



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN MEDICAL CONSULTANTS' REPORT

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THE CONSULTANTS' REPORT ON THE DELIVERY OF MEDICAL SERVICES IN HOSPITALS AROUSED CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC INTEREST AND WAS WIDELY RECOGNISED AS INNOVATIVE, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT SAID TODAY (SUNDAY).

ANNOUNCING THE RELEASE OF A SUMMARY REPORT OF PUBLIC OPINION MARKING THE COMPLETION OF THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE, THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THE DOCUMENT WAS TO PROVIDE A SUMMARY OF PUBLIC VIEWS EXPRESSED THROUGH THE VARIOUS CHANNELS DURING THE CONSULTATION PERIOD WHICH LASTED FROM APRIL TO AUGUST 1986.

HE ADDED THAT THE VIEWS RECEIVED WERE EXTREMELY USEFUL AND ALL OF THEM HAD BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN CONSIDERING THE CONSULTANTS' RECOMMENDATIONS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT TO MOST PEOPLE IN HONG KONG, THE PROPOSAL FOR A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OUTSIDE THE CIVIL SERVICE SEEMED A FAIRLY RADICAL ONE AND THIS ISSUE ATTRACTED A LOT OF COMMENTS WITH A WIDE RANGE OF VIEWS.

+TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC, DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS, THE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HOSPITAL SERVICES SUGGESTED IN THE REPORT WERE OBVIOUSLY WELCOMED,+ HE SAID.

THE PUBLIC WAS ESPECIALLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE ENHANCEMENT OF COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION IN HOSPITAL SERVICES AS RECOMMENDED IN THE REPORT.

THE SPOKESMAN, HOWEVER, NOTED THAT THE PUBLIC ALSO EXPRESSED AN APPREHENSION THAT THE PROPOSAL MIGHT BE THE GOVERNMENT'S FIRST STEP TOWARDS SHIRKING ITS RESPONSIBILITIES IN MEDICAL SERVICES AND IN PARTICULAR THAT THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE MADE FINANCIALLY SELF-SUFFICIENT.

+THE GENERAL PUBLIC WAS CONCERNED THAT THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL MIGHT AFFECT THE MORALE OF THOSE STAFF CURRENTLY WORKING IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS AND THEREBY THEIR SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

+THE HARD WORK REQUIRED OF AND GIVEN BY PRESENT GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL STAFF WAS GENERALLY APPRECIATED BY THE PUBLIC,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE MAJORITY OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND ACADEMIC INSTITUTES WERE IN FAVOUR OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL, ALTHOUGH A SMALL NUMBER HELD OPPOSITE VIEWS.

+INDEED, THEY WERE GENERALLY IN FAVOUR OF MOST OF THE PROPOSALS IN THE REPORT,+ HE SAID.

CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN MEDICAL CONSULTANTS' REPORT

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TURNING TO THE RESPONSE FROM STAFF GROUPS TOWARDS THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL, HE SAID THAT STAFF FROM SUBVENTED HOSPITALS WELCOMED THE PROPOSAL BECAUSE THE CONSULTANTS SUGGESTED UPGRADING THEIR CONDITIONS OF SERVICE TO A LEVEL CLOSER TO THOSE OF THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS.

HOWEVER, MOST OF THE STAFF GROUPS IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS OBJECTED TO HAVING A HOSPITAL AUTHORITY AS THEY WERE AFRAID OF LOSING THEIR CIVIL SERVICE STATUS AND HAVING THEIR CURRENT FRINGE BENEFITS REDUCED.

AS FOR THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT OF SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS, THEY WERE GENERALLY IN FAVOUR OF THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL IN VIEW OF THE OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE THE FACILITIES OF THEIR HOSPITALS AS WELL AS THE CONDITIONS OF SERVICE FOR THEIR STAFF. THEY, HOWEVER, WISHED TO SEE THEIR HOSPITALS TO CONTINUE UNDER THEIR CONTROL.

THE SUMMARY REPORT ALSO HIGHLIGHTED THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS DURING AN ADJOURNMENT DEBATE ON OCTOBER 15 LAST YEAR.

ON BALANCE, THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL WAS SUPPORTED, WITH THE CAUTION THAT GOVERNMENT SHOULD CONTINUE TO BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PROVIDING SUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR MEDICAL SERVICES.

MEMBERS ALSO URGED GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE REPORT WHICH WOULD BRING ABOUT IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENTS PENDING FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS ON THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL, HE SAID.

THEY ALSO CALLED UPON GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A FURTHER REVIEW ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE AND OUT-PATIENT SERVICES, NOTING THAT THESE WERE COMPLEMENTARY TO HOSPITAL SERVICES, HE ADDED.

THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY PROPOSAL WAS SUPPORTED IN PRINCIPLE BY THE MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MDAC) WHICH DISCUSSED THE CONSULTANTS' REPORT AT TWO MEETINGS HELD LATE LAST YEAR.

HOWEVER, THE MDAC RECOMMENDED A CAUTIOUS APPROACH IN IMPLEMENTATION AND URGED GOVERNMENT TO DEVISE A STRUCTURE WHICH COULD PROVIDE THE MAXIMUM DEGREE OF INTEGRATION AT MINIMUM COST AND DISRUPTION.

THE SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPINION ALSO RECORDED VIEWS EXPRESSED BY VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE COMMUNITY ON THE PROPOSALS TO IMPROVE THE INTERNAL ORGANISATION OF THE HOSPITALS, TO INTRODUCE MORE EFFECTIVE COST CONTROL AND TO IMPROVE THE FEE STRUCTURE.

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THE SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT A GOVERNMENT WORKING GROUP CHAIRED BY THE DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, MISS ELAINE CHUNG, WITH MEMBERS FROM THE MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT, THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH, FINANCE BRANCH AND CIVIL SERVICE BRANCH HAD BEEN SET UP TO CONSIDER WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS ARE FEASIBLE AND DESIRABLE AND HOW BEST TO IMPLEMENT THEM.

A TOTAL OF 2 600 COPIES OF THE SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OPINION IN ENGLISH AND 2 200 IN CHINESE HAVE BEEN PRINTED AND ARE BEING DISTRIBUTED TO ALL STAFF GROUPS, PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS, SUBVENTED ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITY BODIES CONCERNED. COPIES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE HEALTH AND WELFARE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, LOWER ALBERT ROAD, HONG KONG.

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PROVISIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR LOADING OF VEHICLES

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GOODS CARRIED ON TRUCKS ARE SOMETIMES NOT PROPERLY SECURED, THUS PUTTING AT RISK THE LIVES OF PEOPLE ON BOARD AND OTHER ROAD USERS.

BESIDES BEING HAPHAZARDLY FASTENED, LOADS ARE ALSO OFTEN SEEN TO BE WRONGLY LADEN.

TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION, THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT HAS PRODUCED A PROVISIONAL CODE WHICH EXPLAINS IN DETAIL, WITH ILLUSTRATIONS THE NECESSARY PROCEDURES TO BE ADOPTED FOR TRANSPORTING LOADS SAFELY.

KNOWN AS THE +PROVISIONAL CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE LOADING OF VEHICLES+, IT IS AIMED AT GIVING ADVICE TO GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS ON THE SAFE WAY TO LOAD THEIR VEHICLES WITHOUT ENDANGERING THEMSELVES AND OTHER ROAD USERS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE PROVISIONAL CODE IS PUBLISHED AS A CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENT ON WHICH INTERESTED PARTIES CAN COMMENT. IT WILL BE AVAILABLE TO TRUCK OPERATORS IN MID-JUNE.

HE INDICATED THAT THE ACTUAL CODE ITSELF IS EXPECTED TO BE ISSUED SOME TIME NEXT YEAR AND WILL BE AVAILABLE IN BOTH LANGUAGES.

+WHILE THE PROVISIONAL CODE WILL NOT HAVE THE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE CODE ITSELF, IT IS HOPED THAT GOODS VEHICLE OPERATORS WILL TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY OF FOLLOWING THE ADVICE IT CONTAINS IN ORDER TO ENHANCE NOT ONLY THE SAFETY OF VEHICLES AND PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN THESE OPERATIONS, BUT ALSO USERS GENERALLY,+ HE SAID.

/AT PRESENT

AT PRESENT THERE ARE MORE THAN 83 000 LICENSED GOODS VEHICLES ON THE ROAD, CONSISTING OF 66 690 LIGHT VEHICLES, 16 450 MEDIUM GOODS VEHICLES AND ABOUT 200 HEAVY VEHICLES.

THE SPOKESMAN EMPHASISED THAT A PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS PRACTICE AT PRESENT IS THAT OF ALLOWING AND IN SOME CASES ENCOURAGING, PERSONNEL TO BE CARRIED ON OR WITHIN THE LOAD.

+THIS IRRESPONSIBLE PRACTICE COULD RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY TO THEM AS THEY COULD BE CRUSHED BY THE LOAD OR THROWN OFF THE VEHICLE BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE RESTRAINT,+ HE SAID.

+A FURTHER UNSATISFACTORY PRACTICE CONCERNS THE CARRIAGE OF LOOSE BULK LOADS OF WASTE OR EXCAVATED MATERIAL. THEY ARE SOMETIMES LOADED ABOVE THE SIDES OF THE VEHICLE, ALLOWING DROPS OR BEING BLOWN AWAY WHEN THE VEHICLE IS MOVING. THIS PRESENTS AN OBVIOUS DANGER TO OTHER ROAD USERS.

+THE PROVISIONAL CODE POINTS OUT THAT SUCH LOADS SHOULD BE PROPERLY CONTAINED WITH COVERS EXTENDING OVER AND DOWN THE SIDES OF THE VEHICLE TO ENSURE SPILLAGE DOES NOT OCCUR.

+OFTEN WHEN LOOSE MATERIAL IS BEING TRANSPORTED, SOME OPERATORS WILL INCREASE THE DEPTH OF THE SIDES BY THE USE OF ODD PIECES OF WOOD IN ORDER TO CARRY MORE MATERIAL.

+THE PROVISIONAL CODE POINTS OUT THAT THIS PRACTICE IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AS THE PIECES OF WOOD ARE NOT SECURED TO THE VEHICLE AND CAN BE EASILY DISLODGED, WITH THE CONSEQUENT LOSS OF PART OF THE LOAD,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT IF THE VEHICLE CAN SAFELY CARRY AN INCREASED LOAD HEIGHT, THEN ANY EXTENSIONS TO THE SIDES MUST BE MADE BY USING ONLY PROPERLY DESIGNED EXTENSION PIECES WHICH CAN BE SECURELY FIXED TO THE VEHICLE.

THE CODE ALSO CITES THAT FOR LONG MATERIAL IT IS ACCEPTED THAT CERTAIN LOADS WILL HAVE TO EXTEND BEYOND THE FRONT OR REAR OF A VEHICLE, BUT OFTEN USING A LARGER VEHICLE WILL ENABLE THE LOAD TO BE LAID FLAT ON THE CARRYING PLATFORM WITHOUT ANY PART OF THE LOAD PROJECTING FROM THE VEHICLE.

WHERE LOADS SUCH AS REINFORCEMENT RODS OR BAMBOO POLES ARE CARRIED AND DO PROJECT BEYOND THE VEHICLE THEY MUST BE PROPERLY LASHED DOWN SO THAT NO MOVEMENT OF THE LOAD OCCURS. IT IS ALSO NECESSARY TO ENSURE THAT THE HEADBOARD, IF SUPPORTING THE LOAD, IS STRONG ENOUGH TO SUPPORT THE LOAD.

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ON TRANSPORTING CONSTRUCTION PLANT, THE PROVISIONAL CODE ILLUSTRATES SEVERAL EXAMPLES OF HOW SUCH PLANT CAN BE CARRIED SAFELY. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE HEIGHT OF THE LOAD CARRIED ON A VEHICLE MUST NOT EXCEED 4.6 METRES ABOVE THE ROAD SURFACE.

OTHER WARNINGS GIVEN CONCERN THE ARRANGEMENT OF LOADS, LOADING AND UNLOADING ON STEEP GRADIENTS, OBSTRUCTIONS TO FOOTPATHS BY GOODS WAITING TO BE LOADED, AND THE HAZARDS OF ROLLER LOADING DEVICES FITTED TO SOME VEHICLES.

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GOVERNMENT MAINTENANCE GRANTS AVAILABLE
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THE ANNUAL GOVERNMENT MAINTENANCE GRANTS FOR BOTH THE HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION COURSE AND THE ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION COURSE WILL BE OFFERED TO NEEDY STUDENTS INTENDING TO FURTHER FULL-TIME STUDIES IN THE COMING SCHOOL YEAR STARTING SEPTEMBER.

APPLICANTS MUST HAVE OBTAINED RESULTS OF A SUFFICIENTLY HIGH LEVEL IN THE HONG KONG CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION EXAMINATION IN THE YEAR AWARDED INDICATING LIKELY SUCCESS IN THE HIGHER LEVEL EXAMINATION OR IN THE ADVANCED LEVEL EXAMINATION. APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUPPORTED BY RECOMMENDATIONS FROM HEADS OF SCHOOLS.

THE AMOUNT OF MAINTENANCE GRANT WILL BE DETERMINED IN THE LIGHT OF FINANCIAL NEED AND FUNDS AVAILABLE. GRANTS AWARDED IN 1986/87 WERE ABOUT \$160 PER MONTH. GRANTS SHALL BE TENABLE AT ANY SECONDARY SCHOOL APPROVED BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION.

STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO COMPLETE THE STUDIES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR FOR WHICH THE GRANT HAS BEEN AWARDED. ANY GRANT-HOLDER WHO LEAVES BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF ONE YEAR MAY BE REQUIRED TO REFUND THE AMOUNT RECEIVED TO THE GOVERNMENT.

THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION MAY DISCONTINUE A GRANT IF THE RECIPIENT FAILS TO MERIT THE AWARD BY REASON OF LACK OF PROGRESS OR UNSATISFACTORY CONDUCT.

EACH APPLICATION SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED WITH A COMPLETED STATUTORY DECLARATION AND OTHER REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS. AN AWARD WILL NOT BE MADE TO A STUDENT WHOSE PARENT OR GUARDIAN HAS MADE A FALSE DECLARATION OR FAILED TO REVEAL THE INCOME OF THE WHOLE FAMILY.

/PARENTS AND

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PARENTS AND STUDENTS ARE REMINDED THAT ANY PERSON WHO MAKES A FALSE STATUTORY DECLARATION IS LIABLE TO PROSECUTION.

APPLICATION FORMS OF THE MAINTENANCE GRANTS CAN BE OBTAINED STARTING TUESDAY (JUNE 2), FROM THE OVERSEAS STUDENTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS SECTION OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON THE 5TH FLOOR, LEE GARDENS, HYSAN AVENUE, CAUSEWAY BAY.

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TRAINING COURSES FOR TECHNICAL TEACHERS
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TO ASSIST IN-SERVICE TECHNICAL TEACHERS WHO ARE ACADEMICALLY QUALIFIED TO OBTAIN PROFESSIONAL TEACHING QUALIFICATIONS, THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE WILL RUN TWO-YEAR PART-TIME TRAINING COURSES FOR THEM IN SEPTEMBER.

APPLICANTS SHOULD BE FULL-TIME TEACHERS OF TECHNICAL OR COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS IN THE POLYTECHNICS OR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND HAVE A MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR'S EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SUBJECTS.

THEY SHOULD ALSO POSSESS EITHER A DIPLOMA, A HIGHER CERTIFICATE OR A HIGHER DIPLOMA AWARDED BY A POLYTECHNIC OR A TECHNICAL INSTITUTE.

APPLICATION FORMS ARE OBTAINABLE FROM THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE AT 373, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, WAN CHAI.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT APPLICATIONS THROUGH THEIR SCHOOL HEADS TO THE COLLEGES OF EDUCATION JOINT SELECTION BOARD, THE HONG KONG TECHNICAL TEACHERS' COLLEGE, BEFORE JUNE 10 (WEDNESDAY).

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MASSIVE CLEAN-UP TO CONTINUE
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THE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP WILL ENTER ITS THIRD-WEEK FROM TOMORROW (JUNE 1) AND WILL LAST THROUGH THE MONTH.

STAFF OF THE URBAN REGIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT WILL CARRY OUT MASSIVE CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS IN LANES, BUILDINGS, HAWKER AREAS, MARKETS AND CANOPIES.

/THEY WILL

THEY WILL ALSO REMOVE OBSTRUCTION AND CLEAR THE MOSQUITO AND PEST NUISANCES IN THEIR OWN DISTRICTS.

SINCE THE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP WAS LAUNCHED TWO WEEKS AGO, IT HAD PROVEN TO BE VERY POPULAR. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ALSO TOOK PART IN CLEANING UP THEIR SURROUNDING AREAS TOGETHER WITH THE CLEANSING STAFF OF THE TWO DEPARTMENTS.

SUPPORT WILL ALSO BE OBTAINED FROM RESIDENTS AND SCHOOL CHILDREN OF THE KAI TAK REFUGEE CAMP. THEY WILL JOIN HANDS WITH THE KWUN TONG CLEANSING STAFF TO CLEAN UP THE CAMP AREA TOMORROW (MONDAY) MORNING.

RESIDENTS OF OTHER DISTRICTS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT THE CLEAN-UP BY TAKING THE LITTER TO THEIR NEARBY REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS.

THE PUBLIC MAY CONTACT THE HEALTH INSPECTOR OF THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS FOR DETAILS OF THE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP, LOCATIONS AND OPENING HOURS OF THE REFUSE COLLECTION POINTS IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD.

BETWEEN JUNE 1 TO 7, CLEAN-UP OPERATIONS WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN THE FOLLOWING DISTRICTS:

DISTRICT -----	TEL. NO. -----
EASTERN	5-601048
SOUTHERN	5-547152
WESTERN	5-488173
WAN CHAI	5-8322757
CENTRAL	5-446111 EXT 46
YAU MA TEI	3-7243843
SHAM SHUI PO	3-861618
MONG KOK	3-949484
KOWLOON CITY	3-7111684
WONG TAI SIN	3-233152
KWUN TONG	3-455731
SAI KUNG	3-2815366
NORTH	0-6570436
YUEN LONG	0-753691
TUEN MUN	0-4513085
TSUEN WAN	0-4904414
KWAI TSING	0-256321
SHA TIN	0-6065776
TAI PO	0-6577111 EXT 155

IN SUPPORT OF THE BLOCK-TO-BLOCK CLEAN-UP, AN ANTI-LITTER BLITZ OPERATION WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN KWUN TONG, WAN CHAI, SHAM SHUI PO, YAU MA TEI, MONG KOK AND KOWLOON CITY IN THE SAME PERIOD.

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WATER CUTS IN TAI PO

FRESH AND SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN PREMISES IN TAI PO AREA WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 9 PM ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 3) TO 7 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY SO THAT MAINS WORK CAN BE CARRIED OUT.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT PREMISES ALONG TAI PO ROAD FROM WAN TAU STREET TO TAI PO KAU, INCLUDING KWONG FUK ESTATE AND WANG FUK COURT, WONG YI AU, MEI WOON SAN TSUEN, YIN TZE LANE, STRAFFORD HOUSE, TAI PO KAU, TAI PO KAU SAN WAI, LOOKOUT LANE, ST. CHRISTOPHER'S HOME, ISLAND HOUSE, TAI PO POLICE STATION, TAI PO KCR STATION AND SHAN TONG TSUEN.

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