



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1983

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1983

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HONG KONG TO HOST SEMINAR ON MODERN PORT MANAGEMENT

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A MEETING OF CHIEF EXECUTIVES OF REGIONAL PORT AUTHORITIES, FOLLOWED BY A TWO-WEEK SEMINAR ON MODERN PORT MANAGEMENT, WILL TAKE PLACE IN HONG KONG STARTING MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21).

ABOUT 25 REPRESENTATIVES FROM EIGHT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE REGION ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING AND SEMINAR, ORGANISED BY THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP) IN COOPERATION WITH THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT.

A MARINE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY (THURSDAY) THE MAIN OBJECT OF THE SEMINAR IS TO PROVIDE A FORUM TO DISCUSS SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES RELATING TO PORTS AND PORT MANAGEMENT IN THE ESCAP REGION.

HE SAID PARTICIPANTS WOULD MAINLY CONSIST OF PERSONNEL FROM VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND ORGANISATIONS ENGAGED IN EITHER PORT MANAGEMENT OR IN DIRECTING OPERATIONS OF CONTAINER TERMINALS.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID HONG KONG HAS BEEN CHOSEN TO HOST THE SEMINAR BECAUSE IT POSSESSES A WEALTH OF MANAGERIAL EXPERTISE IN ADDITION TO A LARGE BODY OF SHIPPING, CARGO HANDLING AND PORT OPERATIONAL EXPERTS.

SIX EXPERTS FROM OVERSEAS WILL GIVE LECTURES AND LEAD DISCUSSIONS. THEY INCLUDE STAFF FROM ESCAP, VARIOUS PORT AUTHORITIES AND FROM MESSRS. GREY MACKENZIE OVERSEAS LTD., LONDON. LOCAL EXPERTS WHO ARE EXPECTED TO DELIVER LECTURES INCLUDE MR M.M. PORTER OF MESSRS. SEA-LAND ORIENT LTD., MR CLIVE FLEGG OF HONG KONG INTERNATIONAL TERMINALS LTD., MISS ELIZABETH O. SHING OF THE HONG KONG MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, AND MR BERNARD TANG OF THE HONG KONG MARINE DEPARTMENT.

THE EXPERTS WILL GIVE LECTURES IN THEIR SPECIFIC FIELDS OF INTEREST, IN ADDITION TO ORGANISING SITE VISITS TO VIEW SOME OF THE BUSIEST CONTAINER TERMINALS IN THE WORLD AND WILL BOTH HOST AND PARTICIPATE IN SEMINAR FUNCTIONS. THE SEMINAR IS EXPECTED TO END ON MARCH 2, 1983.

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NOTE TO EDITORS:

THE OPENING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT 10 AM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21). MR FRANK CHAO, PRESIDENT, WAH KWONG AND CO., LTD., TOGETHER WITH MR DANKO KOLUDROVIC, CHIEF OF SHIPPING, PORTS AND INLAND WATERWAYS DIVISION, UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, WILL OFFICIATE. YOU ARE INVITED TO SEND MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF TO COVER THE OPENING.

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MONTHLY SURVEY OF EMPLOYMENT, PAYROLL AND ORDERS-ON-HAND  
FOR DECEMBER 1982

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THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT TODAY (THURSDAY) RELEASED STATISTICS FROM THE MONTHLY SURVEY FOR DECEMBER 1982. THE SURVEY COVERED A PANEL OF THE 200 LARGEST MANUFACTURING COMPANIES (CHOSEN BY REFERENCE TO THEIR EMPLOYMENT SIZE IN SEPTEMBER 1979) AS WELL AS THE 43 LARGEST COMPANIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND SELECTED SERVICES SECTORS.

AS THE SAMPLE WAS NOT DRAWN ON A RANDOM BASIS, THE RESULTS ON MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE MIGHT NOT REFLECT THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ECONOMY AS A WHOLE, BUT SHOULD GIVE A USEFUL INDICATION OF THE DIRECTION OF CHANGE FOR A QUICK ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ECONOMY IN THE SHORT TERM.

TAKING ALL THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED AS A WHOLE, EMPLOYMENT DECLINED SLIGHTLY IN DECEMBER 1982 COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH. THE TEXTILES, PLASTIC PRODUCTS, ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES WERE AMONG THOSE WITH DECLINES IN EMPLOYMENT RECORDED OWING TO THE RETRENCHMENT OF WORKERS BY SOME FACTORIES.

PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED IN MOST OF THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES SURVEYED DUE TO THE AWARD OF YEAR-END BONUSES AND DOUBLE PAY TO EMPLOYEES IN A NUMBER OF FACTORIES SURVEYED, AND SEVERANCE PAY GIVEN TO THE WORKERS LAID OFF BY A FEW OTHERS. HOWEVER, THEY DROPPED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS AND PLASTICS INDUSTRIES BECAUSE OF LESS OVERTIME WORK CARRIED OUT DURING DECEMBER, AND THE AWARD OF BACKPAY AND SEVERANCE PAY BY A FEW FACTORIES SURVEYED IN THE PRECEDING MONTH.

IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR, EMPLOYMENT DECLINED DUE TO THE RETRENCHMENT OF EMPLOYEES BY SEVERAL COMPANIES SURVEYED. PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED ON ACCOUNT OF THE SEVERANCE PAY GIVEN TO THOSE LAID OFF, AND THE AWARD OF DOUBLE PAY.

IN THE SERVICES SECTOR, PAYROLL AND PER CAPITA EARNINGS INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY IN THE BANKS AND HOTELS SURVEYED AS DOUBLE PAY AND YEAR-END BONUSES WERE AWARDED TO EMPLOYEES.

THE AVERAGE VOLUME OF ORDERS-ON-HAND (IN TERMS OF MONTHS) AS REPORTED BY THE MANUFACTURERS SURVEYED FOR DECEMBER 1982 INCREASED SLIGHTLY AS COMPARED WITH THE PRECEDING MONTH.

ORDERS-ON-HAND INCREASED IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS, WEARING APPAREL AND THE +OTHERS+ CATEGORY OF THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR. HOWEVER, THEY REMAINED RELATIVELY STABLE IN THE TEXTILES, PLASTICS, AND ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS INDUSTRIES.

THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF DAYS WORKED PER WEEK BY OPERATIVES DECREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS INDUSTRY BUT INCREASED IN THE PLASTICS INDUSTRY AS A FEW FACTORIES SURVEYED REVERTED TO A SIX-DAY WORKING WEEK IN DECEMBER.

THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN EMPLOYMENT, PER CAPITA EARNINGS AND ORDERS-ON-HAND FOR THE LAST THREE MONTHS ARE SHOWN IN THE ACCOMPANYING TABLE.

/THE SURVEY .....

THE SURVEY REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1982 IS NOW ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE, GENERAL POST OFFICE, AT \$1.5 PER COPY. ENQUIRIES ON THE SURVEY RESULTS MAY BE MADE TO THE INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION STATISTICS SECTION OF THE CENSUS AND STATISTICS DEPARTMENT (AT 3-7212832).

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MORE PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN PRINTING INDUSTRY  
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THE GROWTH IN BUSINESS IN THE LOCAL PRINTING INDUSTRY HAS BROUGHT ABOUT AN 18 PER CENT GROWTH IN THE NUMBER OF WORKERS EMPLOYED, FROM 18 403 TO 21 677 IN THE TWO YEARS SINCE MARCH 1980.

THIS WAS REVEALED IN THE REPORT OF THE 1982 MANPOWER SURVEY OF THE PRINTING INDUSTRY WHICH HAS JUST BEEN PUBLISHED BY THE PRINTING INDUSTRY TRAINING BOARD OF THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL.

THE REPORT SAID THAT AS A RESULT OF IMPROVED QUALITY AND COMPETITIVE PRICES OF LOCAL PRINTED PRODUCTS, EXPORTS OF PRINCIPAL PRINTED MATTERS INCLUDING BOOKS, PAMPHLETS, NEWSPAPERS AND JOURNALS ROSE BY 20 PER CENT TO \$543 MILLION IN 1981.

THIS WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE INCREASING APPLICATION OF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND MODERN MACHINERY.

THE REPORT SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THIS HIGH GROWTH RATE WAS UNLIKELY TO BE SUSTAINED BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT WORLDWIDE ECONOMIC RECESSION, ENQUIRIES BY THE TRAINING BOARD HAD SHOWN THAT PRINTERS WERE CONFIDENT THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE UNTIL THE OVERSEAS MARKETS PICK UP AGAIN.

IT SAID THE INDUSTRY WOULD NEED TO CONTINUE ITS TRAINING EFFORTS TO TRAIN WORKERS TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THOSE WHO WOULD BE LEAVING THE INDUSTRY EITHER THROUGH RETIREMENT, MIGRATION OR OTHER REASONS.

THE TRAINING BOARD HAD RECOMMENDED TO THE GOVERNMENT THAT A TRAINING CENTRE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED TO PROVIDE BASIC TRAINING TO TECHNICIAN, CRAFT AND OPERATIVE TRAINEES.

THE PROPOSAL HAD BEEN ACCEPTED AND THE VOCATIONAL TRAINING COUNCIL WOULD UNDERTAKE TO COORDINATE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CENTRE, THE REPORT ADDED.

THE CENTRE, ABOUT 1 600 SQUARE METRES IN AREA, WOULD BE HOUSED IN A TRAINING CENTRE COMPLEX LOCATED IN KOWLOON BAY. IT IS EXPECTED TO BE IN OPERATION BY SEPTEMBER 1984 TO PROVIDE 300 TRAINING PLACES EACH YEAR.

DETAILED STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON THE MANPOWER STRUCTURE OF THE PRINTING INDUSTRY, THE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES IN EACH PRINCIPAL JOB, A FORECAST OF THE TRAINING NEEDS OF THE INDUSTRY ARE ALL CONTAINED IN THE REPORT WHICH IS ON SALE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS CENTRE AT \$11 A COPY.

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LRS HELPS SETTLE PROBLEMS  
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A TOTAL OF 19 409 HONG KONG WORKERS LAST YEAR RECEIVED \$62 MILLION FROM THEIR EMPLOYERS AFTER THEIR LABOUR-MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS WERE SETTLED THROUGH THE EFFORTS OF THE LABOUR RELATIONS SERVICE (LRS) OF THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT.

OF THIS SUM, \$29 667 709 OR ABOUT 47.2 PER CENT, WAS SEVERANCE PAYMENTS MADE TO 8 335 EMPLOYEES RENDERED REDUNDANT BY OPERATIONAL OR OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY (THURSDAY).

THE REMAINING \$33 072 384 WAS PAID AS ARREARS OF WAGES, WAGES IN LIEU OF NOTICE, STATUTORY HOLIDAY PAY, BONUSES AND OTHER PAYMENTS DUE TO 19 409 EMPLOYEES, INCLUDING 8 335 WHO RECEIVED SEVERANCE PAYMENTS.

IN THE SAME YEAR, THE SPOKESMAN CONTINUED, THE LRS HANDLED 174 TRADE DISPUTES, OF WHICH 98, OR MORE THAN 56.3 PER CENT, WERE SETTLED WITH THE HELP OF THE LRS.

THE LRS ALSO PROVIDED CONCILIATION FOR 16 501 CLAIMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE OR THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT; SETTLED 8 329 OR SOME 50.4 PER CENT OF THEM, AND REFERRED MOST OF THE REMAINDER TO THE LABOUR TRIBUNAL FOR JUDICIAL DECISION.

IT ALSO INVESTIGATED 197 MAJOR COMPLAINTS ABOUT ALLEGED BREACHES OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE SUCH AS FAILURE TO PROVIDE REST DAYS, HOLIDAYS WITH PAY, ANNUAL LEAVE WITH PAY AND IMPROPER DEDUCTIONS OF WORKERS' WAGES.

DURING 1982, THE SPOKESMAN POINTED OUT, THERE WERE 34 WORK STOPPAGES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, RESULTING IN 17 960 WORKING DAYS LOST. THIS REPRESENTED AN AVERAGE OF 8.41 DAYS LOST PER THOUSAND EMPLOYEES.

+THE AVERAGE FIGURE IS CONSIDERED LOW BY INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND IS A POSITIVE INDICATOR OF GOOD LABOUR RELATIONS,+ HE SAID.

IN THE SAME YEAR, THE LRS HANDLED 272 754 ENQUIRIES AND CONSULTATIONS, COMPARED WITH 226 290 CASES IN 1981. MOST OF THESE CONCERNED THE PROVISIONS IN THE EMPLOYMENT ORDINANCE, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING LABOUR RELATIONS.

+THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ENQUIRIES AND CONSULTATIONS REFLECTS THE GROWING IMPORTANCE NOW ATTACHED TO LABOUR RELATIONS AND EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS BY BOTH EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS,+ HE SAID.

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ELECTION DRIVE IN PROGRESS  
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A PUBLICITY DRIVE HAS BEEN LAUNCHED TO ENCOURAGE REGISTERED ELECTORS TO VOTE IN THE NEW URBAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON MARCH 8.

THE ELECTIONS ARE BEING HELD ON A CONSTITUENCY BASIS FOR THE FIRST TIME. THERE ARE 15 CONSTITUENCIES EACH OF WHICH WILL RETURN AN ELECTED MEMBER TO SERVE ON THE URBAN COUNCIL.

AS THREE CANDIDATES WERE UNOPPOSED THEY HAVE ALREADY BEEN DECLARED ELECTED. THIRTY EIGHT CANDIDATES ARE STANDING FOR ELECTION IN THE OTHER 12 CONSTITUENCIES WHERE 568 537 PEOPLE ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE.

PUBLICITY MESSAGES DIRECTED AT REGISTERED VOTERS ARE BEING BROADCAST ON TELEVISION AND RADIO AND MORE THAN 13 000 COPIES OF AN ELECTION POSTER ARE BEING DISPLAYED AT GOVERNMENT POSTER SITES, PUBLIC HOUSING ESTATES, DISTRICT OFFICES, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND URBAN COUNCIL OFFICES.

STARTING FROM NEXT MONTH, ELECTION ADVERTISEMENT WILL APPEAR IN MAJOR LOCAL NEWSPAPERS. IN ADDITION, ONE ENGLISH AND SIX CHINESE LANGUAGE PAPERS HAVE AGREED TO PUBLISH A SPECIAL TWO-PAGE SUPPLEMENT ON THE ELECTIONS.

THE MOBILE STREET THEATRE OPERATED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES WILL BE USED TO CONVEY ELECTION REMINDERS TO URBAN RESIDENTS.

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STUDY ROOM AND LIBRARY PROPOSED FOR ESTATE  
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THE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE A YOUTH STUDY ROOM AND REFERENCE LIBRARY AT NAM SHAN ESTATE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE THIRD MEETING OF THE SHAM SHUI PO DISTRICT BOARD TOMORROW (FRIDAY).

A BRIEFING ON GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ON GAMBLING AND THE PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE APPROVAL OF OFF-COURSE BETTING CENTRES WILL BE GIVEN BY DR PATRICK HASE, PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE HOME AFFAIRS BRANCH.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE MEETING INCLUDE THE FERRY SERVICE BETWEEN MEI FOO SUN CHUEN AND CENTRAL, AND THE CLOSURE OF A SECTION OF PRATAS STREET FOR INCLUSION IN A RECREATIONAL GROUND PROJECT.

BOARD MEMBERS WILL ALSO BE INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS OF THE +MEET-THE-PUBLIC+ SCHEME AND THE GENERAL SITUATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND SUBVENTED MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE DISTRICT.

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DISTRICT BRANCH OFFICE IN SHEUNG SHUI  
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THE NORTH DISTRICT OFFICE WILL OPEN ITS FIRST COMMUNITY AFFAIRS BRANCH OFFICE IN SHEUNG SHUI ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21).

THE OFFICE, LOCATED ON THE GROUND FLOOR OF CHOI YUK HOUSE IN CHOI YUEN ESTATE, WILL OPEN FROM 8.45 AM TO 5.15 PM ON WEEKDAYS AND FROM 9 AM TO 12 NOON ON SATURDAYS.

LOCAL PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO MAKE STATUTORY DECLARATIONS, FILE COMPLAINTS, MAKE GENERAL ENQUIRIES AND OBTAIN GOVERNMENT PAMPHLETS AND FORMS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DISTRICT OFFICE SAID THE NEW OFFICE WOULD ALSO ENABLE OFFICIALS TO HAVE CLOSER LIAISON WITH LOCAL ORGANISATIONS, SCHOOLS AND RESIDENTS.

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SPECIAL BUS SERVICE FOR CHINESE VISITORS  
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THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED TODAY (THURSDAY) THAT TO COPE WITH THE EXPECTED CROWDS RETURNING FROM CHINA, KMB WILL OPERATE A SPECIAL SERVICE TO FERRY PASSENGERS FROM LO WU TO SHEUNG SHUI FOR THREE DAYS FROM TOMORROW TO SUNDAY (FEBRUARY 20).

THE ROUTE, 73R, WILL RUN ONE-WAY FROM LO WU STATION TO SHEUNG SHUI BUS TERMINUS AT A BASIC FREQUENCY OF EVERY FIVE TO TEN MINUTES BETWEEN 8 AM AND 6 PM.

A FLAT FARE OF \$1 WILL BE CHARGED.

PASSENGERS IN SHEUNG SHUI MAY THEN CHANGE TO KMB ROUTES NO. 70 TO JORDAN ROAD FERRY; NO. 69K FROM CHOI YUEN ESTATE TO SHA TIN KCR STATION; NO. 73 TO TAI PO INDUSTRIAL ESTATE; NO. 76 VIA CASTLE PEAK ROAD TO YUEN LONG; AND NO. 77 VIA KAM TIN TO YUEN LONG.

THE SERVICE MAY CONTINUE TO OPERATE ON MONDAY IF NECESSARY.

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TAI PO MEAT STALL FOR AUCTION

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A MEAT STALL AT KUK TENG MARKET IN TAI PO WILL BE PUT UP FOR PUBLIC AUCTION ON TUESDAY (FEBRUARY 22).

THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT THE TAI PO URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF MEI TAK BUILDING, KWONG FUK ROAD AT 10 AM.

THE UPSET MONTHLY RENTAL OF THE STALL IS \$200. SUCCESSFUL BIDDER FOR THE STALL CAN START HIS BUSINESS ON MARCH 1 FOR A CONTRACT PERIOD OF THREE YEARS.

POTENTIAL BIDDERS MUST BE OVER 21 YEARS OF AGE AND ARE REQUESTED TO BRING ALONG THEIR IDENTITY CARDS AND FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS TO THE AUCTION VENUE.

FURTHER ENQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO THE HAWKERS AND MARKETS SECTION OF THE TAI PO URBAN SERVICES OFFICE ON TELEPHONE 0-6577111 EXT. 158.

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PARKING METERS IN CHAI WAN

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A TOTAL OF 13 METERS WILL BE INSTALLED ALONG SUI MAN ROAD IN CHAI WAN TOMORROW (FEBRUARY 18) TO REGULATE THE USE OF ON-STREET PARKING SPACES.

THE METERS WILL BE IN OPERATION FROM 8 AM ON SATURDAY (FEBRUARY 19).

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WATER CUT IN SHEUNG WAN

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME AREAS IN SHEUNG WAN WILL BE CUT OFF FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 11 PM ON MONDAY (FEBRUARY 21) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY FOR A LEAKAGE TEST.

BUILDINGS TO BE AFFECTED ARE THOSE BOUNDED BY MORRISON STREET, BONHAM STRAND, QUEEN'S ROAD WEST, QUEEN STREET, KO SHING STREET, SUTHERLAND STREET AND CONNAUGHT ROAD WEST.

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