



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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KCR TO BECOME PUBLIC CORPORATION

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED IN PRINCIPLE TO CHANGE THE STATUS OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY FROM A GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT TO A PUBLIC CORPORATION.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT THE DECISION WAS TAKEN IN VIEW OF THE MAJOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE KCR INTO A MUCH-EXPANDED AND MORE SOPHISTICATED RAILWAY.

+FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE CURRENT \$3 500 MILLION MODERNISATION AND ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAMME AT THE END OF 1982,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID, +THE KCR WILL PROVIDE FAST AND FREQUENT SERVICES WHICH WILL INCREASE ITS PASSENGER CAPACITY TENFOLD AND ITS FREIGHT CAPACITY THREE TIMES.+

+A STRENGTHENED MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE IS THEREFORE REQUIRED TO MEET BOTH THE OPERATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL NEEDS OF THE NEW RAILWAY,+ HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MAIN ADVANTAGE OF A MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION SEPARATE FROM THE GOVERNMENT WAS THAT IT COULD FUNCTION ON A FULLY COMMERCIAL BASIS.

+PROPER WEIGHT COULD THEN BE GIVEN TO LAND USE, MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND OTHER MATTERS OF COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT,+ HE ADDED.

AN INDEPENDENT BODY WOULD HAVE MORE FLEXIBILITY IN DETERMINING FARES AND FREIGHT CHARGES AND IN TAKING WHATEVER DECISIONS THAT WERE NECESSARY TO MEET ITS BUDGETS.

+THE NEED TO ADHERE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S PERSONNEL, FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES WOULD BE OBIATED AND THE FUNDING OF ANY FUTURE DEVELOPMENT WOULD NO LONGER NEED TO BE VIA THE PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

DETAILS OF HOW THE KCR'S CHANGE TO A PUBLIC CORPORATION WILL BE EFFECTED HAVE YET TO BE WORKED OUT AND A SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICER, MR H.G. ARDLEY, HAS BEEN ASSIGNED THE TASK OF CARRYING OUT A DETAILED STUDY OF WHAT IS REQUIRED.

AS A FIRST STEP, THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED, A PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY WOULD BE SET UP EARLY NEXT YEAR, PROBABLY ALONG SIMILAR LINES TO THE FORMER MASS TRANSIT RAILWAY PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY, TO CARRY THE KCR FORWARD UNTIL ALL THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO CREATE THE CORPORATION HAD BEEN MADE.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE CORPORATION WOULD COME INTO BEING AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND NOT LATER THAN THE BEGINNING OF 1983 WHEN FULL ELECTRIFIED SERVICES WOULD BE INTRODUCED.

KCR STAFF ASSOCIATIONS HAVE BEEN INFORMED.

HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE FOR JANUARY - JUNE 1981

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HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORT TRADE GREW STRONGLY IN THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF THIS YEAR, AND AT HK\$19 536 MILLION, SHOWED AN INCREASE OF 48 PER CENT OVER THE CORRESPONDING PERIOD IN 1980.

THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY RELEASED A DETAILED ANALYSIS OF RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET AND BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN FOR JANUARY - JUNE, 1981.

RE-EXPORTS BY MARKET

THE FOLLOWING TABLE GIVES THE CHANGES IN HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS TO THE FIVE MAJOR MARKETS:

	JAN.-JUNE 1981 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN.-JUNE 1980 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
CHINA	3 927	1 662	+2 265	+136
USA	2 194	1 259	+ 935	+ 74
INDONESIA	1 932	1 226	+ 706	+ 58
SINGAPORE	1 534	1 087	+ 447	+ 41
JAPAN	1 268	1 095	+ 173	+ 16

A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE WAS RECORDED IN RE-EXPORTS TO CHINA.

THE COMMODITIES WITH THE BIGGEST INCREASES WERE TEXTILE YARN (BY \$557 MILLION OR 215 PER CENT), WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$354 MILLION OR 385 PER CENT), TELEVISION RECEIVERS (BY \$264 MILLION OR 277 PER CENT), KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS (BY \$182 MILLION OR 1 282 PER CENT), AND GOODS VEHICLES AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MOTOR VEHICLES (BY \$92 MILLION OR 145 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS TO THE US WERE REGISTERED IN OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT (MAINLY PEANUTS) (FROM LESS THAN \$0.05 MILLION TO \$163 MILLION), WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS' OUTER GARMENTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (OTHER THAN KNITTED OR CROCHETED GOODS) (BY \$90 MILLION OR 132 PER CENT), THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$88 MILLION OR 77 PER CENT), AND PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$27 MILLION OR 10 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS TO INDONESIA SHOWED INCREASES FOR MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS AND OTHER CYCLES (BY \$263 MILLION OR 123 PER CENT), GOODS VEHICLES AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MOTOR VEHICLES (FROM NO TRADE TO \$207 MILLION), PASSENGER MOTOR CARS (BY \$21 MILLION OR 51 PER CENT), AND TEXTILE AND LEATHER MACHINERY AND PARTS THEREOF (BY \$10 MILLION OR 19 PER CENT).

/SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS TO SINGAPORE OF THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$162 MILLION OR 602 PER CENT), AND PEARLS, PRECIOUS AND SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES (BY \$30 MILLION OR 31 PER CENT).

IN CONTRAST, RE-EXPORTS TO TAIWAN DECLINED (BY \$18 MILLION OR 2 PER CENT). ALTHOUGH A SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE WAS RECORDED FOR NICKEL (BY \$27 MILLION OR 589 PER CENT), DECREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT (BY \$21 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT) AND ALUMINIUM (BY \$12 MILLION OR 56 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

RE-EXPORTS BROKEN DOWN BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN ARE SHOWN BELOW:

	JAN.-JUNE 1981 (HK\$ MN.)	JAN.-JUNE 1980 (HK\$ MN.)	INCREASE (HK\$ MN.)	PERCENTAGE CHANGE
CHINA	5 731	3 638	+2 094	+ 58
JAPAN	3 878	2 467	+1 411	+ 57
USA	1 812	1 521	+ 291	+ 19
TAIWAN	1 754	772	+ 982	+127
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	846	343	+ 503	+147

CHINA REMAINED THE LARGEST SOURCE OF HONG KONG'S RE-EXPORTS. INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN WERE RECORDED FOR OIL SEEDS AND OLEAGINOUS FRUIT (MAINLY PEANUTS) (BY \$193 MILLION OR 598 PER CENT), WOMEN'S, GIRLS' AND INFANTS' OUTER GARMENTS OF TEXTILE FABRICS (BY \$118 MILLION OR 120 PER CENT), AND CONCENTRATES, WASTE, SCRAP AND SWEEPINGS OF PRECIOUS METALS (OTHER THAN OF GOLD) (BY \$138 MILLION OR 413 PER CENT).

MOST RE-EXPORT COMMODITIES OF JAPAN ORIGIN SHOWED STRONG GROWTH, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT ONES BEING GOODS VEHICLES AND SPECIAL PURPOSE MOTOR VEHICLES (BY \$308 MILLION OR 439 PER CENT), MOTORCYCLES, MOTOR SCOOTERS AND OTHER CYCLES (BY \$280 MILLION OR 140 PER CENT) AND TELEVISION RECEIVERS (BY \$112 MILLION OR 200 PER CENT).

OVERSEAS PURCHASES OF US PRODUCTS THROUGH HONG KONG REMAINED ACTIVE IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1981. INCREASES WERE REGISTERED IN RE-EXPORTS OF PARTS AND ACCESSORIES OF OFFICE MACHINES AND DATA PROCESSING MACHINES (BY \$29 MILLION OR 27 PER CENT), CRUDE VEGETABLE MATERIALS (BY \$28 MILLION OR 89 PER CENT), AS WELL AS THERMIONIC, COLD CATHODE AND PHOTO-CATHODE VALVES AND TUBES, PHOTOCELLS AND TRANSISTORS (BY \$22 MILLION OR 8 PER CENT).

/INCREASES IN

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF TAIWAN ORIGIN WERE RECORDED IN TEXTILE YARN (BY \$238 MILLION OR 144 PER CENT), WOVEN FABRICS OF MAN-MADE FIBRES (BY \$182 MILLION OR 182 PER CENT) AND KNITTED OR CROCHETED FABRICS (BY \$149 MILLION OR 737 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS ORIGINATING FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ALSO SHOWED SIGNIFICANT GROWTH, PARTICULARLY FOR WATCHES AND CLOCKS (BY \$148 MILLION OR 244 PER CENT).

RE-EXPORTS BY ORIGIN AND DESTINATION

WHEN ANALYSED BY ORIGIN AND THEN BY DESTINATION, INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FOR RE-EXPORTS OF CHINA ORIGIN TO THE US (BY \$716 MILLION OR 119 PER CENT), JAPAN (BY \$228 MILLION OR 86 PER CENT), SINGAPORE (BY \$136 MILLION OR 52 PER CENT), AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA (BY \$97 MILLION OR 118 PER CENT).

INCREASES IN RE-EXPORTS OF JAPAN ORIGIN WERE MAINLY TO INDONESIA (BY \$595 MILLION OR 102 PER CENT), CHINA (BY \$382 MILLION OR 114 PER CENT) AND SINGAPORE (BY \$81 MILLION OR 26 PER CENT).

SUBSTANTIAL INCREASES WERE ALSO NOTED IN RE-EXPORTS OF US ORIGIN TO SINGAPORE (BY \$159 MILLION OR 144 PER CENT) AND CHINA (BY \$81 MILLION OR 53 PER CENT).

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CHURCH RITES TO MARK ACADEMIC YEAR

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SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AS EDUCATION SUNDAY TO MARK THE START OF THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR.

SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES WILL BE HELD FOR THE OCCASION.

ON HONG KONG ISLAND, SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, AND IN KOWLOON, AT ST. TERESA'S CHURCH AND THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH.

ALL TEACHERS AND PUPILS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THE SERVICES, WHICH ARE HELD TO ENCOURAGE THEM IN THE TASK THAT LIES AHEAD IN THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.

THE CHURCH SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL WILL BE HELD AT 9 AM AND SERVICES AT THE OTHER THREE CHURCHES WILL BE HELD AT 11 AM.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR COLVYN HAYE WILL ATTEND THE SERVICE AT ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL- AND MR MICHAEL LEUNG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, WILL ATTEND THE SERVICE AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL.

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FOUR NEW TERRITORIES SITES SOLD FOR \$202 MILLION
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FOUR NEW TERRITORIES SITES WERE SOLD FOR A TOTAL OF \$202.25 MILLION AT AN AUCTION TODAY (WEDNESDAY).

A 6 800 SQUARE METRE SITE IN KWAI CHUNG FOR COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL USE WAS BOUGHT BY U-WAI INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED FOR \$170 MILLION.

THE PURCHASER IS REQUIRED TO BUILD A CINEMA FOR 500 PERSONS AND TO COMPLETE A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$65 MILLION WITHIN FOUR AND A HALF YEARS. THE MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO FOR DOMESTIC BUILDINGS IS FIVE AND FOR NON-DOMESTIC BUILDINGS 9.5.

A RESIDENTIAL SITE IN SHA TIN, MEASURING 1 654 SQUARE METRES WAS SOLD FOR \$7.25 MILLION TO HANSTEAD COMPANY LIMITED WHICH HAS TO FULFIL A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$1.39 MILLION WITHIN THREE YEARS. IT IS FOR TWO-STOREY DEVELOPMENT.

THE REMAINING TWO SITES OFFERED FOR AUCTION ARE IN TUEN MUN AND FOR INDUSTRIAL/GODOWN DEVELOPMENT. BOTH OF THEM WENT TO REALITY ENTERPRISES HONG KONG LIMITED.

THE LARGER ONE, MEASURING 1 777 SQUARE METRES, WAS SOLD FOR \$12.5 MILLION. IT HAS A FOUR-YEAR BUILDING COVENANT OF \$14.6 MILLION AND THE MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO IS 9.5.

THE OTHER SITE MEASURES 1 723 SQUARE METRES AND HAS A BUILDING COVENANT OF \$14.1 MILLION, ALSO TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN FOUR YEARS. THE MAXIMUM PLOT RATIO IS 9.5 AND THE PRICE PAID WAS ALSO \$12.5 MILLION.

THE AUCTION, AT THE CITY HALL THEATRE, WAS CONDUCTED BY THE ACTING GOVERNMENT LAND AGENT OF THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION, MR C.M. MO.

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URBAN CLEARWAY FOR LOK LO HA
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AN UNNAMED ROAD WEST OF THE PUBLIC OPEN-SPACE CAR PARK IN LOK LO HA, SHA TIN, WILL BE DESIGNATED A 24-HOUR CLEARWAY ZONE FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

ALL VEHICLES EXCEPT FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING UP OR SETTING DOWN PASSENGERS AND GOODS WITHIN THE CLEARWAY.

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TEXTILE INDUSTRY TRAINING NEEDS TO BE STUDIED

A MANPOWER SURVEY OF HONG KONG'S TEXTILE INDUSTRY WILL BE CONDUCTED FROM OCTOBER 1 TO 16 TO COLLECT INFORMATION ON TRAINING REQUIREMENTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

THE SURVEY, THE SIXTH IN A SERIES, WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE HONG KONG TRAINING COUNCIL, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT AND THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR FEI LEE, SAID TODAY (WEDNESDAY) THAT BASED ON THE SURVEY FINDING, THE BOARD WOULD MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON MANPOWER PLANNING AND TRAINING TO BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

QUESTIONNAIRES AND EXPLANATORY LETTERS WERE SENT TODAY TO ABOUT 700 TEXTILE MILLS TO BE COVERED IN THE SURVEY. SURVEY INTERVIEWING OFFICERS OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT WILL CALL AT EACH OF THESE MILLS DURING THE SURVEY PERIOD TO ASSIST IN COMPLETING AND TO COLLECT THE QUESTIONNAIRES.

THE INFORMATION WHICH EMPLOYERS ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY INCLUDES:

- (I) THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES EMPLOYED,
- (II) THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES UNDER TRAINING,
- (III) THE NUMBER OF EXISTING VACANCIES, AND
- (IV) A FORECAST OF ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEES REQUIRED FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS.

MR LEE STRESSED THAT INFORMATION COLLECTED WOULD BE HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND PUBLISHED ONLY IN THE FORM OF STATISTICAL SUMMARIES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL MILL.

+AS THE INFORMATION COLLECTED FROM THIS SURVEY WILL ASSIST THE TRAINING BOARD IN DRAWING UP TRAINING PLANS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INDUSTRY, ALL EMPLOYERS COVERED IN THE SURVEY ARE REQUESTED TO OFFER THEIR FULL CO-OPERATION,+ HE ADDED.

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HONG KONG GROUP ON PROMOTION TRIP TO JAPAN

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A HONG KONG DELEGATION LEFT THIS MORNING FOR TOKYO TO PARTICIPATE IN TWO INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION SEMINARS.

THE DELEGATION IS LED BY THE HON ALLEN LEE, AND THE TRADE INDUSTRY AND CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT IS REPRESENTED BY MR PAUL K.C. WONG, ACTING DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF INDUSTRY.

ON SEPTEMBER 17, THE FIRST DAY OF ITS ACTIVITIES, THE DELEGATION WILL MEET MEMBERS OF THE ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN, WHEN MR LEE WILL MAKE A PRESENTATION ON 'THE TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN HONG KONG'S ELECTRONIC INDUSTRY'.

ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, HE WILL GIVE A TALK ON THE 'OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG' TO PARTICIPANTS IN A SEMINAR ORGANISED BY THE JAPAN INDUSTRIAL LOCATION CENTRE.

ON BOTH OCCASIONS, MR WONG WILL BE PRESENTING THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT PROMOTION POLICY AND THE SERVICES THE GOVERNMENT OFFERS TO INVESTORS.

JAPAN IS THE SECOND LARGEST SOURCE OF OVERSEAS INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT IN HONG KONG.

IN THE LAST 18 MONTHS, SEVEN JAPANESE COMPANIES HAVE ESTABLISHED MANUFACTURING FACILITIES IN HONG KONG, INVESTING \$57 MILLION AND PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT FOR 280.

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TEMPORARY SHA TIN SLIP ROAD CLOSURE

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THE WESTBOUND SLIP ROAD OFF SHA TIN RURAL COMMITTEE ROAD, NEAR LEK YUEN ESTATE, WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM SATURDAY (SEPTEMBER 19) TO OCTOBER 3 TO FACILITATE BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR THE SHA TIN STATION OF THE KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

DURING THE CLOSURE PERIOD, WESTBOUND KMB ROUTES NO. 70, 70A, 70M, 71, 72, 72A, 86, 87, 88, 88A, 88B, 89 AND CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL BUS NO. 170 WILL BE DIVERTED VIA YUEN WO ROAD AND ROAD P6 TO REJOIN TAI PO ROAD.

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DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEMBERS TOUR WAN CHAI

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MEMBERS OF THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TOOK A CLOSE LOOK AT WAN CHAI'S MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS AND DISTRICT PROBLEMS WHEN THEY TOURED THE AREA THIS (SEPTEMBER 16) MORNING.

THE WAN CHAI DISTRICT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES FROM PUBLIC WORKS, POLICE, URBAN SERVICES, TRANSPORT, SOCIAL WELFARE, EDUCATION, RECREATION AND SPORT SERVICE, FIRE SERVICES, MEDICAL AND HEALTH, LABOUR, HOUSING, MARINE AND HOME AFFAIRS DEPARTMENTS.

IT WAS SET UP LAST MONTH TO PROVIDE A FORUM FOR INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CONSULTATION AND CO-ORDINATION TO ENSURE THAT DISTRICT ISSUES AND PROBLEMS ARE DEALT WITH PROMPTLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

BESIDES ENABLING MEMBERS TO HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DISTRICT AND ITS PROBLEMS, THE TOUR ALSO PROVIDED THEM WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE SPOT.

DURING THE TOUR, COMMITTEE MEMBERS LOOKED OVER UNAUTHORIZED OCCUPATION OF CROWN LAND UNDER THE CANAL ROAD FLYOVER. THEN, FROM THE ROOFTOP OF CAUSEWAY CENTRE THEY WERE BRIEFED ON THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE WAN CHAI RECLAMATION.

THE MEMBERS ALSO VISITED THE TAI HANG ROAD FLYOVER CONSTRUCTION SITE AT SUGAR STREET, AS WELL AS THE TAI HANG AREA, TO SEE OBSTRUCTIONS CAUSED BY ILLEGAL PARKING, THE ABERDEEN TUNNEL, THE MTR WORKSITE AT SOUTHERN PLAYGROUND AND THE HAWKING ACTIVITIES AT CROSS STREET, TAI WO STREET, TAI YUEN STREET AND WAN CHAI ROAD.

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CAUSEWAY BAY WATER LEAKAGE TEST

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CAUSEWAY BAY WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY (SEPTEMBER 21) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR LEAKAGE TEST.

THE AREA TO BE AFFECTED IS BOUNDED BY PERCIVAL STREET, HENNESSY ROAD, EAST POINT ROAD AND GLOUCESTER ROAD, INCLUDING KELLETT ISLAND.

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