



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL: 5-233191

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 1986

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OPERATION +PEN-FRIEND+ - WINNING SCHOOL NAMED
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NEARLY 300 000 POSTCARDS FROM MORE THAN 470 SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN CONTRIBUTED TO HONG KONG'S UNIQUE EXERCISE IN COMMUNICATIONS AT EXPO '86.

THE ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, KWUN TONG, HAS BEEN JUDGED THE BEST ENTRANT IN THE MAMMOTH COMPETITION WHICH STARTED THE POSTCARD DRIVE.

AND THE PRIZE IS A TOUR FOR SIX - FIVE STUDENTS AND A TEACHER - TO EXPO '86 IN VANCOUVER, CANADA, DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS IN JULY.

+MORE ARE STILL COMING IN FROM SCHOOLS AND FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THIS PEN-FRIEND PROJECT WILL, AS EARLIER PREDICTED, BE THE BIGGEST OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ORGANISERS SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT EXPO '86 WAS DUE TO OPEN IN VANCOUVER ON MAY 2. BY THE TIME IT CLOSED ON OCTOBER 13 HE ANTICIPATED THAT THE ORIGINAL GOAL OF 500 000 PERSONALISED MESSAGES, EITHER IN ART OR WRITTEN FORM, WOULD BE PASSED.

TO MAINTAIN THIS MOMENTUM, THE +HONG KONG IN TOUCH WITH THE WORLD+ POSTCARDS WILL BE AVAILABLE UP TO THE FINAL DAYS OF THE EXPOSITION.

THE TWO CARD COLLECTING BOOTHS - ONE OUTSIDE THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES HEADQUARTERS IN BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, AND THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT GENERAL POST OFFICE IN CONNAUGHT PLACE - WILL BE OPEN FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

NOT ONLY ARE THESE CARDS FREE, BUT SO IS DELIVERY TO THE HONG KONG PAVILION. COMPLETED CARDS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO THE TWO DISPENSING POINTS WHICH ALSO SERVE AS COLLECTION BOXES.

THE SCHOOLS CONTEST WAS ORGANISED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES WITH THE HELP OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND SPONSORED BY CATHAY PACIFIC AIRWAYS AND THE HONG KONG TOURIST ASSOCIATION.

EXPO '86 IS EXPECTED TO ATTRACT ABOUT 14 MILLION VISITORS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

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SOUTHERN BOARD'S EFFORTS BENEFIT RESIDENTS
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RESIDENTS OF SOUTHERN DISTRICT HAVE BENEFITTED FROM THE EFFORTS AND HARD WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND SERVICES.

THE WORK AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES DURING THE PAST YEAR WERE REVIEWED AT A RECENT SEMINAR ORGANISED FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS SUCH AS AREA COMMITTEES AND MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES.

THE BOARD'S COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE ALLOCATED ABOUT \$850 000 TO SUPPORT VARIOUS CAMPAIGNS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROJECTS. THESE INCLUDED ACTIVITIES AND FUNCTIONS TO PROMOTE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND THE WORK OF THE DISTRICT BOARD, AS WELL AS FESTIVAL AND ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS.

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MR MAN HON-MING, SAID ABOUT \$100 000 WAS ALLOCATED TO THE DISTRICT'S SPORTS AND RECREATION COUNCIL, AND ANOTHER \$100 000 TO THE ARTS AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION TO ORGANISE A TOTAL OF 37 SPORTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS.

+ALL OF THE ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS WERE AIMED AT ENHANCING COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND DISTRICT IDENTITY AMONG RESIDENTS,+ HE SAID.

+THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO INVOLVED IN NUMEROUS TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGNS SUCH AS ROAD SAFETY, FIGHT CRIME, ANTI-NARCOTICS AND FIRE PREVENTION,+ HE ADDED.

MR MAN POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMITTEE INITIATED A CAMPAIGN IN AUGUST TO CURB INCIDENTS IN WHICH OBJECTS WERE THROWN FROM BUILDINGS, INJURING PEOPLE BELOW.

+THE COMMITTEE ALSO REVIEWED THE UTILISATION OF CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES WITH THE AIM OF IMPROVING THE SITUATION WHERE THERE WAS UNDER-UTILISATION,+ HE ADDED.

THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SPENT ABOUT \$400 000 ON MINOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, MOST OF WHICH WERE IN SQUATTER AREAS, AND WAS INVOLVED IN INITIATING PROGRAMMES TO CLEAR ILLEGAL STRUCTURES AND OBSTRUCTIONS IN BACK-LANES AND STREETS.

+THE COMMITTEE CARRIED OUT STUDIES ON WAYS TO IMPROVE FACILITIES AND AMENITIES SUCH AS RESURFACING FOOTPATHS, BUILDING BRIDGES, PROVIDING GUARD-RAILS ON STEEP SLOPES AND CONSTRUCTING SITTING-OUT AREAS FOR RESIDENTS,+ COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, MISS MAR YUET-HAR, SAID.

/+THE COMMITTEE

+THE COMMITTEE ALSO HELPED TO PROVIDE STREET LIGHTS AND METERED WATER SUPPLIES TO A NUMBER OF SQUATTER VILLAGES,+ SHE ADDED.

THE WORKS PROJECTS COMMITTEE HAD THE TASK OF MONITORING VARIOUS PROJECTS IN THE DISTRICT SUCH AS ROADWORKS, RECLAMATION, PUBLIC HOUSING, WATER SUPPLIES AND FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE URBAN COUNCIL. AN AREA OF CONCERN WAS POTENTIAL NOISE AND AIR POLLUTION DURING THE RECLAMATION OF TELEGRAPH BAY, AND THE COMMITTEE URGED THE AUTHORITIES TO TAKE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES.

THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE HAD A BUSY TIME STUDYING VARIOUS WAYS OF IMPROVING TRANSPORT SERVICES AND ROAD SAFETY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE, MR KO TAM-KAN, SAID SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY AND THE PROVISION OF SCHOOL PLACES, STUDY ROOMS AND LIBRARY FACILITIES WERE AMONG AREAS EXAMINED BY THE COMMITTEE.

+WE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEFICIENCY OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES IN THE DISTRICT, AND WERE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL WILL BE BUILT IN THE DISTRICT IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS,+ HE SAID.

+THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, UPON THE COMMITTEE'S SUGGESTION, PROVIDED TEMPORARY STUDY ROOMS FOR STUDENTS DURING THE EXAMINATION PERIODS OF APRIL AND JUNE,+ HE ADDED.

MR KO SAID THE COMMITTEE WAS ALSO STUDYING WAYS TO IMPROVE VARIOUS WELFARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AND WAS CURRENTLY CARRYING OUT A SURVEY ON THE NEEDS OF ELDERLY PEOPLE LIVING IN STANLEY AND SHEK O.

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NEW CHAIRMAN TO ADDRESS URBAN COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING

NEWLY-ELECTED URBAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN MR H.M.G. FORSGATE WILL CHAIR AND ADDRESS HIS FIRST MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON TUESDAY (APRIL 8).

IT WILL ALSO BE THE FIRST MEETING FOR FIVE NEW COUNCILLORS ELECTED LAST MONTH -- MISSES CHEUNG WAI-PING AND MISS FOK PUI-YEE, AND MESSRS CHOW WAI-KEUNG, CHAN KWOK-MING AND MAN SAI-CHEONG.

DURING QUESTION TIME, MR WALTER SULKE WILL ASK ABOUT THE LEGAL POSITION OF URBAN COUNCILLORS HANDLING WARD CASES SINCE DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT THEY ARE LIABLE TO CIVIL CLAIMS FOR COMMON LAW NEGLIGENCE IF THEY GIVE INCORRECT ADVICE TO CITIZENS DURING THEIR MEET-THE-PUBLIC SCHEME SESSIONS.

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MR SULKE ALSO WANTS TO KNOW WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO PLANT TREES TO GIVE SOME SHADE AND INCIDENTALLY IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE OF THE TSIM SHA TSUI PROMENADE IN EAST TSIM SHA TSUI WHICH HE SAYS IS VERY BARE AND, IN SUMMER, VERY HOT.

MR KWAN LIM-HO WILL ASK ABOUT THE DEVELOPMENT OR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES IN KOWLOON PARK.

PROGRESS REPORTS WILL ALSO BE DELIVERED TO THE MEETING BY MRS ELSIE TU, CHAIRPERSON OF THE WORKING PARTY TO REVIEW HAWKERS AND RELATED POLICIES MR PETER C.K. CHAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE LIQUOR LICENSING BOARD MR HOWARD YOUNG, CHAIRMAN OF THE RECREATION SELECT COMMITTEE AND MR JOSEPH CHAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE LIBRARIES SELECT COMMITTEE.

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PUBLIC URGED TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS AGAINST MALARIA
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WITH THE EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE IN THE WARMER SEASON, LOCAL RESIDENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO TRAVEL FREQUENTLY, ARE URGED TO TAKE EXTRA PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE RISK OF MALARIAL INFECTION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY) THAT DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS THERE HAD BEEN A GRADUAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF IMPORTED MALARIA CASES; FROM 94 IN 1983 AND 101 IN 1984 TO 162 IN 1985. THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MALARIA CASES FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS WERE 125, 113 AND 168 RESPECTIVELY.

HONG KONG IS VULNERABLE TO MALARIA BECAUSE THE TERRITORY IS A MAJOR CENTRE FOR BOTH TOURISM AND BUSINESS. THERE IS ALSO A GREAT RISK OF MALARIA PARASITES BEING BROUGHT IN BY TRAVELLERS FROM MALARIA ENDEMIC COUNTRIES.

+IN VIEW OF THE GEOGRAPHICAL AND SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF HONG KONG, IT IS PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO PREVENT THE IMPORTATION OF MALARIA PARASITE CARRIERS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HOWEVER, HE URGED TRAVELLERS TO TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES, PARTICULARLY PERSONAL PROTECTION, AGAINST MOSQUITO BITES WHEN THEY VISIT MALARIA ENDEMIC COUNTRIES, WHICH INCLUDE CHINA, INDIA AND PAKISTAN AND VARIOUS SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES.

IF BITTEN BY MOSQUITOES, TRAVELLERS SHOULD BE ON THE ALERT FOR SYMPTOMS OF MALARIA SUCH AS A CHILL OR FEVER, AND SEEK EARLY TREATMENT IF THESE APPEAR.

/INTENDING

INTENDING TRAVELLERS CAN OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ON MALARIA ENDEMIC COUNTRIES FROM THE PORT HEALTH OFFICE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE ONLY EFFECTIVE AND PRACTICAL WAY IN WHICH HONG KONG CAN PROTECT ITSELF AGAINST THE IMPORTATION OF MALARIA CASES IS THROUGH AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM OF SURVEILLANCE, CONSISTING OF CASE DETECTION, TREATMENT, INVESTIGATION AND REMEDIAL ACTION. THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY ESTABLISHED SUCH A SYSTEM.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO URGED RESIDENTS TO TAKE PREVENTIVE MEASURES WHEN VISITING RURAL AREAS BECAUSE MALARIA IS TRANSMITTED BY ANOPHELINE MOSQUITOES WHICH ARE FOUND IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES.

PEOPLE GOING CAMPING OR PICNICKING, AND ESPECIALLY THOSE PLANNING TO STAY OUT OVERNIGHT, SHOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE PERSONAL PROTECTION, FOR EXAMPLE WEARING LONG TROUSERS AND LONG SLEEVED SHIRTS OR COATS, AND ALSO USE INSECT REPELLENT. IN ADDITION, THEY SHOULD TAKE WITH THEM MOSQUITO NETS OR SCREENS.

+BUT THE BEST PREVENTIVE MEASURES WOULD BE TO STOP MOSQUITOES FROM BREEDING,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

SINCE MOSQUITOES IN HONG KONG BREED IN CLEAR WATER STREAMS AND STAGNANT WATER WITH VEGETATION, THEY ARE MOSTLY FOUND IN IRRIGATION DITCHES, HILL STREAMS, EXCAVATION SITES AND ABANDONED PADDY FIELDS.

+MALARIA IS A NOTIFIABLE DISEASE AND EVERY CASE NOTIFIED WILL BE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED BY THE STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT AS TO THE POSSIBLE SOURCE OF INFECTION,+ HE SAID.

BLOOD SAMPLES ARE TAKEN FROM PATIENTS WITH CLINICAL SYMPTOMS OF MALARIA, AND ALL CASES ARE TAKEN TO HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT.

AFTER TREATMENT IN HOSPITAL, FOLLOW-UP ACTION BY HEALTH OFFICIALS WILL CONTINUE FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER SIX MONTHS WITH BLOOD SCREENING AT MONTHLY INTERVALS, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

HEALTH EDUCATION IS ANOTHER ESSENTIAL PART OF ANTI-MALARIA WORK UNDERTAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT.

+THIS IS USUALLY IN THE FORM OF HEALTH TALKS AT VILLAGES AND SCHOOLS, DISTRIBUTION OF POSTERS AND LEAFLETS AND SOMETIMES HOUSE TO HOUSE VISITS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO MOUNTING LOCALISED ANTI-MALARIA PROGRAMMES IN SOME AREAS OF THE NEW TERRITORIES TO REMIND RESIDENTS THERE TO TAKE THE NECESSARY PRECAUTIONS.

MEANWHILE, THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT IS TAKING STEPS TO CONTROL MOSQUITO BREEDING IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE TERRITORY, INCLUDING THE APPLICATION OF LARVICIDAL AND INSECTICIDES TO POTENTIAL MOSQUITO BREEDING SITES.

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MAINTENANCE GRANTS FOR FORM 6 STUDENTS
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GOVERNMENT MAINTENANCE GRANTS WILL BE AWARDED TO NEEDY STUDENTS WITH GOOD RESULTS IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION WISHING TO PURSUE FULL-TIME HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION STUDIES.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE OPEN ON JUNE 1 AND FORMS AVAILABLE FROM THAT DAY AT THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION, EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LEE GARDENS, FIFTH FLOOR, 33-37 HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

THE GRANTS ARE TENABLE FOR ONE YEAR AT ANY SECONDARY SCHOOL APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION AND THE AMOUNT FOR THIS YEAR IS ABOUT \$100 PER MONTH. THE EXACT AMOUNT WOULD BE DETERMINED BY THE FINANCIAL NEED OF THE APPLICANT AND FUNDS AVAILABLE.

RECIPIENTS ARE EXPECTED TO COMPLETE FULL-TIME HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION STUDIES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR FOR WHICH THE GRANT HAS BEEN AWARDED. STUDENTS MAY BE REQUIRED TO REFUND THE AMOUNT RECEIVED IF THEY LEAVE SCHOOL BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE COURSE.

STUDENTS ARE ADVISED THAT APPLICATIONS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE SECRETARY OF THE MAINTENANCE GRANTS COMMITTEE AT THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS THROUGH SCHOOL HEADS NOT LATER THAN 10 DAYS AFTER THE PUBLICATION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION RESULTS THIS YEAR.

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\$613 000 TO TRIM UNDERGROWTH ON HONG KONG ISLAND
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ONE OF THE MANIFOLD TASKS OF THE URBAN COUNCIL IS TO ENSURE THAT THE UNDERGROWTH ON URBAN SLOPES IS CUT BACK AND KEPT TIDY -- BUT, AS WITH MANY OF THE COUNCIL'S UNNOTICED RESPONSIBILITIES, IT COSTS MONEY.

AT ITS LAST MEETING, THE URBAN COUNCIL'S TENDER BOARD APPROVED A TENDER OF \$613 000 FOR THIS WORK ON HONG KONG ISLAND FOR A TWO-YEAR PERIOD.

A COUNCIL SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY UNDERGROWTH ON SLOPES COULD NOT BE CUT WITH LAWN MOWERS BECAUSE THE SLOPES WERE TOO STEEP.

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TENDERING PERIOD EXTENDED FOR FLYOVER PROJECT
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THE CLOSING DATE FOR TENDERS FOR THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO FRIDAY, APRIL 18.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT SAID THE EXTENSION WAS CONSIDERED NECESSARY AS MANY TENDERERS HAD REQUESTED ADDITIONAL TIME TO PREPARE TENDER DOCUMENTS FOR THE COMPLEX PROJECT.

WORK ON THE MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO START IN JUNE AND LAST ABOUT THREE YEARS.

THE PROJECT HAS BEEN DESIGNED BY THE ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S HIGHWAYS (STRUCTURES) DIVISION AND THE HIGHWAYS OFFICE (KOWLOON REGION).

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VISIT TO FACTORIES
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THE SHA TIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR W.K. LAM, WILL VISIT THREE FACTORIES IN FO TAN AT 10 AM TOMORROW (MONDAY) TO SEE SMALL INDUSTRIES IN OPERATION.

MR LAM WILL VISIT A GARMENT FACTORY, A PLASTICS FACTORY AND A PRESSURE BOTTLING PLANT.

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WATER CUTS IN TWO AREAS
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FRESH AND SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TAI PO WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 PM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 9) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES ALONG TAI PO ROAD FROM PAK SHING STREET TO TAI PO KAU, INCLUDING TAI PO MARKET, KAM SHAN, PUN CHUNG, MA WO, PAK KIU TSAI, TO YUEN TUNG, YIU TSZ KIN AND LAI CHI SHAN.

/TAI PO

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TAI PO KCR STATION, ISLAND HOUSE, SHAN TONG, WONG YI AU, MEI WOON SAN TSUEN, YIN TSZ LANE, STRAFFORD HOUSE, TAI PO KAU, LOOKOUT LANE AND ST CHRISTOPHER'S HOME WILL ALSO BE AFFECTED.

MEANWHILE, SALT WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT, SHEUNG WAN, SAI YING PUN AND SHEK TONG TSUI WILL BE TURNED OFF BETWEEN 9 AM AND 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY FOR REPAIR WORK.

THE AFFECTED PREMISES ARE BOUNDED BY PEDDER STREET, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, ZETLAND STREET, GLENEALTY, UPPER ALBERT ROAD, CAINE ROAD, BONHAM ROAD, POK FU LAM ROAD, HOK SZE TERRACE, SANDS STREET, KENNEDY TOWN PRAYA AND THE SEAFRONT.

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NORTH DISTRICT WATER CUT

FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN THE NORTH DISTRICT WILL BE SUSPENDED BETWEEN 1 PM AND 8 PM ON WEDNESDAY (APRIL 9) FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES ALONG SHA TAU KOK ROAD, FROM PING CHE ROAD TO SHA TAU KOK MARKET, INCLUDING LENG TSAI TSUEN, HOK TAU TSUEN, KWAI TAU TSUEN, TUNG SHAN HA TSUEN, MA MEI HA TSUEN, WANG SHAN KEUK TSUEN, TAI TONG WU TSUEN, LOI TUNG TSUEN, MAN UK PIN TSUEN, WO HANG TSUEN, TAI LONG TSUEN AND MA TSEUK LENG.

SHEK KAI TAU TSUEN, SHEK CHUNG AU TSUEN, TONG TO TSUEN, SHA TAU KOK SAN TSUEN, TAM SHUI HANG TSUEN, SHAN TSUI TSUEN, KIANG HA TSUEN, CHOI YUEN KOK TSUEN AND SHA TAU KOK MARKET WILL ALSO BE AFFECTED.

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