



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE NO.</u>
GOVERNOR OFF TO CHINA	1
SIR JACK CATER ACTING GOVERNOR	1
STAGE II OF SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT	2
MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLAN	3
SUITABLE SITES FOR HOLIDAY CAMPS AND HOSTELS IN THE N.T.	5
WHITE-NAPED CRANES SEIZED	6
D.S.W. TO PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF COMPETITIONS ...	7
FIRING PRACTICE	7
WATER CUT	8
SERVICE ROAD TO CLOSE	8

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

- 1 -

GOVERNOR OFF TO CHINA

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THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE, THIS (SATURDAY) AFTERNOON LEFT HONG KONG FOR CANTON BY A SPECIAL HOVERFERRY ON AN OFFICIAL VISIT AT THE INVITATION OF MR. LI QIANG, MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE.

ACCOMPANYING SIR MURRAY ON THE VISIT WAS LADY MACLEHOSE- SIR YUET-KEUNG KAN, SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL- LADY KAN- DR. DAVID WILSON, POLITICAL ADVISER, AND MRS. WILSON.

SIR MURRAY ARRIVED AT TAI KOK TSUI FERRY PIER AT 2.50 P.M. AND WAS SEEN OFF BY THE CHIEF SECRETARY, SIR JACK CATER- UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, SIR SIDNEY GORDON- SENIOR UNOFFICIAL MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, MR. OSWALD CHEUNG- MR. OSCAR MICHELENA, CONSUL-GENERAL OF VENEZUELA WHO IS THE DOYEN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AND REPRESENTATIVES OF XINHUA NEWS AGENCY.

ALSO AT THE PIER TO SEE THE GOVERNOR OFF WAS A LARGE CROWD OF PEOPLE WHO WAVED AT HIM AS THE HOVERFERRY BEGAN PULLING OUT. SIR MURRAY AND SIR YUET-KEUNG, WHO WERE ON THE DECK OF THE BOAT, WAVED BACK.

SIR MURRAY AND HIS PARTY WILL BE IN CHINA FOR 11 DAYS AND WILL RETURN TO HONG KONG ON APRIL 4 ON AN INAUGURAL EXPRESS TRAIN.

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SIR JACK CATER ACTING GOVERNOR

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SIR JACK CATER HAS ASSUMED THE FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR FROM THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING, FOLLOWING THE DEPARTURE FROM HONG KONG OF THE GOVERNOR, SIR MURRAY MACLEHOSE.

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/2

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

- 2 -

STAGE II OF SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT
VIRTUALLY COMPLETE

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THE SECOND STAGE OF THE SHEK KIP MEI ESTATE REDEVELOPMENT, BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE ARCHITECTURAL OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE.

THE WORK INVOLVES DEMOLISHING THREE MARK I SEVEN-STORY BLOCKS AND BUILDING THREE 13-STORY BLOCKS.

MRS. C. ALUNAN, PWD'S CHIEF ARCHITECT, SAID THAT THESE BLOCKS WERE EXPECTED TO BE HANDED OVER TO THE HOUSING DEPARTMENT LATER THIS MONTH.

MEANWHILE, WORK ON TWO MORE 13-STORY BLOCKS UNDER THE FIRST STAGE OF THE SHEK KIP MEI REDEVELOPMENT IS NEARING COMPLETION AND IS EXPECTED TO BE FINISHED IN MAY.

STAGE THREE WILL INVOLVE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A COMPLEX AND THREE 13-STORY BLOCKS TO REPLACE THREE MARK I SEVEN-STORY BLOCKS.

WORK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN AT THE END OF THIS YEAR AND WILL TAKE ABOUT TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE.

MRS. ALUNAN POINTED OUT THAT THIS WOULD BE THE LAST PUBLIC HOUSING CONTRACT HANDLED BY THE PWD.

OTHER WORK ON PUBLIC HOUSING BEING UNDERTAKEN BY PWD INCLUDES THREE BLOCKS OF 30-STORY BUILDING AT TAI HING ESTATE IN TUEN MUN.

THIS PROJECT IS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY AND IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION IN JANUARY 1980.

FOUR SECONDARY SCHOOLS NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT LAI KING ESTATE AND TAI HING ESTATE ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT THREE MONTHS.

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/3

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

- 3 -

MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR SEWAGE TREATMENT PLAN
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THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS EMBARKED ON A MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR PLAN TO BUILD 17 SEWAGE TREATMENT AND SCREENING PLANTS WITHIN THE NEXT THREE YEARS TO COPE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASE IN POPULATION.

IN TOTAL, 35 PLANTS ARE IN VARIOUS STAGES OF PLANNING OR CONSTRUCTION.

DISCLOSING THIS TODAY (SATURDAY), THE CHIEF ENGINEER OF THE PWD'S DRAINAGE WORKS DIVISION, MR. WONG WAN-MING, SAID: +OF THE 17, FIVE ARE NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION.+

THEY ARE THE AP LEI CHAU SCREENING PLANT AND DEEP WATER BAY-REPULSE BAY TREATMENT PLANT ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND THE SHA TIN SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT STAGE 1, THE TAI PO SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS STAGE 1 AND THE SHEK WU HUI-FANLING SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES.

ON COMPLETION AT THE END OF 1981, MR. WONG SAID, THEY WOULD DOUBLE THE NUMBER OF EXISTING PLANTS.

OF THE 30 PLANTS NOW BEING PLANNED, HE ADDED, 20 WOULD BE IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, SEVEN ON HONG KONG ISLAND AND THREE IN KOWLOON.

MR. WONG SAID: +THE GOVERNMENT HAS LONG BEEN AWARE OF THE NEED FOR PROPER TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE.

+IN VIEW OF THE DEVELOPMENT TAKING PLACE IN THE NEW TOWNS IN THE NEW TERRITORIES, SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES HAVE TO BE PROVIDED TO THESE AREAS.

+HOWEVER, THE PHASING OF SUCH PLANTS HAS TO BE TIED IN WITH THE LAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

+IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO AREAS WHERE EXISTING TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE OR WILL BE RENDERED INADEQUATE BECAUSE OF ANTICIPATED POPULATION INCREASE OR OTHER REASONS,+ HE SAID.

MR. WONG RECALLED THAT IN THE OLD DAYS, BEFORE THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SEWAGE COLLECTION SYSTEM, NIGHTSOIL COLLECTION SERVICE WAS EXTENSIVELY PROVIDED BY THE URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

IN PRE-WAR DAYS, SEWER SYSTEMS FOR THE CARRIAGE OF FOUL WATER WERE GRADUALLY INTRODUCED IN URBAN AREAS AND FLUSHED TOILETS BECAME STANDARD PROVISIONS IN NEW BUILDINGS.

AT THAT TIME, SEWAGE WAS DISCHARGED DIRECTLY INTO THE SEA THROUGH OPENINGS IN SEAWALLS, CREATING PATCHES OF UNSIGHTLY SPOTS ALONG THE HARBOUR.

HOWEVER, MR. WONG POINTED OUT THAT PROGRESSIVELY AFTER THE WAR, INTERCEPTING SEWERS WERE CONSTRUCTED TO CONVEY ALL SEWAGE TO A CENTRAL SCREENING PLANT TO REMOVE LARGE SOLIDS AND FLOATING OBJECTS.

THE SCREENED SEWAGE WAS THEN DISCHARGED IN DEEP WATERS THROUGH LONG SUBMARINE OUTFALLS TO ACHIEVE ADEQUATE INITIAL DILUTION AND SUBSEQUENT DISPERSION.

+FOR DISCHARGES INTO STREAMS OR WHERE SEA CURRENTS ARE WEAK, FURTHER TREATMENT OTHER THAN SCREENING IS USUALLY NECESSARY,+ HE SAID.

IN 1974, THE FIRST SECONDARY SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS, WHICH WAS AN EXPERIMENTAL PLANT, WAS BUILT IN SHEK WU HUI.

IN THE FOLLOWING YEAR, A TEMPORARY SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS FOR SHA TIN WAS COMMISSIONED.

SINCE THEN, MORE SECONDARY TREATMENT WORKS HAVE BEEN PUT UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEW TERRITORIES. AND TWO OF THEM, THE SHA TIN INTERIM SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AND THE TAI PO SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS (STAGE 1), ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMMISSIONED LATER THIS YEAR.

THESE SECONDARY TREATMENT PLANTS EMPLOY BIOCHEMICAL PROCESSES, IN ADDITION TO PHYSICAL TREATMENT, TO REMOVE THE POLLUTANTS. IN GENERAL, AT LEAST 92 PER CENT REMOVAL IS ACHIEVED.

TURNING TO THE EXPERIMENTAL PLANT IN SHEK WU HUI, MR. WONG SAID: +IT HAS BEEN USED TO OBTAIN DESIGN DATA FOR VARIOUS BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT PROCESSES TO FIND THE MOST SUITABLE PROCESS FOR HONG KONG AND TO TRAIN LOCAL OPERATION PERSONNEL.

+EXPERIENCE AND FEED-BACK OF PERFORMANCE DATA FROM OPERATION OF OTHER PLANTS ARE ALSO A USEFUL SOURCE OF REFERENCE FOR THESE PURPOSES.+

TO MONITOR THE CHARACTERISTICS OF SEWAGE AND THE QUALITY OF THE TREATED EFFLUENT AND TO ENSURE THAT THE PLANTS ARE PRODUCING EFFLUENTS OF SATISFACTORY QUALITY, MR. WONG SAID: +ABOUT 420 TESTS ARE CARRIED OUT AT THE SHEK WU HUI PILOT PLANT EACH MONTH AND 210 TESTS AT THE SHA TIN TEMPORARY PLANT.

+ALSO, TERRITORIAL WATERS ARE MONITORED TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SEWAGE TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL FACILITIES TO ESTABLISH POLLUTION TREND DATA FOR DESIGN PURPOSES AND TO PROVIDE AN EARLY WARNING FOR THE TIMELY IMPLEMENTATION OF NECESSARY SEWAGE TREATMENT TO PREVENT DETERIORATION IN THE CONDITIONS OF THE RECEIVING WATER BODIES.+

SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

- 5 -

SUITABLE SITES FOR HOLIDAY CAMPS AND HOSTELS IN THE N.T.

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THE GOVERNMENT HAS IDENTIFIED A NUMBER OF SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES SUITABLE FOR BUILDING YOUTH HOSTELS AND HOLIDAY CAMPS BY VOLUNTARY AGENCIES.

THE SECRETARY FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES, MR. DAVID AKERS-JONES, SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT ORGANISATIONS WERE WELCOME TO APPROACH THE NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION FOR SUCH SITES FOR A PUBLIC CAUSE.

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF PHASE I OF THE PO LEUNG KUK HOLIDAY CAMP AT PAK TAM CHUNG, HE SAID: +AS A RESULT OF A PLANNING INVESTIGATION WHICH HAS BEEN COMPLETED, ANY ORGANISATION WHICH APPLIES TO MY DEPARTMENT FOR LAND FOR THIS USE CAN NOW BE DIRECTED TO SPECIFIC AREAS AS POTENTIAL SITES, FOR HOLIDAY CAMPS AND HOSTELS.+

A WORKING GROUP -- KNOWN AS THE LEISURE ACCOMMODATION SITE COMMITTEE -- WAS SET UP IN JUNE 1977 TO CO-ORDINATE THE ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED SO THAT SITES FOR SUCH PURPOSES CAN BE CHOSEN AND GRANTED IN A PLANNED MANNER.

INITIALLY, THE COMMITTEE HAS FOUND 58 SITES IN THE NEW TERRITORIES SUITABLE FOR TENTED CAMPING. THESE SITES ARE DIVIDED INTO TWO CATEGORIES -- 40 WITHIN AND 18 OUTSIDE COUNTRY PARK AREAS.

OF THE 40 SITES IN THE FIRST CATEGORY, 12 ARE EXPECTED TO BE DEVELOPED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

AREAS SUITABLE FOR YOUTH HOSTELS HAVE ALSO BEEN IDENTIFIED ALONG THE COASTAL AREA OF LANTAU ISLAND, SOUTHERN SAI KUNG AND NORTHERN TAI PO.

MR. AKERS-JONES POINTED OUT THAT THE PO LEUNG KUK HOLIDAY CAMP WAS BUILT IN RESPONSE TO A TREMENDOUS NEED FOR CAMPS AND HOSTELS WHERE YOUNG AND OLD, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, COULD GET AWAY FROM THE NOISES AND TENSION OF LIFE IN AN INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY INTO THE QUIET OF THE COUNTRYSIDE.

+WITH GREAT FORESIGHT, THE PO LEUNG KUK HAS OBTAINED LAND FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND IN THE RECORD TIME OF LESS THAN A YEAR HAS BUILT THE FIRST STAGE OF THIS SPLENDID CAMP,+ HE SAID.

THE HOLIDAY CAMP OCCUPIES 4.8 HECTARES OF LAND BETWEEN TAI MONG TSAI AND THE HIGH ISLAND RESERVOIR AT PAK TAM CHUNG AND WILL BE DEVELOPED IN THREE STAGES.

PHASE I INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF SEVEN TWO-STORY HOSTEL BLOCKS AND SITE FORMATION FOR THE WHOLE CAMP, INCLUDING SPORTS GROUND, CAR PARKS AND AN EMBANKMENT.

THE ESTIMATED COST FOR THE ENTIRE PROJECT IS MORE THAN \$15 MILLION.

MR. AKERS-JONES PAID TRIBUTE TO THE PO LEUNG KUK FOR THE PROVISION OF WELFARE SERVICES IN HONG KONG AND SAID THAT THE CAMP WAS +A SPLENDID EXAMPLE OF ITS CONTINUED CONCERN FOR THE WELFARE OF THE COMMUNITY.

/+HOW FITTING

+HOW FITTING IT IS THAT 100 YEARS AGO THE PO LEUNG KUK WAS ESTABLISHED TO TAKE CARE OF THE YOUNG AND INNOCENT WHO WERE MISUSED OR ABUSED BY SOCIETY AND NOW IT HAS CONSTRUCTED BUILDINGS WHICH WILL AGAIN PROVIDE AN ESCAPE AND A HAVEN FOR MANY PEOPLE FROM THE PRESSURES OF MODERN LIFE.

+THE KUK HAS KEPT TO THE AIMS FOR WHICH IT WAS ESTABLISHED AND HAS KEPT PACE WITH THE MARCH OF TIME,+ HE NOTED.

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WHITE-NAPED CRANES SEIZED

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT IS CONTINUING ITS INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE IMPORTATION AND POSSESSION OF THE 14 RARE WHITE-NAPED CRANES SEIZED LAST WEEK FROM AN ANIMAL TRADER'S STORE.

MONG KOK POLICE AND OFFICERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT SEIZED DOCUMENTS AND FILES RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF ENDANGERED ANIMALS ON THURSDAY AFTER A THREE-HOUR SEARCH IN THE ANIMAL TRADER'S PREMISES IN KOWLOON.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (SATURDAY) THE 14 RARE BIRDS, WORTH ABOUT \$350,000, WERE DISCOVERED IN THE PREMISES DURING A ROUTINE INSPECTION BY THE DEPARTMENT'S OFFICERS.

+THE LIVE BIRDS WERE SEIZED UNDER THE ANIMALS AND PLANTS (PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES) ORDINANCE WHICH PROHIBITS THE IMPORT AND POSSESSION OF THE SPECIES, UNLESS COVERED BY A LICENCE ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT,+ HE SAID.

+ACCORDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION IN WISCONSIN, U.S.A., THERE ARE LESS THAN 2,500 WHITE-NAPED CRANES IN THE WILD THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

+THE SPECIES IS ALSO LISTED IN APPENDIX I OF THE CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA WHICH PROHIBITS THE TRADE OF SUCH WILD ANIMALS, BIRDS AND PLANTS,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+THE WHITE-NAPED CRANE'S BREEDING GROUNDS ARE IN SIBERIA, MONGOLIA AND NORTH CHINA. ABOUT 1,500 BIRDS MIGRATE TO KOREA IN LATE OCTOBER WHERE THEY FEED PRIMARILY ON TUBERS OF A SEDGE WHICH GROW IN THE COASTAL WETLANDS. MANY MOVE ON TO JAPAN AND RETURN TO THEIR BREEDING GROUNDS IN SPRING,+ HE SAID.

THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT MADE TWO PREVIOUS SEIZURES OF WHITE-NAPED CRANES IN FEBRUARY 1977 AND SIX OF THESE BIRDS WERE SENT TO THE BREEDING CENTRE OPERATED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CRANE FOUNDATION.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

- 7 -

D.S.W. TO PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF COMPETITIONS

THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE, MR. THOMAS LEE, WILL TOMORROW (SUNDAY) PRESENT PRIZES TO WINNERS OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL INTER-CENTRE COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION.

BEFORE THE PRIZE PRESENTATION, THE REMAINING EVENT IN THE COMPETITIONS -- A DRESS-MAKING AND FASHION-DESIGN COMPETITION -- WILL BE HELD AND JUDGED, FOLLOWED BY A FASHION SHOW BY THE PARTICIPANTS.

OTHER EVENTS HELD OVER THE LAST FEW WEEKS INCLUDED ORIENTEERING, CHILDREN'S DRAWING, ESSAY, FOLK-SINGING, FOLK-DANCE, PHOTOGRAPHY, BASKETBALL AND SHUTTLECOCK KICKING.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE DRESS-MAKING AND FASHION-DESIGN COMPETITION AND THE PRIZE PRESENTATION OF THE FOURTH INTER-CENTRE COMPETITIONS ORGANISED BY THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S GROUP AND COMMUNITY WORK DIVISION TO BE HELD AT 2.30 P.M. IN THE COMMUNITY HALL OF CARITAS HOUSE, CAINE ROAD, HONG KONG.

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FIRING PRACTICE

FIRING PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HA TSUEN-CASTLE PEAK RANGE ON FIVE DAYS NEXT WEEK.

THE PUBLIC ARE REMINDED THAT IT IS DANGEROUS TO ENTER THE AREA WHEN RED FLAGS ARE FLYING DURING THE TIME OF PRACTICE.

THE PRACTISING TIMES ARE:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>
MARCH 26 (MONDAY)	8 A.M. -- 11 P.M.
MARCH 27 (TUESDAY)	8 A.M. -- 11 P.M.
MARCH 28 (WEDNESDAY)	8 A.M. -- 6 P.M.
MARCH 29 (THURSDAY)	8 A.M. -- 6 P.M.
MARCH 30 (FRIDAY)	8 A.M. -- 4 P.M.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1979

- 8 -

WATER CUT
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WATER SUPPLY TO A NUMBER OF PREMISES IN CENTRAL DISTRICT WILL BE TURNED OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 P.M. ON MONDAY TO 6 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR NIGHT LEAKAGE TESTS.

THE AFFECTED AREA IS BOUNDED BY POTTINGER STREET, LYNDHURST TERRACE, GAGE STREET, ABERDEEN STREET, WELLINGTON STREET, SOUTH SIDE OF QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL INCLUDING KIN SAU LANE, TUNG SHING LANE, STAUNTON STREET, PEEL STREET, GRAHAM STREET, STAVELEY STREET AND GUTZLAFF STREET.

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SERVICE ROAD TO CLOSE
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (SATURDAY) THAT THE SERVICE ROAD IN LUNG CHEUNG ROAD IN FRONT OF BLOCK 2, UPPER WONG TAI SIN ESTATE, WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 A.M. ON MONDAY TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC FLOW.

TRAFFIC SIGNS WILL BE SET UP TO INDICATE THE CLOSURE.

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