11 PM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 19) TO 6 PM THE NEXT DAY BECAUSE OF WATER WORKS.

THE AREA AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY LAI KING HILL ROAD, HA KWAI CHUNG, YUET LAI COURT, LAI KING ESTATE, CONTAINER PORT ROAD, KWAI FONG ESTATE, KWAI HING ESTATE, SUN KWAI HING GARDEN, KWAI CHUNG ESTATE, TAI LIN PAI ROAD, WAH SING STREET, KUNG YIP STREET, WING KIN ROAD, WING KEI ROAD, KWAI HEI STREET, WING HAU STREET, KWAI SHING CIRCUIT, WING LAP STREET, WING SHUN STREET AND WING CHONG STREET.

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URBAN CLEARWAYS IN SHAU KEI WAN, WAN CHAI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 19), TAI NING STREET BETWEEN SHAU KEI WAN ROAD AND SAI WAN HO STREET WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE FOLLOWING ROAD SECTIONS IN WAN CHAI WILL ALSO BE MADE 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY URBAN CLEARWAYS:

- * THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF HARBOUR ROAD BETWEEN FLEMING ROAD AND FENWICK STREET;
- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF HARBOUR ROAD FROM ITS JUNCTION WITH FLEMING ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 165 METRES TO THE WEST;
- * THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF HARBOUR ROAD FROM A POINT ABOUT 230 METRES WEST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH FLEMING ROAD TO ITS JUNCTION WITH FENWICK STREET, EXCLUDING THE LAY-BY OUTSIDE SHUI ON CENTRE;
- * THE UNNAMED ACCESS ROAD MEASURING ABOUT FIVE METRES FROM HARBOUR ROAD TO SHUI ON CENTRE; AND
- * THE UNNAMED ACCESS ROAD MEASURING ABOUT 10 METRES FROM HARBOUR ROAD TO HARBOUR VIEW INTERNATIONAL HOUSE.

IN ADDITION, THE NORTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF HENNESSY ROAD FROM A POINT ABOUT 35 METRES EAST OF ITS JUNCTION WITH TONNOCHY ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 38 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BECOME A PEAK HOUR (7 AM - 10 AM AND 4 PM - 7 PM) DAILY URBAN CLEARWAY.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS WITHIN THE RESTRICTED AREAS.

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TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS IN SHA TIN, TSING YI

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT TO FACILITATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF ROAD T5 IN SHA TIN, A SECTION (ABOUT 300 METRES IN LENGTH) OF SHA TIN ROAD NEAR PRINCE OF WALES HOSPITAL WILL BE CLOSED BETWEEN 11.30 PM AND 6 AM THE NEXT MORNING FROM TOMORROW (FRIDAY) TO AUGUST 24.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS ON THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SHA TIN ROAD HEADING FOR KOWLOON WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE ADJACENT SLIP ROAD LEADING TO SHA TIN WAI ROAD JUNCTION BEFORE REJOINING SHA TIN ROAD SOUTHBOUND.

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AT THE SAME TIME, MOTORISTS ON THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF SHA TIN ROAD HEADING FOR TAI PO WILL BE DIVERTED VIA THE ADJACENT SLIP ROAD LEADING TO SHA TIN WAI ROAD JUNCTION BEFORE REJOINING SHA TIN ROAD NORTHBOUND.

FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 19), A BUS LANE WILL BE DESIGNATED ON THE OFFSIDE LANE OF THE SOUTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF TSING YI HEUNG SZE WUI ROAD BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH CHUNG MEI ROAD AND TSING YI ROUNDABOUT.

ALL MOTOR VEHICLES, EXCEPT BUSES, PUBLIC LIGHT BUSES (SCHEDULED SERVICE) AND THOSE WITH PERMITS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT, WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM ENTERING THE BUS LANE BETWEEN 7 AM AND 7 PM, EXCEPT SUNDAYS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

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URBAN CLEARWAY IN KWUN TONG

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 19), THE SECTION OF KAI YAN STREET IN KWUN TONG BETWEEN ITS JUNCTION WITH WANG KWONG ROAD AND A POINT ABOUT 120 METRES EAST OF THE SAME JUNCTION WILL BE DESIGNATED AN URBAN CLEARWAY FROM 7 AM TO 10 AM AND FROM 4 PM TO 7 PM DAILY.

NO VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS THERE.

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CANCELLATION OF BAN ZONE IN WONG TAI SIN

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES THAT FROM 10 AM ON SATURDAY (AUGUST 19), THE NO-ENTRY ZONE AT TUNG TAU ESTATE BUS TERMINUS, IN WONG TAI SIN, WILL BE CANCELLED.

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