



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1979

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MANDATORY RESTRICTIONS ON LIGHTING LIFTED

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THE GOVERNMENT TODAY (TUESDAY) LIFTED THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED LAST MAY ON THE USE OF ELECTRICITY FOR ADVERTISING, FLOODLIGHTING OR DISPLAY.

COMMENTING ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +WITH THE DEMAND FOR OIL WORLD-WIDE EXPECTED TO BALANCE SUPPLY BY THE YEAR'S END PARTICULARLY AS A RESULT OF HIGHER PRICES, IT HAS BEEN POSSIBLE TO LIFT THE MANDATORY RESTRICTIONS IN HONG KONG.+

HOWEVER, WHILE WORLD SUPPLIES REMAIN GENERALLY UNCERTAIN IT IS STILL NECESSARY FOR THE COMMUNITY TO CONSERVE ENERGY AND FUEL.

+GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE THE LEAD BY MOUNTING A WINTER PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN URGING MAXIMUM ECONOMIES IN THE USE OF FUEL FOR HEATING, LIGHTING, BATHING AND COOKING,+ HE ADDED.

MONTHLY AVERAGE SAVINGS OF 4.75 PER CENT, 4.4 PER CENT AND 5 PER CENT HAVE BEEN RECORDED SINCE THE GOVERNMENT'S FUEL SAVING CAMPAIGN BEGAN AND IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO MAINTAIN THIS LEVEL OF SAVING UNTIL THE SUPPLY OF OIL COMES MORE INTO BALANCE WITH DEMAND.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE LION'S SHARE OF THESE SAVINGS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED BY VOLUNTARY MEANS AND WHILE OIL REMAINS IN SHORT SUPPLY WE HOPE THESE EFFORTS WILL BE MAINTAINED.+

+THE SAVINGS ACHIEVED AS A RESULT OF IMPOSING MANDATORY RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF ELECTRICITY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO HONG KONG'S SUCCESS SO FAR IN RIDING OUT THE OIL SHORTAGE. BUT AS THE MANDATORY RESTRICTIONS HAVE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST SOME SECTORS OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY, THEY ARE BEING LIFTED AS EARLY AS IS POSSIBLE.

+WHETHER OR NOT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO CONSIDER RE-INTRODUCING THEM WILL DEPEND ON THE EFFORTS OF THE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE TO CONSERVE ENERGY AND FUEL.+

THE ADVERTISING, DISPLAY AND FLOODLIGHTING (RESTRICTION) ORDER 1979 WAS RESCINDED BY THE GOVERNOR IN COUNCIL TODAY WITH IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

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SCHEME OF CONTROL FOR HEC
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A SCHEME IS BEING INTRODUCED TO PLACE UNDER FORMAL CONTROL THE TARIFF CHARGES AND PROFITS OF THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY LIMITED, THE EFFECTIVE DATE BEING MADE RETROSPECTIVE FROM THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (TUESDAY), A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED WITH THE COMPANY ON A SCHEME OF CONTROL COVERING A PERIOD OF 15 YEARS FROM JANUARY 1, 1979.

THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THE MAIN FEATURES OF THE SCHEME WERE SIMILAR TO THOSE FOR THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY LIMITED AND FORMALISED THE UNOFFICIAL AGREEMENT MADE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMPANY IN 1965 SINCE WHEN THE COMPANY HAS OPERATED, ON A VOLUNTARY BASIS, WITHIN THE GENERAL PARAMETERS OF THE CHINA LIGHT AND POWER SCHEME OF CONTROL.

+THE SCHEME FOR HONGKONG ELECTRIC IS DESIGNED TO ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE TO CONSUMERS CONTINUES TO BE ADEQUATE TO MEET GROWING DEMANDS AND IS PROVIDED AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE TARIFFS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

UNDER THE SCHEME, THE PERMITTED RETURN ON AVERAGE NET FIXED ASSETS WILL BE BASICALLY SET AT 13.5 PER CENT. HOWEVER, A HIGHER RETURN, AT 15 PER CENT, WILL BE ALLOWED ON FIXED ASSETS ACQUIRED AFTER JANUARY, 1979 WITH ADDITIONAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS.

THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED THAT THE HIGHER PERMITTED RETURN ON THE NEW ASSETS WILL NOT RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TARIFF CHARGES. +HOWEVER, IT IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE THE RETENTION OF FUNDS IN THE BUSINESS WHICH IS VITAL TO THE COMPANY'S EXPANSION PLANS,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

+CARE WILL BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THE EXPANSION PLANS OF THE COMPANY ARE FULLY JUSTIFIABLE,+ HE SAID.

AS WITH CHINA LIGHT AND POWER, ANY EXCESS OF NET REVENUE OVER THE PERMITTED RETURN WILL BE TRANSFERRED INTO A DEVELOPMENT FUND- ANY SHORT-FALL BETWEEN NET REVENUE AND THE PERMITTED RETURN WILL BE MADE GOOD BY A TRANSFER FROM THIS FUND.

INTEREST ON THE FUND WILL BE SET AT 8 PER CENT. IT WILL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE PERMITTED RETURN AND TRANSFERRED TO A +RATE REDUCTION RESERVE,+ TO BE USED TO REDUCE THE TARIFFS CHARGED TO CONSUMERS BY MEANS OF REBATES.

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THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMPANY, HE SAID, WOULD BE MONITORED AND WITH THE FULL AGREEMENT OF THE COMPANY, FINANCING AND ANNUAL TARIFF AND AUDITING REVIEWS WOULD BE JOINTLY CARRIED OUT TO CHECK ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY ADJUSTMENTS TO TARIFFS WERE JUSTIFIED.

UNDER THE SCHEME, EITHER PARTY MAY REQUEST THE MODIFICATION OF ANY OF THE TERMS AT FIVE YEARLY INTERVALS. DURING THE FINAL THREE YEARS OF THE AGREEMENT, DISCUSSIONS WILL BE INITIATED ON A REVISION AND EXTENSION OF THE SCHEME.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CONFIRMED THAT STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN BY THE POWER COMPANIES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE HARBOUR TO ESTABLISH INTER-CONNECTION BETWEEN SYSTEMS OF THE TWO COMPANIES.

THIS WOULD HELP TO DEFER THE NEED FOR TARIFF INCREASES ON A LONG TERM BASIS AS SAVINGS COULD BE ACHIEVED IN FUEL COSTS AS A RESULT OF THE MORE EFFICIENT UTILISATION OF GENERATING PLANT AND A DEFERMENT IN REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERATING MACHINERY, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

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ALL PARTY GROUP OF MPS TO VISIT HK
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AN ALL PARTY GROUP OF BRITISH MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT WILL BE VISITING HONG KONG AT THE INVITATION OF THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT BETWEEN OCTOBER 22 AND 27.

THE PARTY WILL CONSIST OF SIR PAUL BRYAN (CONSERVATIVE), CHAIRMAN OF ANGLO-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, MR. IAN WRIGGLEWORTH (LABOUR), VICE CHAIRMAN OF ANGLO-HONG KONG PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, MR. TED ROWLANDS (LABOUR) AND MR. CHRISTOPHER PATTEN (CONSERVATIVE).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID: +THE PRIME PURPOSE OF THEIR VISIT WILL BE TO FAMILIARISE THEMSELVES WITH HONG KONG'S REFUGEE SITUATION.+

+HOWEVER, ANYONE WISHING TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT TO SEE THEM SHOULD CONTACT THE PROTOCOL OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 5-95212 AND THE REQUEST WILL BE PASSED ON TO THE MP'S CONCERNED,+ HE ADDED.

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INCREASE IN COMPENSATION FOR AGRICULTURAL LAND
RESUMED IN URBAN AREAS
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THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE COMPENSATION RATE FOR OLD SCHEDULED AGRICULTURAL LOTS RESUMED IN NEW KOWLOON OR ON HONG KONG ISLAND HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM \$58 PER SQUARE FOOT TO \$65 PER SQUARE FOOT.

+THE NEW RATE IS EFFECTIVE FROM OCTOBER 1,+ A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE RATE OF \$600 PER SQUARE FOOT FOR OLD SCHEDULED BUILDING LAND RESUMED IN NEW KOWLOON OR ON HONG KONG ISLAND REMAINS UNCHANGED,+ HE ADDED.

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VOLUNTARY AGENCIES JOIN HANDS TO HELP THE ELDERLY
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MANY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES ARE JOINING HANDS WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO INCULCATE IN YOUNG PEOPLE THE CONCEPT OF CARE AND RESPECT FOR OLD PEOPLE, THE SECRETARY FOR SOCIAL SERVICES, MR. E.P. HO SAID TODAY (TUESDAY).

OPENING THE FESTIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY AT THE DUKE OF WINDSOR SOCIAL SERVICE BUILDING AUDITORIUM, MR. HO SAID: +LIKE THE DISABLED, THE ELDERLY HAVE THE RIGHT TO STAY IN THE COMMUNITY. THEY SHOULD NOT BE CAST ASIDE OR FORGOTTEN.+

+THIS FESTIVAL FOR THE ELDERLY IS AN EXCELLENT WAY OF BRINGING TOGETHER THE ELDERLY, THE MIDDLE AGED AND YOUNG PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

MR. HO NOTED THAT THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN PROVIDING SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY WOULD CONTINUE TO BE ESSENTIAL- AND HE URGED THAT THE SERVICES SHOULD BE CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVED.

MR. HO SAID: +THE WHITE PAPER 'SOCIAL WELFARE INTO THE 1980S' PUBLISHED EARLIER THIS YEAR HAS ALREADY OUTLINED THE AREAS IN WHICH THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS.+

+THE MEASURES INCLUDE IMPROVED MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES, COMMUNITY NURSING, BETTER HEALTH EDUCATION AND THE PROMOTION OF GOOD HEALTH PRACTICES.+

+A RANGE OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED TO ENABLE THE ELDERLY TO REMAIN WITH THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS FOR AS LONG AS THIS IS POSSIBLE.+

/MR. HO SAID

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MR. HO SAID THAT THE HOME HELP SERVICE WOULD BE EXPANDED AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ESTABLISH DAY CARE CENTRES ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS.

+MULTI-SERVICE CENTRES ARE BEING PLANNED SO THAT THE ELDERLY WOULD HAVE EASY ACCESS TO A RANGE OF SERVICES IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THEIR HOMES- AT LEAST SEVEN SUCH CENTRES WILL BE PROVIDED BY 1980/81,+ HE SAID.

MR. HO SAID: +INSTITUTIONAL CARE WILL ALSO BE EXPANDED. PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO EXPANDING CARE AND ATTENTION HOMES: 1 400 ADDITIONAL PLACES ARE PLANNED FOR BY 1982/83.

+AN ADDITIONAL 1 600 PLACES WILL BE PROVIDED IN HOMES FOR THE AGED BY 1982/83. THESE PLACES WILL SUPPLEMENT THE EXISTING 34 ELDERLY RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTIONS WHICH HAVE A TOTAL CAPACITY OF 3 700.

+THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO PROVIDE SOME OF THESE SERVICES DIRECTLY SO THAT THE TARGETS IN THE WHITE PAPER MAY BE ACHIEVED EARLIER.+

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APPEAL FOR STUDENTS' SUPPORT OF CHILDREN'S WARD
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THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, MR. KENNETH TOPLEY, TODAY (TUESDAY) APPEALED TO SCHOOL CHILDREN TO SUPPORT THE +SCHOOL CHILDREN'S WARD+ IN THE RUTTONJEE SANATORIUM BY MAKING ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

THIS WARD OF 10 COTS IS THE ONLY ONE OF ITS KINDS IN HONG KONG AND THE DONATIONS FROM SCHOOLS ARE FOR CHILDREN THERE WHO NEED MEDICAL CARE AND ATTENTION.

+LAST YEAR, SCHOOLS CONTRIBUTED A SUM OF ABOUT \$266 960 - A SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENT AND A CREDIT TO ALL CONCERNED,+ MR. TOPLEY SAID.

HE SINCERELY HOPED THAT SCHOOLS WHICH HAVE SUPPORTED THIS PROJECT FOR OVER 20 YEARS WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THIS WARD BY INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE EFFORTS.

+INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD AGAIN BE LIMITED TO 50 CENTS AND MUST BE ENTIRELY VOLUNTARY, BUT SCHOOLS MAY CONSIDER VARIOUS OTHER WAYS AND MEANS OF RAISING MONEY TO SUPPORT THIS PRAISEWORTHY CAUSE,+ THE DIRECTOR SAID.

SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SENT, PREFERABLY BY CROSSED CHEQUES PAYABLE TO THE ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS AND THORACIC DISEASES ASSOCIATION, TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY (GENERAL) OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR ONWARD TRANSMISSION TO THE ASSOCIATION. ENVELOPES SHOULD BE MARKED +ANTI-T.B.+.

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TITAN JOINS RHKAAF
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A TWIN-ENGINE AIRCRAFT TODAY (TUESDAY) JOINED THE FLEET OF THE ROYAL HONG KONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE TO STRENGTHEN HONG KONG'S AERIAL SURVEILLANCE AS WELL AS SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS AT SEA.

THE 11-SEATER TITAN WAS DELIVERED TO THE AUXILIARY AIR FORCE TODAY AND WILL BE PUT INTO OPERATION AFTER A SERIES OF TEST FLIGHTS.

BUILT IN U.S. AT A COST OF \$3 MILLION, THE 12-METRE-LONG AIRCRAFT HAS A RANGE OF 3 400 KM AND A CRUISING SPEED OF 360 KM/H.

IT IS FITTED WITH MODERN COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT AND NAVIGATIONAL AIDS INCLUDING A SEARCH RADAR WHICH CAN COVER A RANGE OF 64 KM.

THE TITAN WAS CHOSEN BECAUSE IT WAS BEST SUITED TO HONG KONG'S REQUIREMENTS.

+WITH A COMPARATIVELY LONG FLYING RANGE, THE TITAN WILL PROVIDE THE AUXILIARY AIR FORCE WITH GREATER ABILITY TO PERFORM SURVEILLANCE PATROL AND SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS OVER THE SOUTH CHINA SEA,+ STAFF OFFICER OF THE RHKAAF, SQN. LDR. JOHN SHAWCROSS STATED.

+THE HIGH SPEED WILL ALSO ENABLE THE AIRCRAFT TO ARRIVE AT THE PLACE OF AN INCIDENT QUICKLY,+ HE ADDED.

SQN. LDR. SHAWCROSS POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THE REFUGEE VESSEL +HUEY FONG+ WAS SPOTTED HEADING FOR HONG KONG IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA ON DECEMBER 22 LAST YEAR, THERE HAD BEEN A REGULAR NEED FOR HONG KONG TO CARRY OUT FREQUENT AERIAL PATROL OVER THAT PART OF THE OCEAN.

THESE SURVEILLANCE FLIGHTS HAVE BEEN UP TILL NOW PERFORMED BY ANOTHER FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT OF THE RHKAAF, THE ISLANDER, WHICH HAS SERVED WITH THE FORCE FOR SEVEN YEARS.

FROM NOW ON, THE NEW AIRCRAFT WILL TAKE OVER THE SURVEILLANCE ROLE FROM THE ISLANDER AND RELEASE IT FOR OTHER FLYING DUTIES.

SQN. LDR. SHAWCROSS POINTED OUT THAT THE ACQUISITION OF THE LONG-RANGE AIRCRAFT WOULD ALSO MAKE HONG KONG INDEPENDENT IN SEARCH AND RESCUE COVERAGE IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA.

PREVIOUSLY, HONG KONG HAD TO RELY ON AIRCRAFT FROM OTHER OVERSEAS BASES IF THE PLACE OF INCIDENT WAS TOO FAR AWAY FROM HONG KONG AND COULD NOT BE REACHED BY THE ISLANDER.

THE TITAN IS ALSO MODIFIED TO CARRY OUT AERIAL SURVEY FOR MAP MAKING PURPOSES WHEN THE ISLANDER IS UNDERGOING MAINTENANCE.

+WITH THE ADDITION OF THE TITAN, AT LEAST ONE FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT IS AVAILABLE AT ALL TIMES FOR PATROL, SEARCH AND RESCUE AS WELL AS AERIAL SURVEY DUTIES,+ SQN. LDR. SHAWCROSS SAID.

APART FROM THE TITAN AND THE ISLANDER, THE RHKAAF FLEET CONSIST OF TWO SCOTTISH AVIATION BULLDOG TRAINERS AND TWO ALOUETTE MARK III HELICOPTERS.

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LADY MACLEHOSE VISITS HK ACADEMY OF BALLET

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LADY MACLEHOSE TODAY (TUESDAY) VISITED THE HONG KONG ACADEMY OF BALLET AND SAW STUDENTS UNDER TRAINING. SHE IS PATRON OF THE ACADEMY.

THE ACADEMY GIVES HONG KONG ITS FIRST ESTABLISHMENT TO TRAIN PROFESSIONAL DANCERS AND TEACHERS. IT WAS FORMED IN NOVEMBER 1978 AS A NON-PROFIT-MAKING ORGANISATION AND TOOK ITS SECOND GROUP OF STUDENTS IN FOR TRAINING IN SEPTEMBER 1979.

LADY MACLEHOSE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL AT THE ACADEMY BY MRS. KAY JONES, GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR AND MRS. MARY GRIFFITHS, PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL.

SHE WATCHED PART OF A STUDENTS' CLASS CONDUCTED BY MISS PAULA LAU AND CHATTED WITH TEACHERS, DANCERS AND STUDENTS.

BEFORE LEAVING LADY MACLEHOSE WATCHED THE DANCERS IN THE ACADEMY BALLET COMPANY REHEARSING FOR THEIR FORTHCOMING PRODUCTION AT THE SHOUSON THEATRE, HONG KONG ARTS CENTRE.

THE COMPANY IS PRESENTING SIX BALLETS IN A PROGRAMME CALLED +BALLET X SIX+ FROM OCTOBER 24 TO 26. TICKETS AT \$15, \$10 AND \$7 (STUDENTS ONLY) ARE ON SALE AT THE ARTS CENTRE.

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SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF CROWN LAND IN WAN CHAI

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THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT IS INVITING TENDERS FOR A SHORT-TERM TENANCY OF A PIECE OF CROWN LAND AT WAN CHAI RECLAMATION ON AN ANNUAL RENTAL BASIS.

THE SITE, MEASURING ABOUT 2 525 SQUARE METRES, IS INTENDED FOR STORAGE OF TENANT'S GOODS, VEHICLES, MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE SAID TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE TENANCY WAS FOR AN INITIAL PERIOD OF ONE YEAR AND THEREAFTER MONTHLY.

TENDER FORMS, NOTICE AND CONDITIONS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE CROWN LANDS AND SURVEY OFFICE IN MURRAY BUILDING, 19TH FLOOR, GARDEN ROAD AND IN THE KOWLOON GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 405 NATHAN ROAD, 10TH FLOOR.

THE TENDER PLAN MAY ALSO BE INSPECTED AT THE TWO OFFICES.

CLOSING DATE FOR ACCEPTING TENDERS IS NOON ON OCTOBER 26.

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BAGUIO VILLAS MAXICAB SERVICE TO BE IMPROVED

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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (TUESDAY) THAT THE TIME-TABLE OF MAXICAB ROUTE NO. 8 BETWEEN CENTRAL AND BAGUIO VILLAS WOULD BE REVISED FROM TOMORROW (WEDNESDAY) TO IMPROVE THE SERVICE.

+THE NEW SCHEDULE OF SERVICE WILL IMPROVE THE BASIC FREQUENCY FROM 10 MINUTES TO BETWEEN SEVEN AND EIGHT MINUTES, AND EXTEND THE EVENING OPERATION UNTIL 9.30 P.M.,+ A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

+TWO MORE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE SERVICE BRINGING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF MAXICABS SERVING THIS ROUTE TO EIGHT,+ HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID FROM TOMORROW ROUTE NO. 8 WOULD OPERATE FROM 6.30 A.M. TO 9.30 P.M. WITH PEAK FREQUENCIES OF SEVEN TO EIGHT MINUTES AND OFF-PEAK FREQUENCIES OF 10 MINUTES.

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FLUSHING WATER CUT

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN MOST OF THE WESTERN KOWLOON DISTRICTS WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR 12 HOURS FROM 8 P.M. ON THURSDAY (OCTOBER 11) TO 8 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY TO ALLOW THE REMOVAL OF WATER MAINS IN THE AREA FOR MTR PILING WORKS.

THE AFFECTED AREAS INCLUDE CHEUNG SHA WAN, SHAM SHUI PO, TAI KOK TSUI, MONG KOK, YAU MA TEI, SHEK KIP MEI AND KOWLOON TONG.

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