



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1986

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FAVOURABLE POSITION FOR DEVELOPING CABLE TV
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HONG KONG SHOULD, THEORETICALLY, BE LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE MORE THAN ONE CABLE TELEVISION LICENSEE BUT IT WILL BE PREMATURE TO COME TO A CONCLUSION ON THIS NOW, THE SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND INFORMATION, MR ADOLF HSU, SAID TODAY (FRIDAY).

SPEAKING AT A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE CITY LIONS CLUB, MR HSU SAID THAT WITH A VERY HIGH DENSITY OF POPULATION AND THE GENERAL AVAILABILITY OF THE COMMON ANTENNA BROADCASTING DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, HONG KONG WAS IN A FAVOURABLE POSITION TO DEVELOP CABLE TV IN COMPARISON WITH MOST OVERSEAS COUNTRIES.

+THOUGH THE CAPITAL COST OF LAYING OUT A CABLE SYSTEM HERE SHOULD BE CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN IN WESTERN CITIES, THE RECURRENT COST OF OPERATING CABLE TV SERVICES MAY BE MORE EXPENSIVE BECAUSE THERE IS VIRTUALLY NO SUPPLY OF CANTONESE TV PROGRAMMES IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET AND CABLE TV OPERATORS WILL HAVE TO PRODUCE A LOT OF PROGRAMMES LOCALLY,+ HE POINTED OUT.

+IF, HOWEVER, IT IS DECIDED THAT MORE THAN ONE LICENCE SHOULD BE ISSUED, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH PROVIDE FOR THE CO-EXISTENCE OF MORE THAN ONE CABLE OPERATOR IN HONG KONG,+ HE SAID.

HE NOTED THAT DIFFERENT CABLE NETWORKS, OPERATED BY THE DIFFERENT LICENSEES IN SPECIFIC GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS, COULD BE LINKED UP TO FORM A REGIONAL SYSTEM SO THAT AT A MARGINAL ADDITIONAL FEE, CONSUMERS WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO PROGRAMMES TRANSMITTED BY ANOTHER NETWORK.

+ANOTHER POSSIBLE ARRANGEMENT IS THAT THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE CABLE PROVIDER FOR THE WHOLE TERRITORY BUT MORE THAN ONE PROGRAMME PROVIDER,+ HE SAID.

+SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE FAVOURED ONLY IF THE CABLE PROVIDER CAN WIRE UP THE TERRITORY IN A SPEEDY AND EFFICIENT MANNER AND A SCHEME DEVISED TO ENSURE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO THE CABLE NETWORK BY ANY PROGRAMME PROVIDER APPROVED BY THE GOVERNMENT,+ HE ADDED.

ON THE LICENCE PERIOD, MR HSU SAID THIS WOULD VERY MUCH DEPEND ON THE AMOUNT OF INVESTMENT INVOLVED AND THE TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY THAT WOULD BE USED IN LAYING OUT THE CABLE NETWORK.

+IN VERY BROAD TERMS, THERE ARE TWO TYPES OF TECHNOLOGY. THE FIRST ONE IS A TREE AND BRANCH NETWORK WHICH CARRIES PROGRAMMES IN TRUNK CABLE FROM THE PROGRAMME SOURCE AND DISTRIBUTES THEM BY BRANCH CABLES TO THE SUBSCRIBERS.

/+A SECOND

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+A SECOND TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY IS THE SWITCHED-STAR NETWORK WHICH CAN CARRY BROADBAND SERVICES SUCH AS VIDEO-PHONE AND TWO WAY INTERACTIVE SERVICES SUCH AS TELEBANKING AND HOME SHOPPING,+ HE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT A TREE AND BRANCH NETWORK WAS WIDELY USED, ITS PERFORMANCE WELL DOCUMENTED, AND IT WAS MUCH CHEAPER THAN A SWITCHED-STAR NETWORK BUT, UNLIKE THE LATTER, COULD ONLY PROVIDE LIMITED INTERACTIVE SERVICES, NOT BROADBAND TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES.

+THE GOVERNMENT STILL HAS AN OPEN MIND ON WHICH TECHNOLOGY SHOULD BE ADOPTED IN HONG KONG AND HOPES TO SEE PROPOSALS FROM INTERESTED PARTIES ON THE TYPE OF TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES THEY ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE,+ MR HSU SAID.

ON ADVERTISING, MR HSU SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS CONSIDERING WHETHER A LIMITED AMOUNT SHOULD BE ALLOWED ON CABLE TV.

+AS AN OVERRIDING PRINCIPLE, THE ADMINISTRATION DO NOT WANT TO SEE THE INTRODUCTION OF CABLE TV HARMING THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF THE EXISTING OFF-AIR BROADCASTING LICENSEES,+ HE SAID.

+OFF-AIR BROADCASTING LICENSEES PROVIDE FREE ENTERTAINMENT TO A BROAD SPECTRUM OF THE COMMUNITY INCLUDING THE LOWER INCOME GROUPS, AND THE GOVERNMENT DO NOT WANT TO SEE THIS REDUCED AS A RESULT OF THE INTRODUCTION OF CABLE TV.+

MR HSU SAID THE IMPACT OF CABLE TV ON THE VIEWING PUBLIC COULD BE AS SIGNIFICANT AS PROGRAMMES BROADCAST BY THE TWO EXISTING TV STATIONS.

+THE CURRENT THINKING OF THE GOVERNMENT IS THAT, AS A BROAD PRINCIPLE, CABLE TV PROGRAMMES SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO SIMILAR CONTROL AND SUPERVISION AS PROGRAMMES BROADCAST BY THE TWO TV LICENSEES,+ HE ADDED.

MR HSU NOTED THAT FOLLOWING THE RECENT APPROVAL THAT CABLE TELEVISION SHOULD, IN PRINCIPLE, BE INTRODUCED IN HONG KONG, A FEW COMPANIES, INCLUDING THE HONG KONG TELEPHONE COMPANY AND A CONSORTIUM COMPRISING HUTCHISON WHAMPOA, HONG KONG ELECTRIC AND AN OVERSEAS COMPANY HAVE INDICATED THEIR INTERESTS IN SUCH A SCHEME.

+WE HOPE THAT PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY INTERESTED PARTIES IN THE NEXT TWO MONTHS WILL PROVIDE BETTER INDICATIONS TO WHAT INVESTORS ARE PREPARED TO PROVIDE, AND ANY PILOT SCHEMES CONDUCTED IN THE COMING YEAR WILL ALLOW THE GOVERNMENT TO GAUGE THE RESPONSE OF THE COMMUNITY TO CABLE TV SERVICES,+ HE SAID.

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MONETARY STATISTICS FOR JUNE RELEASED

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BOTH HONG KONG DOLLAR AND FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW IN JUNE, ACCORDING TO STATISTICS PUBLISHED BY THE MONETARY AFFAIRS BRANCH TODAY. THE GROWTH RATE OF FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS REMAINED HIGHER THAN THAT OF HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS.

MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS INCREASED, WITH THE TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY INCREASING MORE RAPIDLY THAN THE CORRESPONDING HONG KONG DOLLAR COMPONENTS.

LOANS AND ADVANCES INCREASED MODESTLY IN JUNE, WITH LOANS TO FINANCE TRADE GROWING FASTER AFTER A MODERATE DECLINE LAST MONTH.

TABLE 1 ATTACHED SETS OUT SUMMARY FIGURES FOR JUNE 1986 AND COMPARISONS WITH EARLIER MONTHS. TABLE 2 SETS OUT FIGURES FROM THE QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR.

DEPOSITS

IN JUNE, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 1.0 PER CENT. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, THEY GREW BY 1.9 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS THE GROWTH RATE WAS 7.7 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW BY 1.5 PER CENT IN JUNE, AFTER INCREASES OF 2.6 PER CENT AND 2.0 PER CENT IN APRIL AND MAY. OVER THE YEAR, THE GROWTH RATE WAS 36.5 PER CENT.

FOREIGN CURRENCY SWAP DEPOSITS FELL BY 0.8 PER CENT IN JUNE AFTER AN INCREASE OF 2.3 PER CENT IN MAY. ADJUSTED TO INCLUDE THESE DEPOSITS, HONG KONG DOLLAR DEPOSITS GREW BY 0.8 PER CENT IN JUNE AND BY 3.1 PER CENT IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE. ADJUSTED FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSITS GREW FASTER, BY 1.8 PER CENT IN JUNE AND BY 5.6 PER CENT IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE.

DEPOSITS (ALL CURRENCIES) WITH BANKS INCREASED BY 1.3 PER CENT IN JUNE WHILE THOSE WITH DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED BY 1.4 PER CENT. OVER THE YEAR, THE GROWTH RATES WERE 25.9 PER CENT AND 4.7 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY.

/HONG KONG

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY

HONG KONG DOLLAR MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS INCREASED. HK\$M1 GREW BY 1.2 PER CENT IN JUNE WHILE HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 GREW BY 1.0 PER CENT AND 0.9 PER CENT RESPECTIVELY. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, HK\$M1 GREW BY 2.4 PER CENT, HK\$M2 BY 3.3 PER CENT AND HK\$M3 BY 1.4 PER CENT= OVER THE YEAR, THE CORRESPONDING INCREASES WERE 11.0 PER CENT, 12.2 PER CENT AND 9.2 PER CENT.

AFTER ADJUSTING FOR SWAP DEPOSITS, HK\$M2 AND HK\$M3 GREW SLOWER, BOTH AT 0.7 PER CENT IN JUNE. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 4.4 PER CENT AND 2.5 PER CENT.

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY

TOTAL MONEY SUPPLY ON ALL DEFINITIONS ROSE FASTER THAN THE HONG KONG DOLLAR COMPONENT IN JUNE. TOTAL M1 GREW BY 1.9 PER CENT WHILE TOTAL M2 AND TOTAL M3 BOTH GREW BY 1.2 PER CENT. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, TOTAL M1 INCREASED BY 2.5 PER CENT, TOTAL M2 BY 5.6 PER CENT AND TOAL M3 BY 3.8 PER CENT= OVER THE YEAR, THE CORRESPONDING GROWTH RATES WERE 11.0 PER CENT, 25.2 PER CENT AND 21.6 PER CENT.

LOANS AND ADVANCES

LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED BY BANKS AND DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES INCREASED MODERATELY, BY 1.0 PER CENT THIS MONTH. IN THE SECOND QUARTER OF 1986, THEY GREW BY 2.5 PER CENT AND OVER THE 12 MONTHS BY 8.4 PER CENT.

LOANS DENOMINATED IN HONG KONG DOLLARS GREW FASTER AT 1.3 PER CENT AND LOANS DENOMINATED IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES GREW BY 0.7 PER CENT IN JUNE. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, THE FORMER GREW BY 3.0 PER CENT WHILE THE LATTER GREW BY 2.0 PER CENT.

WITHIN THE TOTAL, LOANS TO FINANCE THE VISIBLE TRADE OF HONG KONG ROSE BY 2.3 PER CENT AFTER A DECREASE OF 1.7 PER CENT IN MAY. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, THESE LOANS GREW BY 6.3 PER CENT. OTHER LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG INCREASED BY 1.2 PER CENT IN JUNE. IN THE THREE MONTHS TO JUNE, THEY GREW BY 2.7 PER CENT AND OVER THE YEAR BY 7.6 PER CENT.

/QUARTERLY

QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS AND ADVANCES
FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR

IN THE SECOND QUARTER, LOANS AND ADVANCES EXTENDED TO THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR ROSE BY 5.2 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 7.4 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER. OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 12.9 PER CENT. LOANS TO THE WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADES FELL BY 2.7 PER CENT, FOLLOWING AN INCREASE OF 9.9 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

OVER THE YEAR, THESE LOANS GREW BY 10.3 PER CENT. LOANS TO THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION SECTOR FELL FOR THE SEVENTH CONSECUTIVE QUARTER, BY 3.9 PER CENT AFTER A DECLINE OF 5.3 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER.

OVER THE 12 MONTHS THESE LOANS FELL BY 20.0 PER CENT. REFLECTING THE CONTINUED GROWTH IN ACTIVITIES IN THE PROPERTY MARKET, LOANS TO INDIVIDUALS FOR THE PURCHASE OF RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY (OTHER THAN FLATS IN THE HOME OWNERSHIP SCHEME) CONTINUED TO RISE, BY 8.6 PER CENT AFTER AN INCREASE OF 4.3 PER CENT IN THE FIRST QUARTER. OVER THE 12 MONTHS, THESE LOANS GREW BY 27.7 PER CENT.

LIQUIDITY RATIOS

THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO (AS DEFINED IN S. 18 OF THE BANKING ORDINANCE) FOR ALL BANKS INCREASED TO 54.6 PER CENT IN JUNE FROM 54.3 PER CENT IN MAY. THE AVERAGE LIQUIDITY RATIO FOR ALL DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES (AS DEFINED IN S. 24A OF THE DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ORDINANCE) INCREASED TO 43.0 IN JUNE FROM 41.6 PER CENT IN MAY.

NUMBER OF REPORTING INSTITUTIONS

THE NUMBER OF REPORTING LICENSED BANKS DECREASED BY ONE TO 149. THE NUMBER OF LICENSED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REMAINED UNCHANGED AT 36. THE NUMBER OF REPORTING REGISTERED DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES DECREASED BY FIVE TO 264.

TABLE 1 : MONETARY STATISTICS - JUNE 1986

	(HK\$mr)			
	<u>Jur 1986</u>	Earlier months (% change to June 1986)		
		<u>May 1986</u>	<u>Mar 1986</u>	<u>Jur 1985</u>
<u>Money Supply</u>				
M1 - HK\$	42,854	42,341 (+1.2%)	41,850 (+ 2.4%)	38,616 (+11.0%)
Foreign currency	4,167	3,820 (+9.1%)	4,021 (+ 3.6%)	3,739 (+11.4%)
Total	47,021	46,161 (+1.9%)	45,871 (+ 2.5%)	42,356 (+11.0%)
M2 - HK\$	206,836	204,831 (+1.0%)	200,196 (+ 3.3%)	184,272 (+12.2%)
Foreign currency	229,438	226,471 (+1.3%)	212,897 (+ 7.8%)	164,205 (+39.7%)
Total	436,274	431,301 (+1.2%)	413,093 (+ 5.6%)	348,477 (+25.2%)
M3 - HK\$	242,432	240,273 (+0.9%)	239,171 (+ 1.4%)	222,094 (+ 9.2%)
Foreign currency	276,731	272,797 (+1.4%)	261,217 (+ 5.9%)	204,965 (+35.0%)
Total	519,164	513,069 (+1.2%)	500,388 (+ 3.8%)	427,059 (+21.6%)
<u>Deposits</u>				
Demand deposits	29,772	28,627 (+4.0%)	27,367 (+ 8.8%)	27,178 (+ 9.5%)
Savings deposits	104,471	103,156 (+1.3%)	100,013 (+ 4.5%)	92,331 (+13.1%)
Time deposits with banks	278,543	275,791 (+1.0%)	260,825 (+ 6.8%)	208,489 (+33.6%)
Time deposits with dtcs	79,165	78,078 (+1.4%)	83,487 (- 5.2%)	75,590 (+ 4.7%)
All HK\$ deposits	220,409	218,168 (+1.0%)	216,294 (+ 1.9%)	204,599 (+ 7.7%)
All foreign currency deposits	271,542	267,484 (+1.5%)	255,398 (+ 6.3%)	198,990 (+36.5%)
Total	491,951	485,651 (+1.3%)	471,692 (+ 4.3%)	403,589 (+21.9%)
<u>Loans and advances</u>				
To finance Hong Kong's visible trade	33,882	33,107 (+2.3%)	31,885 (+ 6.3%)	31,850 (+ 6.4%)
To finance merchandising trade not touching Hong Kong	4,961	4,842 (+2.5%)	5,657 (-12.3%)	4,951 (+ 0.2%)
Other loans for use in Hong Kong	247,037	244,021 (+1.2%)	240,655 (+ 2.7%)	229,577 (+ 7.6%)
Other loans for use outside Hong Kong	159,185	158,942 (+0.2%)	155,372 (+ 2.5%)	147,693 (+ 7.8%)
Other loans where the place of use is not known	25,467	25,049 (+1.7%)	25,672 (- 0.8%)	20,137 (+26.5%)
All loans in HK\$	233,975	231,054 (+1.3%)	227,254 (+ 3.0%)	218,447 (+ 7.1%)
All loans in foreign currencies	236,556	234,908 (+0.7%)	231,987 (+ 2.0%)	215,760 (+ 9.6%)
Total	470,531	465,962 (+1.0%)	459,241 (+ 2.5%)	434,208 (+ 8.4%)

/TABLE 2 :

TABLE 2 : QUARTERLY ANALYSIS OF LOANS FOR USE IN HONG KONG BY SECTOR - JUNE 1986

	(HK\$mr)			
	<u>Jur 1986</u>	Earlier quarters (% change to June 1986)		
		<u>Mar 1986</u>	<u>Dec 1985</u>	<u>Jur 1985</u>
Manufacturing	22,294	21,191 (+5.2%)	19,726 (+13.0%)	19,754 (+12.9%)
Transport and transport equipment	19,988	20,438 (-2.2%)	19,744 (+ 1.2%)	21,504 (- 7.0%)
Building, construction and property development	36,466	37,944 (-3.9%)	40,080 (- 9.0%)	45,578 (-20.0%)
Wholesale and retail trade	31,577	32,460 (-2.7%)	29,540 (+ 6.9%)	28,629 (+10.3%)
Financial concerns (other than banks and deposit-taking companies)	21,113	19,619 (+7.6%)	19,532 (+ 8.1%)	17,568 (+20.2%)
Individuals				
to purchase flats in the Home Ownership Scheme and Private Sector Participation Scheme	6,030	5,959 (+1.2%)	5,708 (+ 5.6%)	5,095 (+18.4%)
to purchase other residential property	35,699	32,875 (+8.6%)	31,522 (+13.3%)	27,966 (+27.7%)
other purposes	24,489	23,373 (+4.8%)	22,989 (+ 6.5%)	20,443 (+19.8%)
Others	49,380	46,797 (+5.5%)	46,102 (+ 7.1%)	43,041 (+14.7%)
Total	247,037	240,655 (+2.7%)	234,943 (+ 5.1%)	229,577 (+ 7.6%)

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CHALLENGING YEAR IN FIGHT AGAINST NARCOTICS

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DESPITE THE FIFTH SUCCESSIVE BUMPER OPIUM CROP IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE IN 1985 RESULTING IN AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS IN HONG KONG AND A LOW RETAIL PRICE OF NO. 3 HEROIN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, LARGE NUMBERS OF ADDICTS VOLUNTARILY SOUGHT AND REMAINED IN TREATMENT.

THE NUMBER OF NEWLY REPORTED DRUG ADDICTS INCREASED SLIGHTLY BY ONE PER CENT ABOVE THE LOW 1984 LEVEL. BUT THE FIGURE FOR 1985 WAS STILL LOWER THAN THE FIGURES RECORDED IN 1982 AND 1983, WHICH WAS AN INDICATION THAT THE HEROIN ABUSE SITUATION OVERALL SEEMED TO BE STABILISING.

THIS IS DISCLOSED IN THE HONG KONG NARCOTICS REPORT FOR 1985 PUBLISHED TODAY (FRIDAY) BY THE ACTION COMMITTEE AGAINST NARCOTICS (ACAN).

THE CHAIRMAN OF ACAN, PROFESSOR GERALD CHOA, SAID IN THE FOREWORD TO THE REPORT THAT THE WELL TRIED AND TESTED STRATEGY FOR THE COMBATTING DRUG ABUSE IN HONG KONG HAD BEEN IMPLEMENTED FULLY IN 1985.

+THE PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN TO ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY PARENTS, TO REPORT NEIGHBOURHOOD DRUG PEDDLING ACTIVITIES LED TO A SIGNIFICANT FLOW OF USEFUL INFORMATION WHICH GREATLY ASSISTED THE WORK OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES,+ HE SAID.

IN 1985, ACAN, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, LAUNCHED THE STUDENTS AGAINST DRUGS MOVEMENT, ONE OF THE LARGEST ANTI-NARCOTICS CAMPAIGNS EVER HELD IN HONG KONG. MORE THAN 1 000 STUDENTS SELECTED FROM 84 SECONDARY SCHOOLS PARTICIPATED IN A SERIES OF COMPETITIONS DESIGNED WITH AN ANTI-NARCOTICS THEME.

+THE STUDENTS AGAINST DRUGS MOVEMENT PROVED TO BE AN OUTSTANDING SUCCESS AND THERE WAS A VERY ENCOURAGING RESPONSE TO THE BID TO INVOLVE PARENTS AND CIVIC ORGANISATIONS IN ANTI-NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES,+ PROF CHOA SAID.

AS A NEW INITIATIVE, A TERRITORY-WIDE CAMPAIGN INVOLVING MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES (MAC'S) WAS LAUNCHED IN 1985 TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS.

DURING THE YEAR, A TOTAL OF 12 432 PERSONS WERE PROSECUTED FOR DANGEROUS DRUGS OFFENCES, AN INCREASE OF 10.9 PER CENT COMPARED WITH 1984 AND REFLECTING THE INTENSIVE ENFORCEMENT ACTION TAKEN BY THE POLICE AND THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT. OF THE PERSONS PROSECUTED, 1 191 WERE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE, COMPARED WITH 1 080 IN 1984.

/THE REPORT

THE REPORT ALSO NOTED THAT, DUE TO THE UNRELENTING VIGILANCE OF THE POLICE AND CUSTOMS, DRUG SEIZURE IN 1985 AMOUNTED TO 657 KILOGRAMS, MAINLY HEROIN. DURING THE YEAR, 24 MAJOR SMUGGLING RINGS AND SIX MANUFACTURING SYNDICATES WERE NEUTRALISED.

IN 1985, THE DANGEROUS DRUGS ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED TO INCLUDE QUINALBARBITONE, ALSO KNOWN AS SECONAL OR LILLY 40, AS A DANGEROUS DRUG UNDER THE FIRST SCHEDULE TO PROVIDE FOR THE STRICTEST CONTROL OVER THE SUBSTANCE.

ON THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE, PROF CHOA SAID THAT CLOSE CO-OPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES AND WITH THE SPECIALISED AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANISATION WAS SUCCESSFULLY MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

A TOTAL OF 162 FOREIGN VISITORS CAME TO HONG KONG ON TRAINING ATTACHEMENTS, COURSES IN ANTI-NARCOTICS FIELD AND TO STUDY HONG KONG'S ANTI-NARCOTICS PROGRAMMES. THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT MADE ITS ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$100 000 TO THE UNITED NATIONS FUND FOR DRUG ABUSE CONTROL IN SUPPORT OF ITS WORLDWIDE CONTROL MEASURES.

THE 123-PAGE REPORT GIVES A FULL ACCOUNT OF THE CHANGING CHARACTERISTICS CONCERNING NARCOTICS IN HONG KONG DURING THE YEAR.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE NARCOTICS DIVISION OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT DESCRIBED THE REPORT AS AN INFORMATIVE AND HIGHLY READABLE DOCUMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF NARCOTICS ADDICTION IN HONG KONG AND WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING TO COMBAT IT.

THE ENGLISH EDITION IS AVAILABLE AT THE NARCOTICS DIVISION, GOVERNMENT SECRETARIAT, EIGHTH FLOOR, HIGH BLOCK, QUEENSWAY GOVERNMENT OFFICES, 66 QUEENSWAY, HONG KONG.

THE CHINESE EDITION OF THE REPORT IS BEING PREPARED AND WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON.

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BLITZ ON ILLEGAL STRUCTURES CONTINUES

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AS PART OF ITS STEPPED-UP ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL STRUCTURES ON BUILDINGS THE BUILDING AUTHORITY IS TO APPLY FOR COURT ORDERS TO CLOSE STRUCTURES IN KOWLOON AND ON HONG KONG ISLAND BEFORE DEMOLISHING THEM.

THE STRUCTURES IN KOWLOON ARE ON THE MAIN ROOF OF 142, SAI YEUNG CHOI STREET.

/AN ORDER

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AN ORDER FOR THEIR DEMOLITION WAS ORIGINALLY SERVED IN MAY LAST YEAR, BUT HAD NOT BEEN COMPLIED WITH.

A NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED ON THE BUILDING TODAY (FRIDAY) STATING THAT AN APPLICATION WILL BE MADE TO KOWLOON DISTRICT COURT FOR A CLOSURE ORDER ON SEPTEMBER 25, FOLLOWING WHICH THE STRUCTURES WILL BE DEMOLISHED.

ALSO TO BE DEMOLISHED IS AN ILLEGAL STRUCTURE ON THE MAIN ROOF OF 10A, MOSQUE STREET, HONG KONG.

IN THIS CASE A DEMOLITION ORDER ISSUED LAST NOVEMBER HAD BEEN IGNORED.

THE GOVERNMENT WILL APPLY FOR A CLOSURE ORDER FROM VICTORIA DISTRICT COURT ON AUGUST 29 AND POSTED A NOTICE OF ITS INTENTION TO DO SO ON THE BUILDING TODAY.

IN BOTH CASES IT HAD BEEN DECIDED TO OBTAIN CLOSURE ORDERS FIRST SO THAT THE DEMOLITION WORK CAN BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT ENDANGERING THE OCCUPIERS OR THE PUBLIC.

WORK WILL TAKE PLACE STRAIGHT AFTER THE COURT ORDERS HAVE BEEN OBTAINED.

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NEW LONG SERVICE HONOUR FOR DISCIPLINED FORCES
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MEMBERS OF THE CUSTOMS AND EXCISE SERVICE AND THE IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT - TWO DISCIPLINED FORCES - WILL FROM NOW ON BE ELIGIBLE FOR A NEW KIND OF HONOUR FOR LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE.

A WARRANT FOR THE INSTITUTION OF A HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL HAS BEEN SIGNED BY HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN ON JULY 8 THIS YEAR AND THE TERMS OF THE ROYAL WARRANT WERE GAZETTED IN HONG KONG AND LONDON TODAY (FRIDAY).

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT THAT THE MEDAL WOULD BE AWARDED TO MEMBERS OF ALL RANKS IN THE TWO DISCIPLINED SERVICES WHO HAVE COMPLETED NOT LESS THAN 18 YEARS' FULL-TIME AND CONTINUOUS SERVICE.

+A CLASP TO THE MEDAL MAY BE AWARDED ON COMPLETION OF A TOTAL OF 25 YEARS' QUALIFYING SERVICE AND A FURTHER CLASP ON COMPLETION OF A TOTAL OF 30 YEARS,+ HE SAID.

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ANCHOR WALL AT SAI KUNG TO BE IMPROVED
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A 60-METRE CAISSON WALL IS TO BE BUILT AT NEW CLEAR WATER BAY ROAD, SAI KUNG, TO REPLACE PART OF AN EXISTING RETAINING WALL.

BUILT IN 1981 IN THE FORM OF AN ANCHOR WALL, THE WALL PROTECTS THE SLOPE BETWEEN NEW CLEAR WATER BAY AND CLEAR WATER BAY ROADS.

APART FROM BRINGING THE WALL TO AN UP-TO-DATE STANDARD, THE NEW CAISSON WALL WILL BE MORE ECONOMICAL FOR MAINTENANCE IN THE LONG TERM.

ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROJECT IS REALIGNMENT OF THE BOX CULVERT BETWEEN SAN SHUN STREET AND SHUN LEE TSUEN ROAD, NEAR SHUN LEE ESTATE, TO PROVIDE LAND FOR A FUTURE SWIMMING COMPLEX.

IT INVOLVES CONSTRUCTION OF 290 METRES OF SINGLE BOX CULVERT AND ABOUT 50 METRES OF CASCADE.

TENDERS FOR THE PROJECT, WORK ON WHICH WILL BEGIN IN NOVEMBER AND TAKE 18 MONTHS, SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BY NOON ON AUGUST 22.

THE WORKS HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY THE DEVELOPMENT AND AIRPORT DIVISION OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING OFFICE, CIVIL ENGINEERING SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

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CAMPAIGN TO CLEAN UP SQUATTER AREAS IN WONG TAI SIN
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A MONTH-LONG CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN WILL BE CARRIED OUT FROM SUNDAY (AUGUST 3) IN WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT TO IMPROVE LIVING CONDITIONS IN THE SQUATTER AREAS.

THE CAMPAIGN WILL INCLUDE EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLICITY ACTIVITIES, DRAINAGE CLEANSING, PEST CONTROL IN ALL SQUATTER AREAS IN THE DISTRICT, AND CLEARING OF DUMPING SITES.

AN OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY AT 2.30 PM AT THE OPEN SPACE ADJACENT TO THE DIAMOND HILL MTR STATION.

/DISTRICT BOARD

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1986

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DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS, MRS LEE LO YUK-SIM, MISS CECILIA YEUNG, MISS FOK PUI-YEE, AND THE WONG TAI SIN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER (EAST), MR CHESTER KWOK, WILL OFFICIATE AT THE CEREMONY.

FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY, THERE WILL BE A DEMONSTRATION BY URBAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT STAFF, A BAND PARADE PERFORMANCE, AND A LITTER-PICKING COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND RESIDENTS.

THE CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN IS ORGANISED BY A WORKING GROUP SET UP RECENTLY UNDER THE DISTRICT BOARD'S SQUATTER AREA COMMITTEE.

DURING THE CAMPAIGN PERIOD, THE WORKING GROUP WILL ALSO ORGANISE A SINGING CONTEST, A CROSSWORD PUZZLE COMPETITION, A PICTURE-COLOURING COMPETITION AND HOUSEHOLD VISITS TO PROMOTE THE IMPORTANCE OF CLEANLINESS IN THE SQUATTER AREAS.

CHAIRMAN OF THE WORKING GROUP, MRS PAULINE NG, SAID THAT THE SINGING CONTEST WAS OPEN TO PEOPLE AGED 14 AND ABOVE WHO LIVE, STUDY OR WORK IN THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT.

THOSE INTERESTED CAN APPLY AT THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICE AND ITS BRANCH OFFICES TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

APPLICATION FOR THE CROSSWORD PUZZLE AND THE PICTURE-COLOURING COMPETITION WILL CLOSE ON AUGUST 15.

THE WORKING GROUP HAS ALSO ARRANGED A NUMBER OF BANNERS AND POSTERS FOR DISPLAY AT CONSPICUOUS LOCATIONS IN THE DISTRICT'S SQUATTER AREAS.

MEMBERS OF THE WORKING GROUP WILL ALSO VISIT MUTUAL AID COMMITTEES AND KAIFONG ASSOCIATIONS IN SQUATTER AREAS AND DISTRIBUTE PUBLICITY PAMPHLETS.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

YOU ARE INVITED TO COVER THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT SQUATTER AREAS CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN OPENING CEREMONY ON SUNDAY AT 2.30 PM AT THE OPEN SPACE AT THE JUNCTION OF SOCIAL AVENUE AND LUNG CHEUNG ROAD IN NGAU TSUEN AREA (NEAR DIAMOND HILL MTR STATION).

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1986

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COMMUNITY CENTRE CELEBRATES 26TH ANNIVERSARY
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HONG KONG'S OLDEST COMMUNITY CENTRE, THE WONG TAI SIN COMMUNITY CENTRE, CELEBRATED ITS 26TH ANNIVERSARY THIS (FRIDAY) EVENING WITH PERFORMANCES BY THE WONG TAI SIN CHILDREN'S CHOIR AND OTHER GROUPS.

IT WAS THE FIRST CELEBRATION TO BE HELD SINCE MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTRE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE DISTRICT OFFICE IN JUNE LAST YEAR, THE ACTING WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT OFFICER, MR NG HON-WAH, POINTED OUT.

HE THANKED DISTRICT RESIDENTS FOR THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND TOLERANCE DURING THE TIME THE CENTRE'S REGULAR SERVICES HAD TO BE SUSPENDED TO ACCOMMODATE THE DIAMOND HILL FIRE VICTIMS.

THEIR UNDERSTANDING HAD MADE THE JOB OF MANAGING THE CENTRE MUCH EASIER, HE SAID.

DISTRICT BOARD CHAIRMAN, MR MICHAEL CHENG, SAID THE FACILITIES IN THE CENTRE HAD BEEN IMPROVED, AND THE RATE OF USE HAD RISEN.

THE COMMUNITY CENTRE WAS SET UP TO PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF RESIDENTS AND IT PROVIDES GROUP AND COMMUNITY SERVICES.

SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE INCLUDE THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT'S REHABILITATION SERVICE AND THOSE OF THE YOUTH AND COMMUNITY OFFICE.

VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS RUNNING SERVICES IN THE CENTRE INCLUDE THE SISTERS OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY, CHINESE Y.M.C.A., WONG TAI SIN CHILDREN'S CHOIR, AND THE WONG TAI SIN DISTRICT FEDERATION OF WELFARE SERVICES FOR THE AGED.

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COMMITTEE TO PROMOTE CIVIC EDUCATION IN SAI KUNG
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A COMMITTEE HAS BEEN FORMED IN SAI KUNG TO DEAL WITH ALL MATTERS CONCERNING PROMOTION OF CIVIC EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT.

CHAIRD BY A SAI KUNG DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER, MRS ANITA CHAN, THE CIVIC EDUCATION PROMOTION COMMITTEE HAS 22 MEMBERS, REPRESENTING VARIOUS WALKS OF LIFE IN THE DISTRICT AND A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

THE AIM OF THE COMMITTEE IS TO ENHANCE A SENSE OF BELONGING AMONG RESIDENTS, IN PARTICULAR THE YOUNGER GENERATION, AND TO AROUSE AN AWARENESS OF CIVIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES.

/A COMMITTEE

A COMMITTEE SPOKESMAN SAID IT WAS ALSO HOPED THAT BY KNOWING MORE ABOUT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION AND REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT, RESIDENTS WOULD SHOW CONCERN TOWARD SOCIETY AND PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

+A SERIES OF EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD TO PROMOTE THE THEME OF CIVIC EDUCATION,+ HE SAID.

+THEY INCLUDE A BLOOD DONATION DAY, A CIVIC YOUTH DAY, A GOOD CHILDREN CAMPAIGN, VARIOUS COMPETITIONS AND VISITS TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL COUNCIL,+ HE ADDED.

+A MODEL FAMILY ELECTION WILL ALSO BE HELD TO PROMOTE THE CONCEPT OF FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT,+ THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

FIVE WORKING GROUPS HAVE BEEN FORMED TO ORGANISE VARIOUS ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD BETWEEN NOVEMBER AND MAY.

THE ESTIMATED COST OF THE ACTIVITIES IS ABOUT \$60 000, WHICH WILL BE MET BY THE SAI KUNG DISTRICT OFFICE AND THE DISTRICT BOARD.

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YOUNG MUSICIANS TO REPRESENT HK OVERSEAS
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MORE THAN A HUNDRED TALENTED YOUNG MUSICIANS WILL BE CARRYING THE HONG KONG COLOURS WHEN THEY PERFORM AT TWO SEPARATE CONCERTS IN JAPAN AND SINGAPORE NEXT WEEK.

FIFTY-FIVE MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH SYMPHONIC BAND LEFT FOR TOKYO TODAY WHILE ANOTHER 75 MEMBERS OF THE HONG KONG YOUTH CHINESE ORCHESTRA WHO WILL BE LEAVING FOR SINGAPORE TOMORROW (SATURDAY).

THE OVERSEAS TOURS ARE ORGANISED ANNUALLY BY THE MUSIC OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL SERVICES BRANCH AS PART OF INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES TO WIDEN THE HORIZONS OF AMATEUR MUSICIANS AND TO GAVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE EXPOSED TO DIFFERENT AUDIENCES AND EXPERIENCES.

MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MRS DORIS HO, AND SIX OFFICIALS WILL BE LEADING THE CHINESE ORCHESTRA TO SINGAPORE WHILE ASSISTANT MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR, MR THOMAS WANG, AND FIVE OFFICIALS LED THE SYMPHONIC BAND TO JAPAN THIS MORNING.

THE TWO GROUPS WILL BE RETURNING TO HONG KONG ON AUGUST 8 AND 12.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1986

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NEW GREEN MINIBUS SERVICE INTRODUCED
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GREEN MINIBUS ROUTE 97A, PLYING BETWEEN WONDERLAND VILLAS AND CHEUNG SHA WAN, WILL BE INTRODUCED FROM SUNDAY (AUGUST 3), THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED.

THE NEW SERVICE IS DESIGNED TO MEET DEMAND FOLLOWING AN INCREASE IN POPULATION AT WONDERLAND VILLAS. IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE A CONVENIENT LINK TO LAI CHI KOK AND CHEUNG SHA WAN AREA INCLUDING THE LAI CHI KOK MTR STATION.

THE ROUTE WILL OPERATE FROM 6 AM TO 11 PM AT TEN-MINUTE INTERVAL. THE FARE WILL BE \$2 PER SINGLE JOURNEY.

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CLOSURE OF WUHU VEHICULAR UNDERPASS
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THE WUHU VEHICULAR UNDERPASS IN HUNG HOM, LEADING FROM NORTHBOUND CHATHAM ROAD NORTH TO SOUTHBOUND GILLIES AVENUE, WILL BE TEMPORARILY CLOSED TO TRAFFIC BETWEEN 1 AM AND 5 AM DAILY FROM AUGUST 4 (MONDAY) TO AUGUST 9 TO FACILITATE MAINTENANCE WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS TRAVELLING FROM TSIM SHA TSUI, YAU MA TEI AND THE CROSS-HARBOUR TUNNEL TO HUNG HOM AREA SHOULD USE EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING ROUTES:

* CHATHAM ROAD SOUTH, CHEONG WAN ROAD,
ON WAN ROAD, CHEONG WAN ROAD AND GILLIES
AVENUE; OR

* GASCOIGNE ROAD, CHATHAM ROAD NORTH, PAK
KUNG STREET, SHUN YUNG STREET, FAT KWONG
STREET AND MA TAU WAI ROAD.

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 1986

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BUS-ONLY LANE, PROHIBITED ZONE IN SHA TIN
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FROM 2 PM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 4), THE OFFSIDE LANE OF THE NORTHBOUND CARRIAGEWAY OF MEI TIN ROAD, SHA TIN, WILL BE DESIGNATED A BUS-ONLY LANE, 24-HOUR DAILY.

THE SECTION RUNS FROM THE JUNCTION OF MEI TIN ROAD WITH TSUEN NAM ROAD TO A POINT ABOUT 70 METRES TO THE SOUTH.

NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THAT SECTION.

MEANWHILE, FROM 10 AM ON THE SAME DAY, KENG HAU ROAD IN SHA TIN WILL BE MADE A GOODS VEHICLE PROHIBITED ZONE.

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RESTRICTED ZONE ON QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL
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THE SOUTHERN KERBSIDE LANE OF QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL BETWEEN HOUSE NO. 244 AND 280 WILL BE DESIGNATED A 7 AM TO 7 PM DAILY RESTRICTED ZONE FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 4).

THE MEASURE IS TO FACILITATE ROAD REPAIR WORKS.

WITHIN THE RESTRICTED ZONE, NO VEHICLE OTHER THAN FRANCHISED BUSES WILL BE ALLOWED TO STOP FOR PASSENGERS OR GOODS.

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ROAD IN SHEUNG SHUI CLOSED
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THE SAN FUNG AVENUE AND JOCKEY CLUB ROAD JUNCTION IN SHEUNG SHUI WILL BE CLOSED FROM 10 AM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 4) FOR ROAD WORKS TO BE CARRIED OUT.

DURING THE CLOSURE, MOTORISTS SHOULD USE SAN FUNG AVENUE, ROAD L6, ROAD D4 AND JOCKEY CLUB ROAD.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF SLIP ROAD
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THE SLIP ROAD ON THE FLYOVER AT SAN PO KONG INTERCHANGE LEADING FROM PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST TO CHOI HUNG ROAD WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 8 PM TOMORROW (SATURDAY) TO 8 AM ON MONDAY TO FACILITATE ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKS.

MOTORISTS HEADING FOR CHOI HUNG ROAD FROM PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST ARE ADVISED TO USE THE GROUND LEVEL CARRIAGEWAY LEADING FROM PRINCE EDWARD ROAD EAST TO CHOI HUNG ROAD.

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YUEN LONG WATER CUT
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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES AND VILLAGES IN YUEN LONG WILL BE SUSPENDED FROM 8 PM ON MONDAY (AUGUST 4) TO 8 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT PREMISES ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD FROM TIN HA ROAD TO AU TAU= VILLAGES ALONG CASTLE PEAK ROAD (SAN TIN SECTION) FROM AU TAU TO SAN TIN, INCLUDING FAIRVIEW PARK= VILLAGES ALONG KAM TIN ROAD FROM AU TAU TO SHEUNG TSUEN INCLUDING SHEK KONG CAMP= VILLAGES ALONG KAM SHEUNG ROAD FROM KAM TIN ROAD TO SHEUNG TSUEN AND VILLAGES ALONG FAN KAM ROAD FROM KAM TIN ROAD TO PAT HEUNG FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT TRAINING SCHOOL.

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